



# **Blessed to be a Blessing**

**Genesis 11:31-12:5**



Gen 11:31-32

**Terah took his son Abram, his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram, and together they set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan. But when they came to Haran, they settled there. Terah lived 205 years, and he died in Haran.**



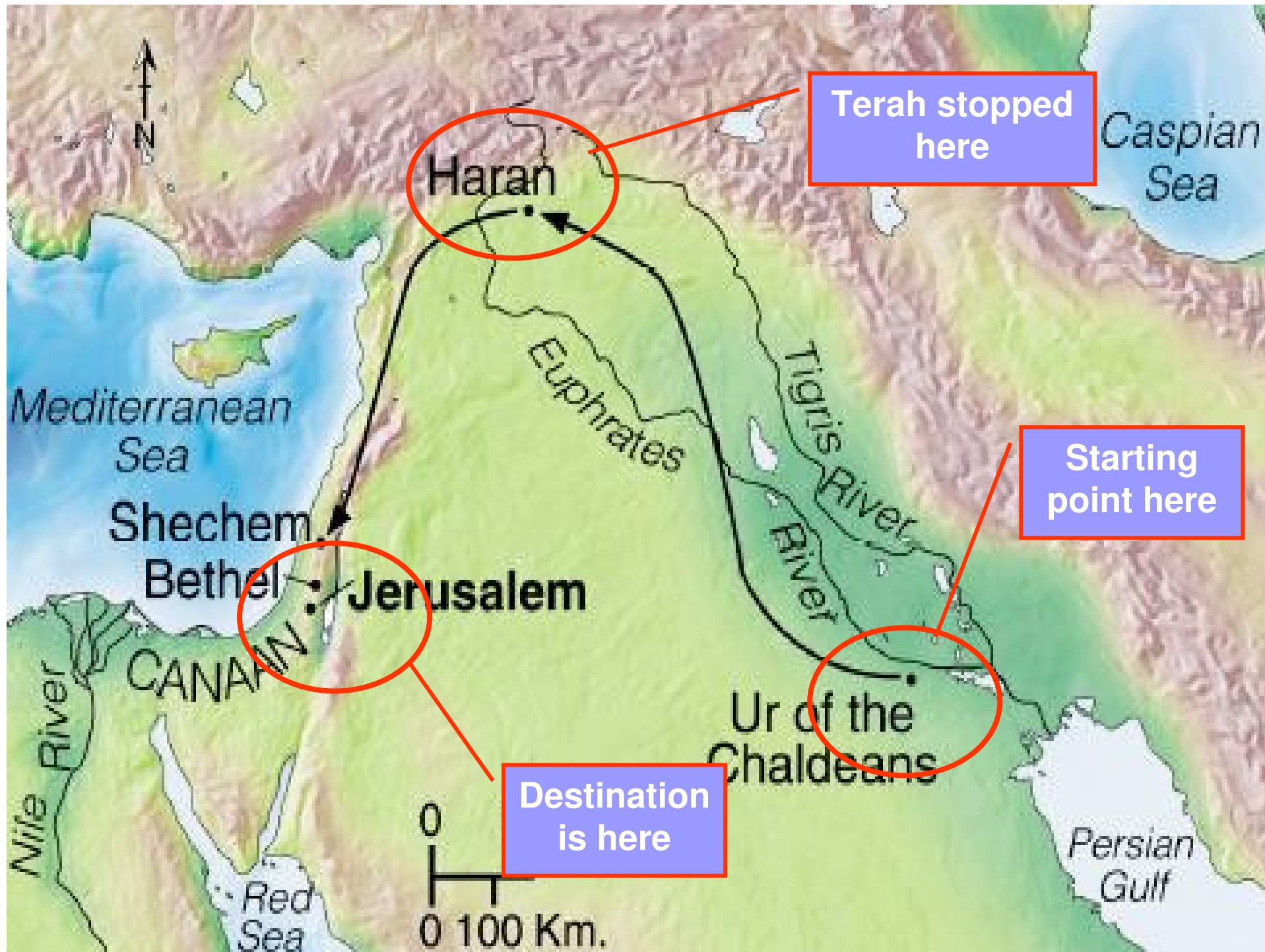
Genesis 12:1-3

**The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."**



Genesis 12:4-5

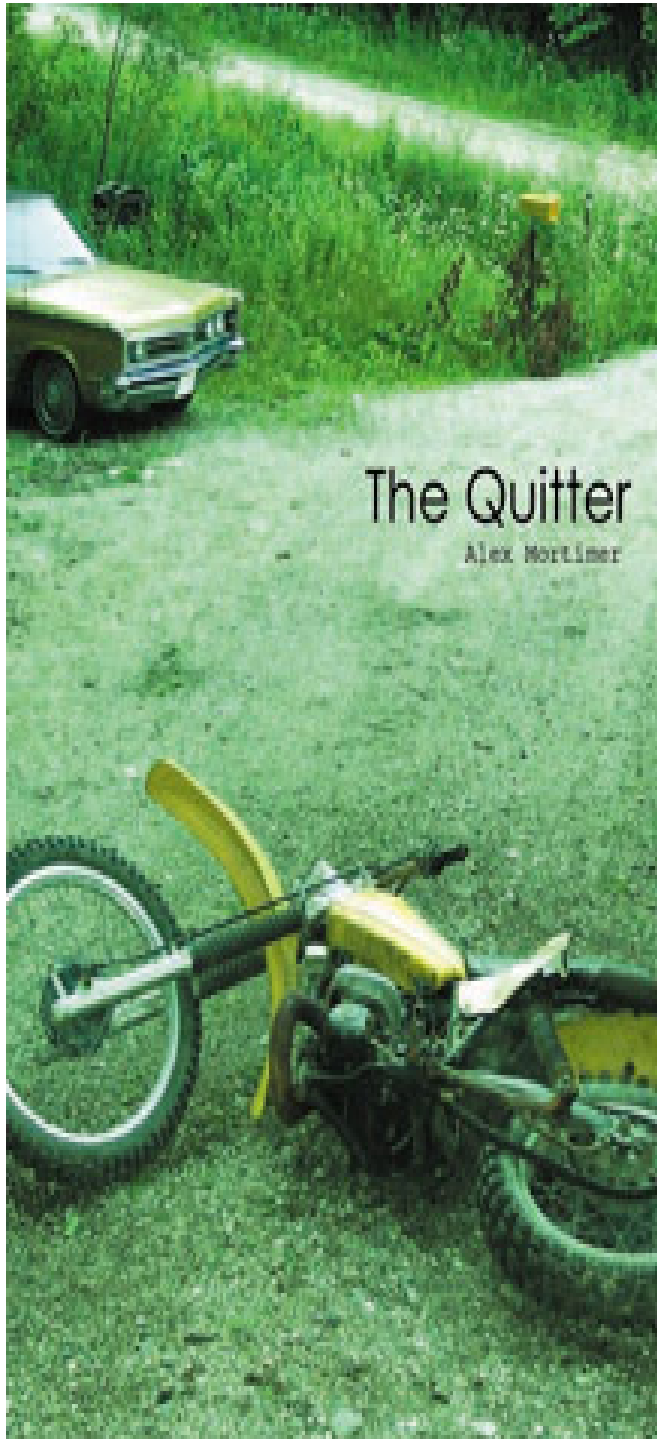
**So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.**



Terah stopped here

Starting point here

Destination is here

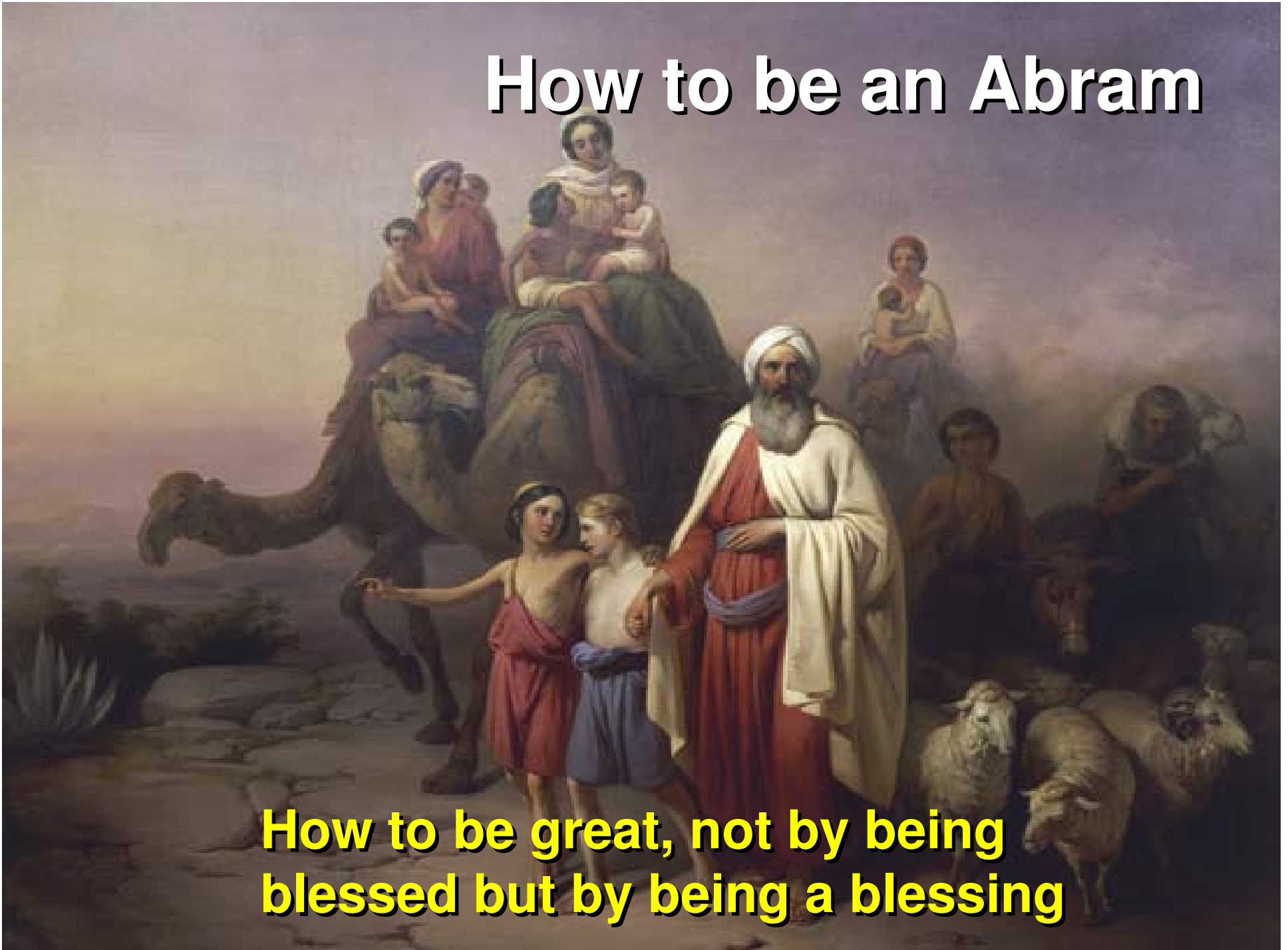


## Terah – the Has-been of God

- **Terah’s intended destination was Canaan**
  - But settled down at Haran for good
  - Haran is mid-way to Canaan
- **Many Terah’s in this world**
  - Saw the vision, but were not ready to “pay the price for the prize”

# How to be an Abram

**How to be great, not by being  
blessed but by being a blessing**



# 1. Leave your comfort zone (v.1)

- The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you."

## ■ Leaving the comfort zones of

- Familiar environment: "your country"
- Familiar lifestyle and habits: "your people"
- Familiar relationships: "your fathers' household"



## Mark 10:29-30

"I tell you the truth," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields — and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life.



## 2. Plug into God's Vision (v.2)

- **Called to be great: “I will make you into a great nation”**
  - 1 Pet 2:9 you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.



## 2. Plug into God's Vision (v.2)

### ■ Called to be blessed: "I will bless you"

- 2 Cor 1:20 For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes " in Christ. And so through him the "Amen " is spoken by us to the glory of God



## 2. Plug into God's Vision (v.2)

- **Called to be a blessing: “you will be a blessing”**
  - Acts 20:35 “In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'”



### 3. Act immediately (v.4-5)

- **Once you hear God's voice, it's time to act**
  - "So Abram left, as the LORD had told him"
- **Age is no barrier**
  - "Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran."
- **Be totally committed to God's vision**
  - "He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran..."





## Conclusion

- Will 2008 be a year of *great* things, or only *good* things?
  - How many lives have you impacted in 2007?
  - How many lives will you impact in 2008?
- **God is calling you to greatness**
  - Will you seek *for* a blessing or *to be* a blessing next year?
  - Let's respond by getting out of our comfort zone now.