

# GEN. 12:10-20 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## THE PROMISE JEOPARDIZED - [\(SERMON MP3\)](#)

**Do you think the famine was a test to see if Abram would stay in the land that had been promised to him?** Why or why not? In what ways have you found God's promises tested in your life? How have you been tempted to compromise them?

**Sometimes we think we can sin and get away with it.** We say things like "It will all turn out right in the end." Maybe that's what Abram thought about his little venture down to Egypt. God straightened it all out in the end. He ended up with Sarai again and in addition he acquired sheep, camels, and servants from Egypt.

- *One of the servants he acquired in Egypt was named Hagar. What is the significance of this maidservant?*
- *The price we pay for sin may not come as a debit in the beginning. Instead, there may be a payment plan with bills that come in the future. Such was the case with Hagar. Have you ever made a wrong choice and had to pay for it in the future? What lessons did you learn from the experience?*

**Many times in the pressure of life's trials and difficulties certain character traits come to the surface.** It's as though crisis unveils our true character.

- *What character qualities does Abram display in (Gen 12:10-13)? Have you ever been like Abram here YES | NO (circle one)*
- *What character qualities do you display when you are faced with difficult circumstances?*
- *Have you ever strayed from a godly path because you thought you had to take care of yourself? What do such choices say about God? Do you need to take care of yourself YES | NO (circle one)*
- *How can a person avoid the error of Abram in (Gen. 12:10-13)?*

**Abram made a faithless choice to go to Egypt and lie about Sarai.** At first glance it seems like he's rewarded for it (Gen. 12:16). Perhaps this caused Abram to justify his actions. Have you ever tried to rationalize your disobedience because you were not experiencing God's immediate discipline?

**God planned to give Abram offspring through Sarai (Gen. 17:15-16), but Abram almost lost her to Pharaoh.** From a human standpoint, Abram jeopardized the promise by his faithless and deceitful decision.

- *How did God deal with this threat to his plan?*
- *Could Abram's failures really defeat God's plan? Look up (Isaiah 14:26) for insight. How is this fact significant for us?*
- *Did Abram's sin nullify God's promises? Why is this fact important?*
- *What should Sarai have said to Abram when he instructed her as in (Gen. 12:11-13)? Peter commended Sarah for her submissive obedience to Abraham (1 Peter 3:3-6).*
- *Is this a good example of submission?*
- *Are Peter's words in (Acts 4:18-20; 5:1-11) relevant here? Why or why not?*

**What can we learn about God from (Gen. 12:1-20)?** List three things before reading further (1) \_\_\_\_\_, (2) \_\_\_\_\_, (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Take a moment in prayer and praise God for the qualities he exhibits in this chapter.

Meditate upon his generosity and faithfulness, even to unfaithful people; his total control of events, even when things look bleak; his commitment to his plan. Thank him for his generosity, faithfulness, control, and commitment in your life.

- *What difference do these qualities make to your life?*

