

Week 3: Abraham

*“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 12:2-3



Last class we looked at the civilizations in Mesopotamia. From what you read in the Code of Hammurabi and the Epic of Gilgamesh you can see that the civilizations there were already highly organized and had set rhythms, traditions and beliefs. The successive civilizations of this area struggled to protect their dominance and identity, for many other people groups existed around them. The world was a ‘known world,’ with much communication, trade, or animosity. It is from this context that we consider the calling out of Abraham and the beginning of the Hebrew people. In a dramatic and real way, God grew a people for Himself from one man.

Readings:

- Genesis 11:27-12:20; 15-18;
- Article on Ur of Chaldeans: <https://www.ancient.eu/ur/>

History of the Old Testament Era

Explore the map below to gain a feel of the geographic setting of Abraham's journey as he progresses from the Ur of Chaldeans, up to Haran, and into Canaan.

The Faith of Abraham.

