

# CHAPTER ANALYSIS FORM

**Chapter:** 11-12

**Chapter Title:** Babel, Abram Called

## 1. Chapter Summary:

### 1. Chapter 11

- a. Migration and settlement 1-2
- b. Tower to the heavens 3-4
- c. God's assessment 5-6
- d. Confusion of language 7-9a
- e. Dispersed across earth 9b
- f. Genealogy of Abram 10-32

### 2. Chapter 12

- a. God calls Abram 1-3
- b. Abram and Lot move 4-6
- c. God's promise of land 7
- d. Abram worships 7b-9
- e. Famine-Abram in Egypt 10-20

| 2. Observation    |   | 3. Interpretation  |  |
|-------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| What Does It Say? |   | What Does It Mean? |  |
| Verse             |   | Verse              |  |
|                   | <b>Chapter 11</b>   |                    |  |
| 1-2               | After the flood people start migrating to other places. As some moved east they stopped in Shinar and built a city.                 |                    |  |
| 3-4               | The people decide to build a monument to them that will guarantee they will not be moved or separated.                              | 3-4                | For this time, baked hardened bricks and bitumen (asphalt) for mortar was the apex of technological innovation. Basically, they told themselves they could use the latest technology to lift themselves up to heaven and disobey God's command to fill the earth.<br>How often do I think I know better or I am smarter than God – to the point that I can disobey or make myself God with no repercussions?<br>How many people deceive their selves with the thought technology will allow man to save himself? |
| 5-6               | God comes down to check man's progress on the tower. He acknowledges that man is determined and could possibly succeed in his plan. | 5-6                | Are we not determined to storm the gates of Heaven on our own terms? Do we not construct figurative and literal towers as monuments to our own intellect and prowess? Is this not done in direct rebellion to the way of God?  |
| 7-9               | God confuses the language of man. The place is named Babel (Babylon). Then man is dispersed over the earth.                         | 7-9                | God's will is not up for debate. He will accomplish his purpose one way or another. If man will not willingly follow the command of God then God will intervene. Similar to the Garden, pride leads to separation and enmity-now between man and his brother.  |
| 10-26             | The genealogy of Shem to Abram and his brothers.  |                    | Note that post flood men's lives are getting shorter and shorter.  |
| 27-32             | More detailed information of Terah and his family. Documents the family's move from Ur of the Chaldeans (Babylon) to Haran.         |                    | <a href="https://www.bible-history.com/maps/6-abrahams-journeys.html">https://www.bible-history.com/maps/6-abrahams-journeys.html</a>  |

|       | Chapter 12  |       |   |
|-------|---|-------|---|
| 1-3   | God calls Abram to leave his home and go to a land God will show him. He promises Abram personal blessings and tells Abram that the entire world will be blessed through him.   | 1-3   | The knowledge of the one, true God had not disappeared from earth. We don't know if Abram worshipped God but his subsequent obedience implies he did. If he didn't (implied in Acts) then this is one of the most wonderful conversion stories in the Bible. Either way, our obedience is what demonstrates our belief.   |
| 4-6   | Abram, his family, and Lot leave Haran for Canaan. They first stop at Shechem.  |       | Since Sarai was barren Abram essentially adopted his nephew Lot whose father, Haran, had died in Ur of the Chaldeans.   |
| 7-9   | God appears to Abram and promises him the land. Abram builds an altar to worship God. They move to east of Bethel and Abram builds another altar. Abram travels further south toward the Negeb (Negev).   | 7-9   | <p>Later God will detail out the extent of the land. Do we find this working in our lives – God calls us and only supplies the specifics later, after we have obeyed?</p> <p>Though not certain it appears that Abram's habit was to build an altar for worshipping God wherever he was settled. Our worship is not tied to specific places but is in "Spirit and truth." How do we limit our worship by insisting it only take place at specific places on specific days at specific times?</p>  |
| 10-20 | A famine forces Abram and Sarai into Egypt. Prior to entering Abram tells his wife to say she is his sister. Pharaoh is struck by her beauty and takes her for his. God strikes the Egyptians with plagues and the subterfuge is exposed. Abram is sent away. | 10-20 | <p>Did Abram force Sarai to lie by claiming to be his sister? In a word – yes. She was his half-sister but she, more importantly, was his wife. He was more concerned with himself and his possessions than with protecting his wife.</p> <p>I have often said the two best ways of lying are: 1) Don't tell the whole truth; 2) Tell the truth so fantastically no one would believe it anyway.</p> <p>By giving Abram gifts Pharaoh is essentially paying a bride price, a thing God will not allow so he sends plagues upon the Egyptians. (Moses wasn't the first, just the last.)</p> <p>Lies eventually affect everyone – not just the immediate parties. And lies will always come to light.</p> |

| 4. Correlation              |   | 5. Application           |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Where Else Is It Explained? |   | What Will I Do About It? |
| Verse                       |   |                          |
|                             | <b>Chapter 11</b>   |                          |
| 1-2                         | Genesis 10:10<br>Isaiah 11:11<br>Daniel 1:2<br><b>Zechariah 5:5-11</b>                                |                          |
| 3-4                         | Exodus 2:3<br>Job 20:6<br><b>Isaiah 9:10</b><br>Jeremiah 51:53  |                          |
| 5-6                         | Psalms 2:1<br><b>Acts 17:26</b>   |                          |
| 7-9                         | Deuteronomy 32:8<br>Psalm 2:4<br>Psalm 55:9<br><b>Luke 1:46-55</b>                                    |                          |
| 10-32                       | Genesis 15:7<br>Genesis 17:5, 15<br>Genesis 20:12<br>Joshua 24:2<br>Nehemiah 9:7<br><b>Acts 7:2-4</b> |                          |

|       | <b>Chapter 12</b>  |  |
|-------|--|--|
| 1-3   | Genesis 10:19; 13:6; 15:5; 17:2-6; 18:18;<br><b>22:17-18</b> ; 26:2-4<br>Exodus 32:13<br>Deuteronomy 9:5<br>Joshua 24:3<br>Nehemiah 9:23<br>Isaiah 51:2; 61:9<br><b>Acts 3:25</b> ; 7:2-3<br><b>Galatians 3:8-16</b> |  |
| 4-9   | Genesis 24:7; 26:2-4<br>Exodus 3:8; 6:3-4, 8<br>Joshua 24:1<br>1 Kings 12:1<br>2 Chronicles 20:7<br>Psalm 105:9-12<br><b>Romans 4:13</b><br><b>Hebrews 11:8-9</b>  |  |
| 10-20 | Genesis 20:1-18; 26:6-11; 29:25; 31:26<br>Isaiah 43:27   |  |

## **6. Conclusions**

## **7. One Personal Application**