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# Leaving Ur, Part 2

*Genesis 11:26–Genesis 12:10*

- ◆ God communicated his will to Abram.
- ◆ He gave him a distinct knowledge of the requirements of his law.
- ◆ He gave him a distinct knowledge of the salvation that would be accomplished through Christ.
- ◆ He was a keeper of the sacred oracles.
- ◆ He must be separated from the associations of his early life, for the influence of kindred and friends would interfere with the training the Lord wanted to give him.
- ◆ Therefore, he must dwell among strangers.
- ◆ His character must be peculiar, differing from all the world.

It was no light test that was thus brought upon Abraham, no small sacrifice that was required of him. **There were strong ties to bind him to his country, his kindred, and his home.** But he did not hesitate to obey the call. He had no question to ask concerning the land of promise—whether the soil was fertile and the climate healthful; whether the country afforded agreeable surroundings and would afford opportunities for amassing wealth. God has spoken, and His servant must obey; **the happiest place on earth for him was the place where God would have him to be.** (*PP* 126.3)

By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, (Hebrews 11:8, 9)

We are called today.

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying,  
Come out of her, my people, that ye be not  
partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of  
her plagues. For her sins have reached unto  
heaven, and God hath remembered her  
iniquities. (Revelation 18:4–5)

Return, ye backsliding children, *and* I will heal  
your backslidings. Behold, we come unto thee;  
for thou *art* the Lord our God. (Jeremiah 3:22)

That ye would walk worthy of God, who  
hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.  
(1 Thessalonians 2:12)



But *ye are* a chosen generation, a royal  
priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people;  
that ye should shew forth the praises of him  
who hath called you out of darkness into his  
marvellous light: (1 Peter 2:9)

For we are labourers together with God: ye  
are God's husbandry, *ye are* God's building.  
(1 Corinthians 3:9)

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. (Revelation 3:20)

But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, And he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called *thee* by thy name; thou *art* mine. (Isaiah 43:1)

Many are still tested as was Abraham. They do not hear the voice of God speaking directly from the heavens, but He calls them by the **teachings of His word** and the **events of His providence**. They may be required to abandon a career that promises wealth and honor, to leave congenial and profitable associations and separate from kindred, to enter upon what appears to be only a path of self-denial, hardship, and sacrifice. God has a work for them to do; but a life of ease and the influence of friends and kindred would hinder the development of the very traits essential for its accomplishment. (*PP* 126.4)

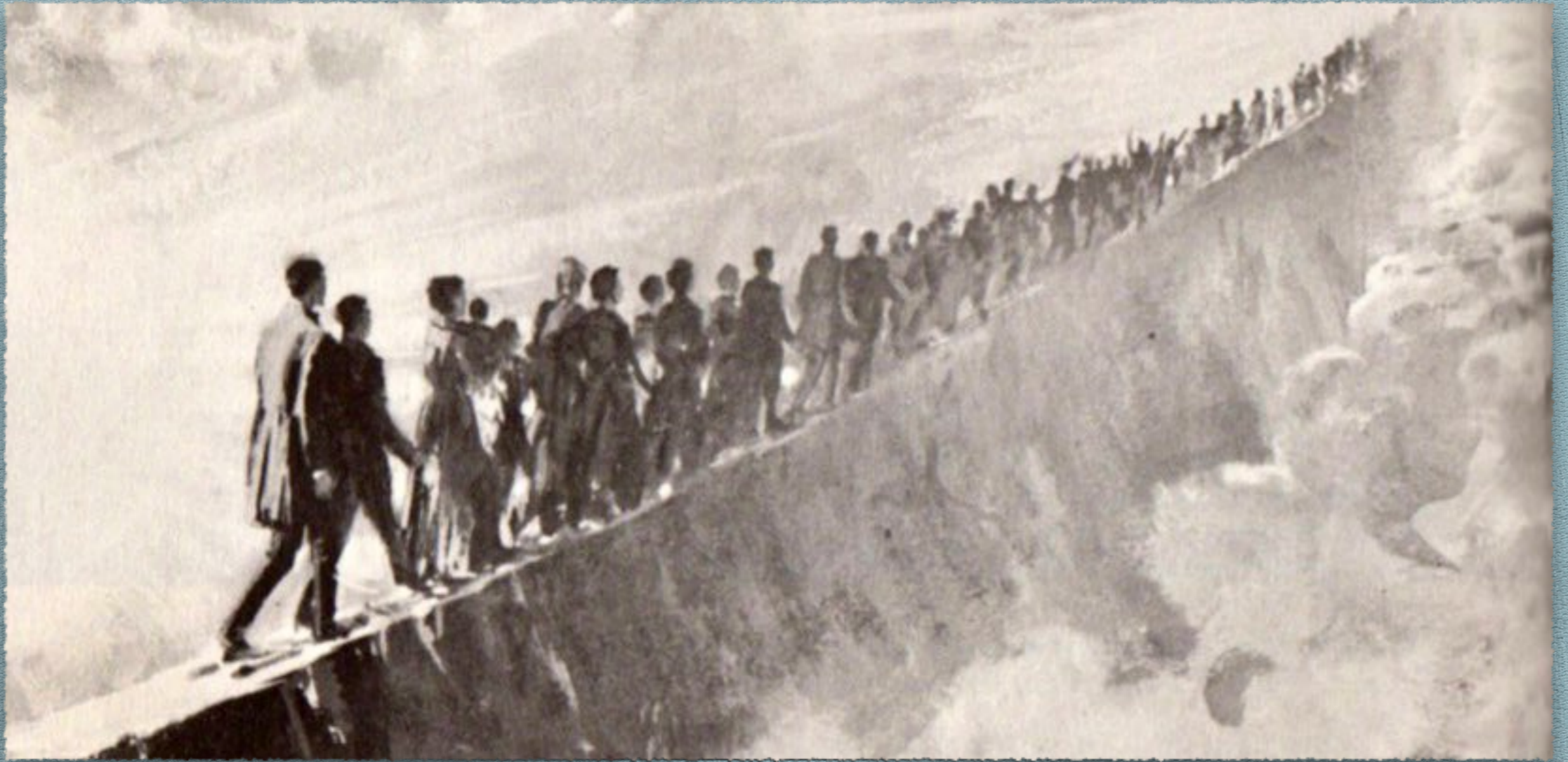
He **calls** them away from human influences and aid, and leads them to feel the need of His help, and to depend upon Him alone, that He may reveal Himself to them. Who is ready at the call of Providence to renounce cherished plans and familiar associations? Who will accept new duties and enter untried fields, doing God's work with firm and willing heart, for Christ's sake counting his losses gain? He who will do this has the faith of Abraham, and will share with him that "far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory," with which "the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared." 2 Corinthians 4:17; Romans

8:18. (*PP* 126.4)

The call from heaven first came to Abraham while he dwelt in “Ur of the Chaldees” and in obedience to it he removed to Haran. Thus far his father’s family accompanied him, for **with their idolatry they united the worship of the true God**. Here Abraham remained till the death of Terah. But from his father’s grave the divine Voice bade him go forward. **His brother Nahor with his household clung to their home and their idols**. Besides **Sarah**, the wife of Abraham, **only Lot**, the son of Haran long since dead, **chose to share the patriarch’s, pilgrim life**. Yet it was a large company that set out from Mesopotamia. Abraham already possessed extensive flocks and herds, the riches of the East, and he was surrounded by a numerous body of servants and retainers. (*PP 127.1*)

Abraham's unquestioning obedience is one of the most striking evidences of faith to be found in all the Bible. (*PP* 126.2)





# An Impressive Dream

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The Lord selected Abraham to carry out his will. He was directed to leave his idolatrous nation, and separate from his kindred. **The Lord had revealed himself to Abraham in his youth, and gave him understanding, and preserved him from idolatry.** He designed to make him an example of faith, and true devotion, for his people who should afterward live upon the earth. His character was marked for integrity, generosity, and hospitality. He commanded respect as a mighty prince among the people. (*1SP 93.1*)

His reverence and love for God, and his strict obedience in performing his will, gained for him the respect of his servants and neighbors. His godly example and righteous course, united with his faithful instructions to his servants and all his household, led them to fear, love, and reverence, the God of Abraham. The Lord appeared to Abraham, and promised him that his seed should be like the stars of heaven for number. He also made known to him, through the figure of the horror of great darkness which came upon him, the long, servile bondage of his descendants in Egypt. (1SP 93.1)



# Call Unto Me

*and I will answer thee*

*Jeremiah 33:3*

And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will  
deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.  
(Psalm 50:15)

And it shall come to pass, that before they call,  
I will answer; And while they are yet  
speaking, I will hear. (Isaiah 65:24)

And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall  
call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered:  
(Joel 2:32)