

Ephesians Series

Lesson #130

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Dean Bible Ministries

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God's Victorious Ascent

Ephesians 4:7–10; Psalm 68:18



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

1. **FIVE Messianic Psalms:** Psalm 2; Psalm 8; Psalm 89; Psalm 132; and Psalm 110 plus Daniel 7 and the role of Psalm 68:18.
2. The terms *Son of Man* and *Son of God*; *Son of David* and *King of Kings* and *Lord of Lords*.
3. The David Covenant as the foundation for understanding all of the above.
4. The Melchizedekian priesthood and its fulfillment in Christ.

- 1. What did the rejection of Christ do to the Kingdom program of God?**
- 2. Why was the ascension of Christ necessary for the giving of the Holy Spirit?**
- 3. And, what is the significance of the ascension of Christ for this new dispensation?**

1. God had a plan which He had kept to Himself and was not revealed until after the rejection of the Messiah. It was only hinted at prior to the crucifixion, and it was not revealed by God until after the birth of the Church on Pentecost AD 33 in Acts 2.

Eph. 3:9, “and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;

Eph. 3:10, “to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,”

2. Christ Himself said that He must ascend before He could send the Holy Spirit. This was because He was not yet King on the earth and had a new plan for a new people, the Church. John 16:7

3. In the ascension Christ is now serving as our High Priest. As such He serves as our intercessor and our advocate before the Father. Heb. 4:14, 15; Rom. 8:26–27, 34; 1 John 2:1

4. Christ is doing something else right now, Christ is preparing a place for us.

John 14:2, “In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; but if this were not so, then I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.”

In the previous two lessons the focus was on:

- 1. The Ascension completes the Strategic Victory of Christ on the Cross.**
- 2. The Strategic Victory of Christ sets up a new phase or dispensation in the plan of God.**
- 3. Psalm 8, the Son of Man, and Heb. 2:6–7.**

This week the focus is on:

The Victorious Ascent and Psalm 68:18

Acts 1:9, “Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.”

ἐπαίρω *epairō*

3 sing aor pass
indic to lift up

ὑπολαμβάνω *hypolambanō*

3 sing aor act indic to
suppose; to lift up; to reply



Heb. 4:14, “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession.”

διέρχομαι, *dierchomai*, perfect active participle,

“to come or go through, to pass through, to travel through a place or location”

The Biblical “Heavens”

The Third Heaven: The Throne of God

The Second Heaven: The Universe

The First Heaven: The Earth’s Atmosphere

1 Pet. 3:22, “who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.”

πορεύομαι *poreuomai*
aorist passive participle,
masculine singular nominative
“to go,” used of a journey

Eph. 4:9, “(Now this expression, ‘He ascended,’ what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth?

Eph. 4:10, “He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)”

“There is possibly not another psalm in the entire Psalter, that the commentators have found as difficult as Psalm 68, not only on account of the obscure verses that it contains, but also in regard to its general significance.”

~Umberto Cassuto, “Psalm 68,” 241.

Psa. 68:12,

**“Kings of armies flee, they flee,
And she who remains at home divides the spoil
[Judges 5?].**

Psa. 68:13,

**“Though you lie down among the sheepfolds,
You will be like the wings of a dove covered with
silver,
And her feathers with yellow gold.” ~NKJV**

Psa. 68:14,

**“When the Almighty [*Shaddai*] scattered kings in it,
It was white as snow in Zalmon.**

Psa. 68:15,

**“A mountain of the gods is the mountain of Bashan;
A mountain of many peaks is the mountain of
Bashan.” ~NKJV**

Psa. 68:16,

“Why do you stare *with envy*, you mountains of many peaks?

**This is the mountain which God desires to dwell in;
Yes, the Lord will dwell in it forever. ~RD**

Psa. 68:17,

**“The chariots of God are twenty thousand,
Even thousands of thousands;
The Lord is among them as in Sinai,
in the Holy Place.” ~NKJV**

Deut. 33:2, “And he said: ‘The LORD came from Sinai, and dawned on them from Seir; He shone forth from Mount Paran, and He came with ten thousands of saints; From His right hand came a fiery law for them.’ ”

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Judg. 5:4, “LORD, when You went out from Seir, when You marched from the field of Edom, the earth trembled and the heavens poured, the clouds also poured water;

Judg. 5:5, “The mountains gushed before the LORD, this Sinai, before the LORD God of Israel.”

Psa. 18:10, “And He rode upon a cherub, and flew; He flew upon the wings of the wind.”

Isa. 19:1, “The burden against Egypt. Behold, the LORD rides on a swift cloud, and will come into Egypt; The idols of Egypt will totter at His presence, and the heart of Egypt will melt in its midst.”

Hab. 3:8, “O LORD, were You displeased with the rivers, was Your anger against the rivers, was Your wrath against the sea, that You rode on Your horses, Your chariots of salvation?”

Psa. 68:18,

**“You have ascended on high,
You have led captivity captive;
You have received gifts among men,
Even from the rebellious,
That the Lord God might dwell there.**

Psa. 68:19,

**“Blessed be the Lord,
Who daily loads us with benefits,
The God of our salvation! Selah” ~NKJV**

Psa. 68:24, “They have seen Your procession, O God,
the procession of my God, my King, into the
sanctuary.”

Psa. 68:1, “Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered;
Let those also who hate Him flee before Him.

Psa. 68:2, “As smoke is driven away, so drive them
away; As wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked
perish at the presence of God.”

Psa. 17:13, “Arise, O LORD, confront him, cast him down; Deliver my life from the wicked with Your sword,”

Psa. 7:6, “Arise, O LORD, in Your anger; Lift Yourself up because of the rage of my enemies; Rise up for me to the judgment You have commanded!”

Psa. 12:5, “ ‘For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now I will arise,’ says the LORD; ‘I will set him in the safety for which he yearns.’ ”

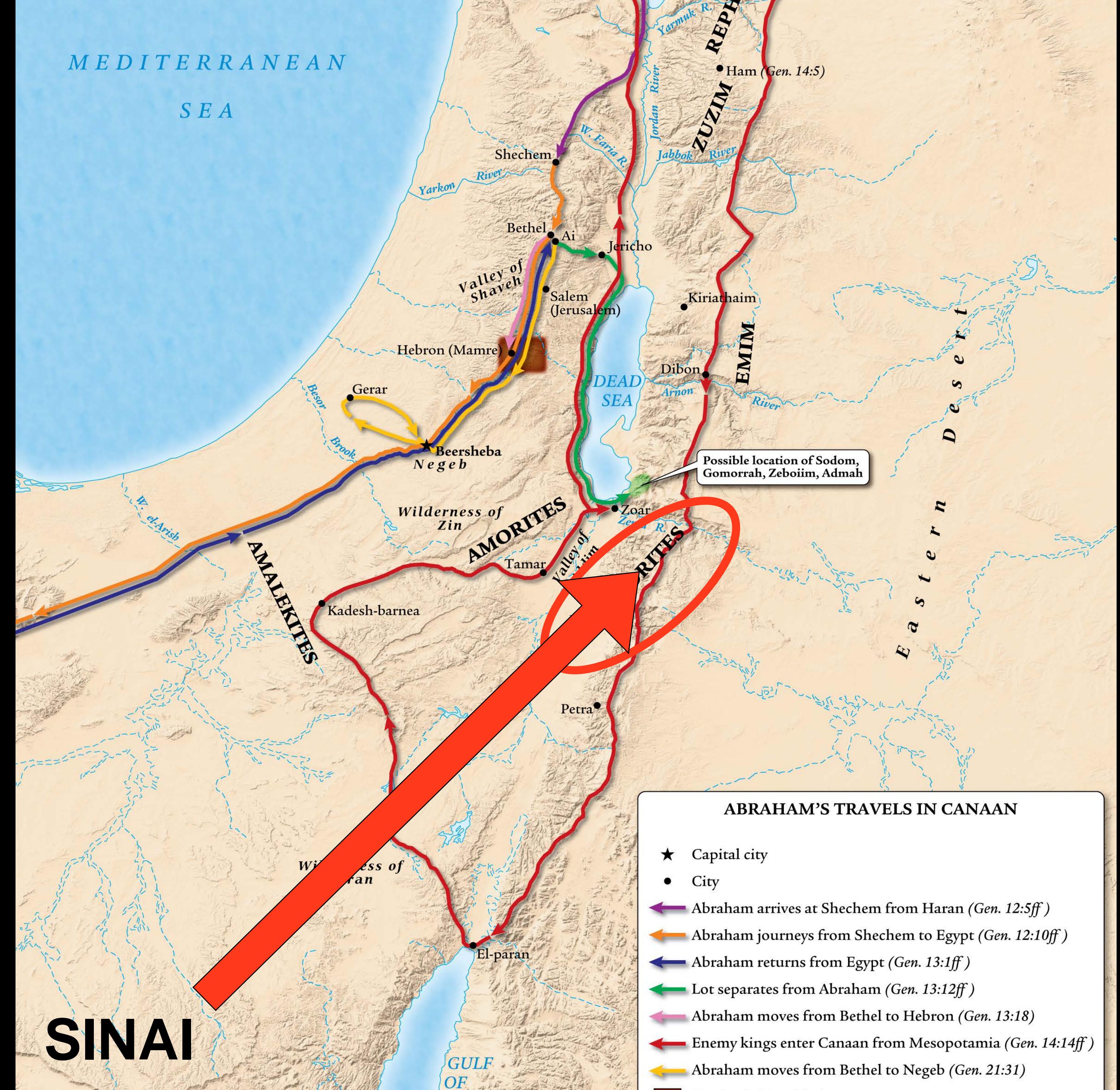
Psa. 17:13, “Arise, O LORD, confront him, cast him down; Deliver my life from the wicked with Your sword,”

Psa. 9:19, “Arise, O LORD, do not let man prevail; Let the nations be judged in Your sight.”

Psa. 10:12, “Arise, O LORD! O God, lift up Your hand! Do not forget the humble.”

Num. 10:35, “Then it came about when the ark set out that Moses said, ‘Rise up, O LORD! And let Thine enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Thee flee before Thee.’”

Num. 10:36, “And when it came to rest, he said, ‘Return Thou, O LORD, to the myriad thousands of Israel.’ ”



SINAI

ABRAHAM'S TRAVELS IN CANAAN

- ★ Capital city
- City
- ← Abraham arrives at Shechem from Haran (Gen. 12:5ff)
- Abraham journeys from Shechem to Egypt (Gen. 12:10ff)
- ← Abraham returns from Egypt (Gen. 13:1ff)
- ← Lot separates from Abraham (Gen. 13:12ff)
- ← Abraham moves from Bethel to Hebron (Gen. 13:18)
- Enemy kings enter Canaan from Mesopotamia (Gen. 14:14ff)
- Abraham moves from Bethel to Negeb (Gen. 21:31)

- Town beyond Israelite control
 - Town not captured (*Josh. 13:1-7; 16:10; 17:7-18; Judg. 1*)
 - City of refuge
 - Town burned by Israelites in conquest
 - ★ Major battle sites of Israel's conquest
 - Area of Israel's control



Josh. 3:15, “and when those who carried the ark came into the Jordan, and the feet of the priests carrying the ark were dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of harvest),”



Josh. 3:16, “the waters which were flowing down from above stood and rose up in one heap, a great distance away at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan; and those which were flowing down toward the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. So the people crossed opposite Jericho.”



Josh. 3:17, “And the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan while all Israel crossed on dry ground, until all the nation had finished crossing the Jordan.”



2 Sam. 6:12, “Now it was told King David, saying, ‘The LORD has blessed the house of Obed-edom and all that belongs to him, on account of the ark of God.’ And David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom into the city of David with gladness.

2 Sam. 6:13, “And so it was, that when the bearers of the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling.

2 Sam. 6:14, “And David was dancing before the LORD with all his might, and David was wearing a linen ephod.”

Psa. 110:4, “The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind, ‘You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.’ ”

2 Sam. 6:16, “Then it happened as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David that Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

2 Sam. 6:17, “So they brought in the ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

2 Sam. 6:18, “And when David had finished offering the burnt offering and the peace offering, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts.”

Psa. 68:11, “The Lord gave the word; Great was the company of those who proclaimed it:

Psa. 68:12, “Kings of armies flee, they flee, and she who remains at home divides the spoil.”

Order of Events

- 1. Ascension, Psa. 68:18; Eph. 4:7–8**
- 2. Seated at the right hand of God, “on my Father’s throne”, Rev. 3:21, Psa. 110:1**
- 3. Asks for the kingdom, Psa. 2:8**
- 4. Is granted the kingdom, Dan. 7:14**
- 5. Messiah returns to the earth and defeats the kings of the earth, Psa. 2:9; Rev. 19:19–21**
- 6. Messiah establishes His rule, Rev. 20**