



# Embracing God's Blessing

Genesis 11:27-12:9 | Ryan Pfeiffer | July 6, 2025

INTRO. This moment w/ Abram- direct contrast to earlier in Ch 11.

Where humanity unites to build a structure (Tower of Babel) reaching to the heavens, declaring... 4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves...

God intervenes... and he confuses and scatters their efforts... Why?

Cuz every effort to build a life for ourself w/out God will leave us empty.

Words of the eminent theologian Jim Carey: "I think everybody should get rich and famous and do everything they ever dreamed of so they can see that it's not the answer."

Its through Abrahams life God shows us that we're made to flourish under God's blessing. (Later God renames him Abraham-father of many).

God's blessing is his empowering support and commitment to bring forth HIS original design and destiny for our life.

There's the path of Babel... a life of making a name for ourself... Confusion...

There's the path of Blessing... a life of God making a name for us...

What path are you on? Perhaps you feel stuck in confusion.... Maybe you are doing the best you can with what you have... is there more?

God created you for blessing... to live with his blessing... to be a blessing!

FOCUS. What is God's Blessing for us? How can we embrace his Blessing?

WHAT IS GOD'S BLESSING? The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. 2 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. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

- God's blessing is his active favor and empowerment for flourishing.

4 types of "I will" statements:

1. I will show you... God's guiding presence.
2. I will make you... God's transforming power.
3. I will bless you... God's loving presence.
4. I will curse... God's protecting presence.

God's blessing doesn't mean:

- Everything will go as we expected. (Timing) — Abram waits 25yrs!
- Everything will be easy. (Suffering, opposition, threats, setbacks)
- That we will perfectly obey or trust God. (Not about performance v Grace)

2) God's blessing is the fullness of life found in relationship with Him.



# Embracing God's Blessing

Genesis 11:27-12:9 | Ryan Pfeiffer | July 6, 2025

Vs 1 The LORD has said to Abram... God speaks to Abram.

Vs. 7 The LORD appeared to Abram... God reveals himself to Abram

The greatest blessing God can give us is himself... to know his presence.

Thru-out Abrahams life we'll see God reveal himself through a voice, through dreams, through direct appearances (theophany), through other people, through angels

But God wants this for you too:

- Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
- Matthew 28:20 "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
- Psalm 23:4 Even when I walk through the darkest Valley I will not be afraid for you are close beside me.

Illus. In the park late one night. Wind in the trees.

HOW CAN WE EMBRACE GOD'S BLESSING? 6 Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. 7 The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

1) We embrace God's blessing through concrete acts of worship & Prayer.

God reveals himself to Abram and Abram responds by building an altar.

The altar represents an established place of worship and prayer in our life.

We may not build physical altars but we build altars by establishing concrete places and times in our daily life to give our undivided attention to God.

Psalm 29:2 Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness... 11 The LORD blesses his people with peace.  
But the most important altar is the one within us.

Thomas Kelly in his book Testament of Devotion writes, "Deep within us all there is an amazing inner sanctuary of the soul, a holy place, a Divine Center, a speaking Voice, to which we may continuously return. Eternity is at our hearts, pressing upon our time-torn lives, warming us with intimations of an astounding destiny, calling us home unto itself."

Maybe you've lost touch with this inner sanctuary of your soul...

Maybe you've never discovered it...

Jesus came to guide us back into this Garden of Eden within... this meeting place with God inside all of us.

2) We embrace God's blessing through faith in Jesus as our Savior and Lord.

So those now who live by faith are blessed along with Abraham, who lived by faith— this is no new doctrine! And that means that anyone who tries to live by his own effort independent of God is doomed to failure. Galatians 3:9, The Message.



# Embracing God's Blessing

Genesis 11:27-12:9 | Ryan Pfeiffer | July 6, 2025

God's blessing rests on those who trust in what God has done and is doing for them rather than in what they can achieve.

A person in right relationship with God does it by embracing what God arranges for him. Doing things for God is the opposite of entering into what God does for you. Galatians 3:11, The Message.

God has done/ is doing something for you and in you... maybe you can't see it.

John 5:24 "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

Faith in Jesus restores our life to God

Faith in Jesus restores God's blessing to our life.

INVITE BAND.

1. You're in a room
2. Jesus comes in

I have something that I've been wanting to say to you.