

The Big Story – Part III

God & Sons: The Winning Formula

By Colin Barnes 2013



A partnership between God and Man

Make or Break – Genesis 1-11

Boom and Bust – from Abraham to Exile

A Winning Formula – Jesus Christ

World Beaters – the Church finishes the job



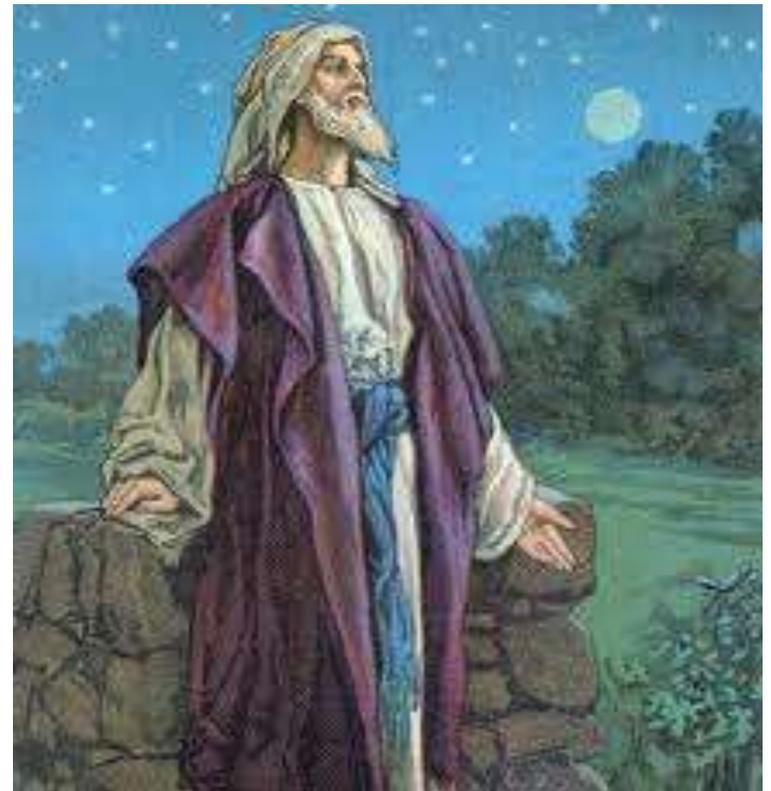
Recap

- ◆ God intended a world filled with love
- ◆ Man chose to wander from that path
- ◆ God's will is to bless all men
- ◆ God gave the earth to men

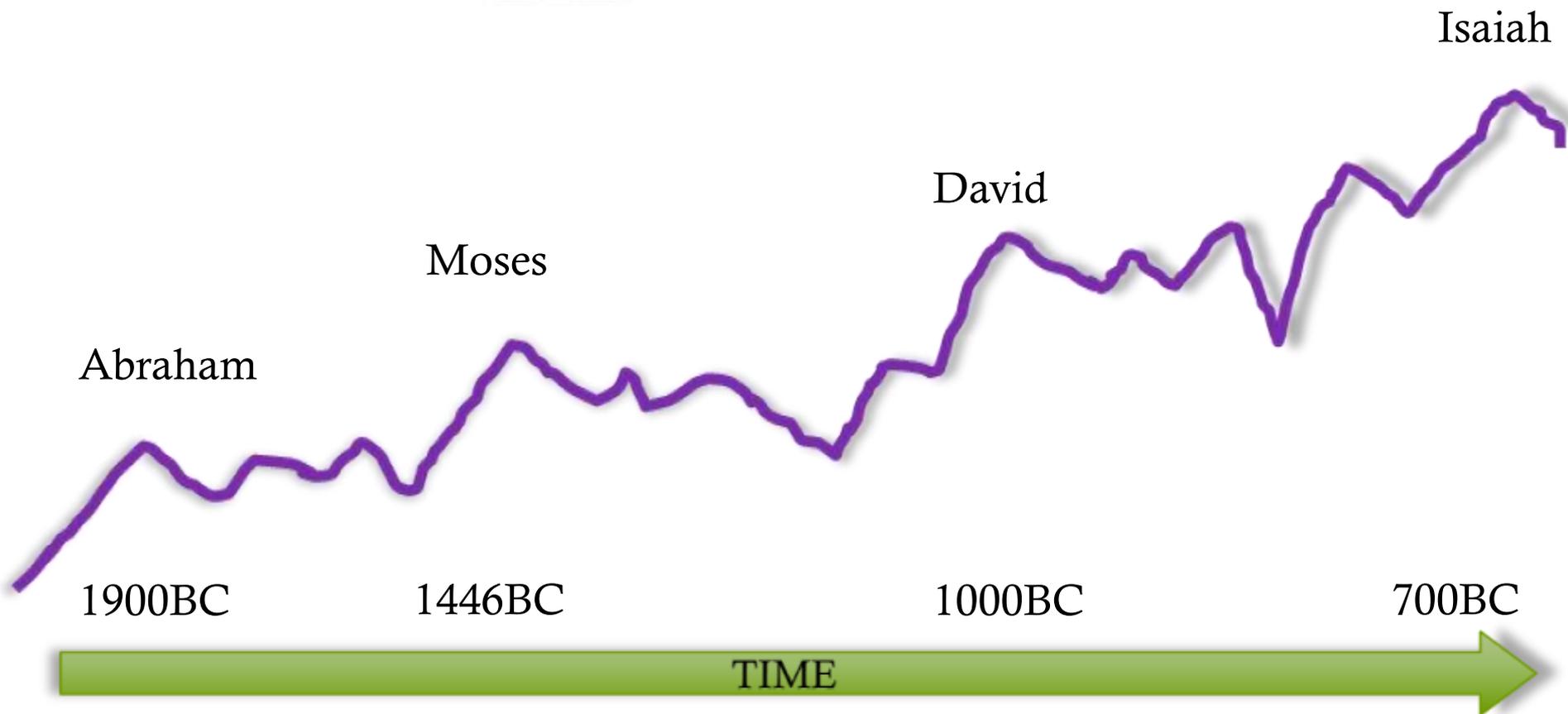


Recap

- ◆ God began His rescue with one man
- ◆ Always intending to reach every family
- ◆ God revealed Himself over 1500 years
- ◆ Showing Himself faithful, patient, strong and open

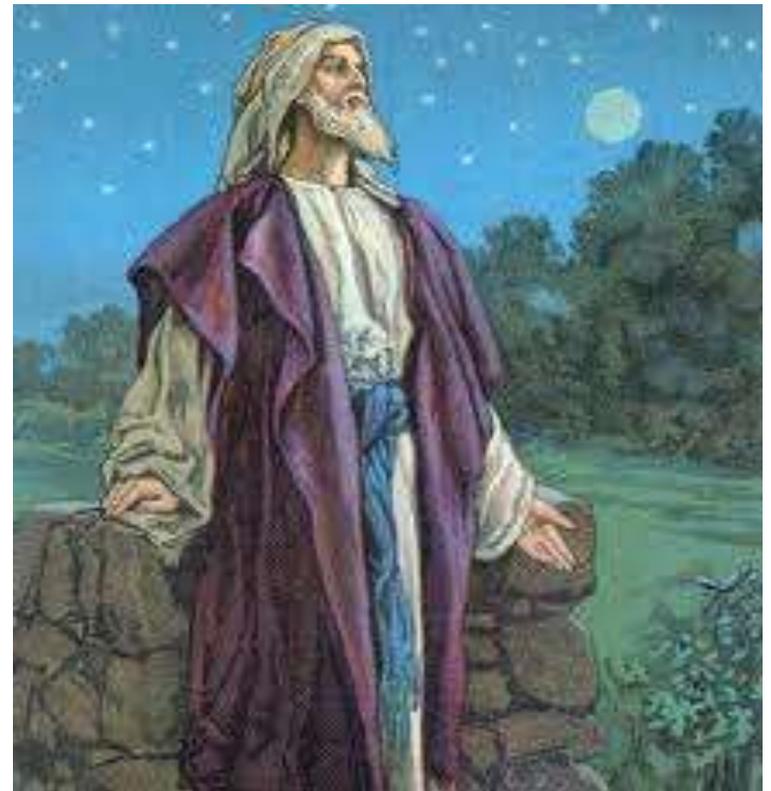


Progressive Revelation...



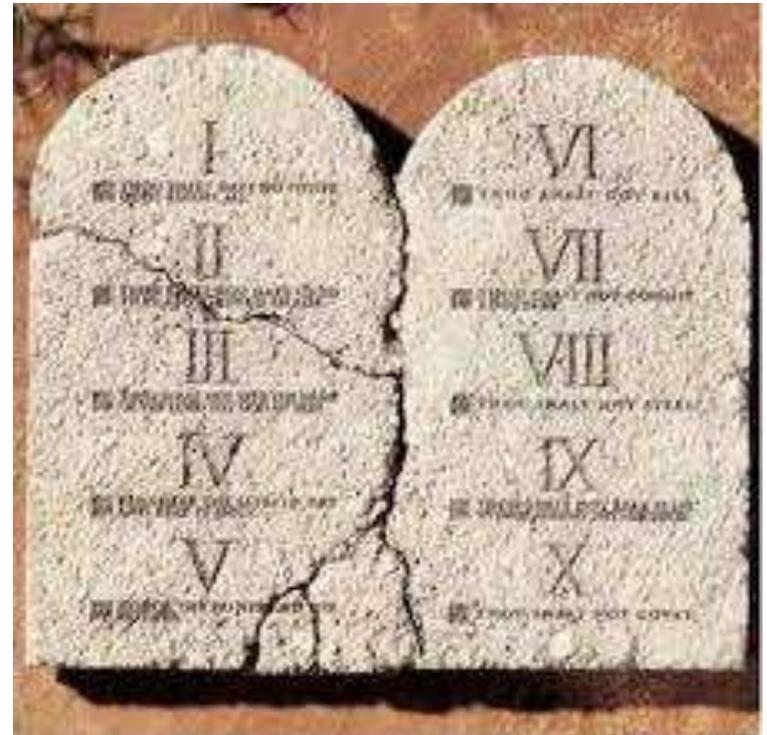
Recap

- Some good men & women trusted God
- They weren't perfect!
- But most were selfish & stiff-necked (self willed)
- Slowing God's plans or spoiling them



Recap

- 🔹 Our enemy revealed as an evil spirit – The Slanderer
- 🔹 God gave us ‘vessels’ to hold His revelations
- 🔹 Circumcision, Tent of Meeting, Law, etc
- 🔹 Until a better revelation would come!



Two Kingdoms Decline

970-586BC



The Divided Kingdom,
10th - 6th Century BCE

- ◆ God speaks through His prophets
- ◆ When man listens he prospers
- ◆ God does nothing unless He reveals it to His prophets – Amos 3:7

The Prophets

- ◆ God is relational
- ◆ Not declaring what *will* happen...
- ◆ But what will happen *if* we don't change
- ◆ Jonah



The Prophets could see...

- ◆ Israel's failure & exile
- ◆ God's grace
- ◆ God coming to save
- ◆ A New Covenant
- ◆ Man's need of His Spirit



Exile

722 & 586BC

- 🔹 God's patience does eventually run out



Summary

- ◆ His sovereignty is worked out relationally
- ◆ Israel struggled to partner faithfully
- ◆ God continued to bless
- ◆ But something better is coming

Jesus – Not Without a Prophet

- ◆ Partnership with man is so at the heart of God that even the Messiah was needed to be seen and welcomed ahead of time by a man or woman. Amos 3:7



Jesus - Heaven Invades Earth!



- ◆ In answer to Isaiah's cry in 64:1
- ◆ The Lord looked for a man but found none
- ◆ Joy for all people
- ◆ Virgin birth

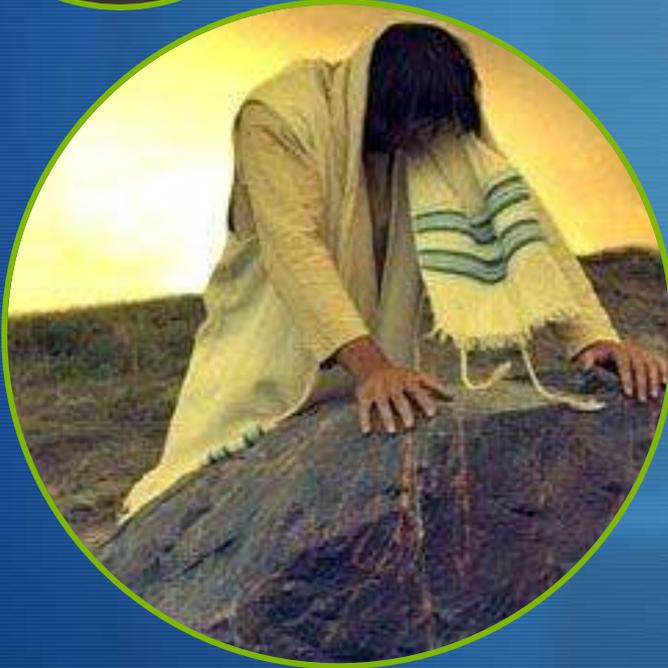
Jesus - A Spirit Filled Man

- 💧 Virtually nothing known till baptism...
- 💧 Declared God's Son
- 💧 The Spirit rests on Him
- 💧 Declared the Saviour



The Temptation

- 💧 Back to the Garden!
- 💧 Root issue is
Fatherhood
- 💧 Refused the
independent route
- 💧 Our need is to hear
His voice
- 💧 Returned in power



The Message?



“Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand” – Matthew 4:17

“The time is fulfilled, the Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” – Mark 1:15

It's Good News!



- ◆ “The time is fulfilled, the Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” – Mark 1:15
- ◆ Re-think
- ◆ It's good news!
- ◆ God is with us
- ◆ Heaven is near

Heaven is near? Luke 4:18-19



- ◆ The Spirit was upon Him
- ◆ Good news for
 - ◆ The poor
 - ◆ The broken-hearted
 - ◆ The oppressed
 - ◆ The sick
- ◆ God accepts them all

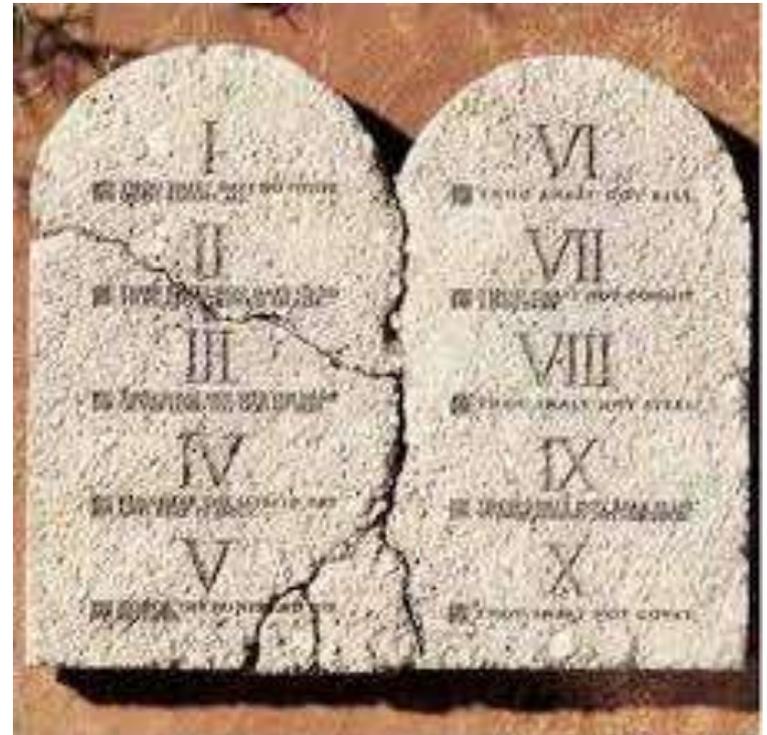
How Did Jesus Demonstrate the Good News?

- ◆ Healing the sick
- ◆ Eating with outcasts like tax collectors
- ◆ Forgiving adulterers
- ◆ Teaching women
- ◆ Getting angry with religious people



Jesus is The Word Fulfilling the Law

- 🟢 Not to destroy the Law
Matthew 5:17
- 🟢 But the end of the Law
Romans 10:4
- 🟢 A change of heart
- 🟢 Love God, love people



Jesus is The Temple

The Presence of God

- 🟢 One greater than the temple is here...
- 🟢 Tear this temple down and I will rebuild it in three days...
- 🟢 I will be with you always...



Jesus Fulfils all Revelation... He is



- 💧 The Faithfulness of God
- 💧 The Light of the World
- 💧 The Bread of Heaven
- 💧 The Good Shepherd
- 💧 The Wisdom of God
- 💧 The True Vine
- 💧 The Lamb of God
- 💧 The Prince of Peace
- 💧 The Tree of Life
- 💧 The Saviour of the world



The Cross

- ◆ Not a legal transaction
- ◆ Love to the point of death
- ◆ Breaking Satan's power over men
- ◆ Winning hearts & minds



The Victory?

- ◆ Fatherhood of God re-established
- ◆ Our son-ship restored
- ◆ The enemy defeated
- ◆ The Spirit poured out
- ◆ True partnership!

Jesus – Is Unique

- ◆ Prophesied
- ◆ Wisdom
- ◆ Miracles
- ◆ Love
- ◆ Resurrection
- ◆ But the first of many!



Next Time

- ◆ How God's sons finally finish the job
- ◆ Creation completed and fulfilled!

Summary: Jesus came to show us...



- ◆ What God is like
- ◆ What love looks like
- ◆ What man could be

- ◆ As a consequence the enemy is defeated and creation fulfilled