

**Agape House of Worship**  
**Wednesday Bible Study – Wednesday, August 20, 2025**

**Part 2: Obedience and the First Steps of Faith**  
**Scripture: Genesis 12:10-20; 13:1-4**

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**Teacher: Pastor Tunde Odeyemi**

**A. Trouble in Paradise.**  
**Genesis 12:10-13**

*10 Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. 11 As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, “I know what a beautiful woman you are. 12 When the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ Then they will kill me but will let you live. 13 Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.”*

Not long after reaching the promised land in obedience to God’s instruction, God appeared to Abram to confirm that he had indeed reached the land. Shortly afterwards though, there came a severe famine in the same land!

**Question 1.** Why do bad things happen to good people?

**Question 2.** In the process of obeying God, should we expect significant affliction?

God not only blessed Abram with abundant possessions, He also blessed him with a very beautiful wife!

**Proverbs 19:14.** *House and riches are the inheritance from fathers, but a wise, understanding, and prudent wife is from the Lord.*

Abram, acting out of fear, asked Sarai to tell a half-truth by saying she was his sister, but she was also his wife. Genesis 20:12.

Abram’s intent was to deceive the Egyptians. He feared that if they knew the truth, they would kill him to get Sarai. She would have been a desirable addition to Pharaoh’s harem because of her beauty, wealth, and potential for political alliance. As Sarai’s brother, Abram would have been given a place of honor. As her husband, however, his life would be in danger because Sarai could not enter Pharaoh’s harem unless Abram was dead. So, Abram lost faith in God’s protection, even after all God had promised him, and told a half-truth.

**B. Showdown in Egypt: The powerful vs Abram’s God!**

**Genesis 12:14-20** *14 When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that Sarai was a very beautiful woman. 15 And when Pharaoh’s officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace. 16 He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, male and female servants, and camels. 17 But the Lord inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram’s wife Sarai. 18 So Pharaoh summoned Abram. “What have you done to me?” he said. “Why didn’t you tell me she was your wife? 19 Why did you say, ‘She is my sister,’ so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!” 20 Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.*

Question 3. Was Abram disobeying God by going down to Egypt?

Question 4. Was Abram acting in faith by saying Sarai was his sister?

Question 5. Why did God intervene on Abram and Sarai's behalf?

### **C. Prosperity in the Promised Land.**

**Genesis 13:1-4** *So, Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. 2 Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold.*

*3 From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier 4 and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the Lord.*

And so, God blessed Abram as promised and he became very wealthy. These early steps of Abram show that faith is not about perfection but about a growing trust in God amid pressure. We learn that God remains faithful, even when our first steps of faith are faltering.