

1.3.1 Genesis 12-50

The big story and the universal truth

The big story is the story of the relationship between God and people based on his Word; Jesus is at the centre of that story.

The story so far...

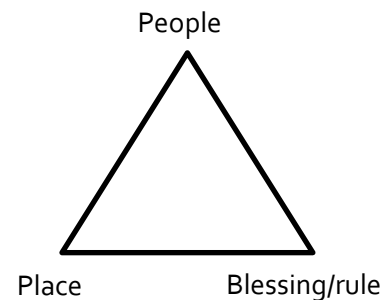
Creation by God's Word → sin and curse → serpent crusher promise → flood judgment → rainbow covenant → Babel rebellion and scattering

Promise covenant to Abraham

12:1-3

- I will make you into a great nation
- I will bless you
- I will make your name great
- You will be a blessing
- Land

→ *The content of the covenant promise*



15:1-21

God reveals his plans – the promised seed.

Faith credited as righteousness. An improbable transaction. A pattern for salvation.

'Cutting' a deal – a bond in blood (Note Jeremiah 34:18-20). A covenant treaty.

The smoking fire pot – God's guarantee that he alone would keep the covenant.

→ *The form of the covenant promise*

17:1-14

More cutting! Generational sign.

Absolute assurance. Binding agreement.

A pattern that shows God's character and faithfulness

A bumpy road... Abimelech (12:10-20), Lot (13-14, 18), Ishmael (16)

A faithful God

Isaac

Miracle birth, 21:3

22:1-19

Sacrifice of the miracle son who carries the promise?

Provision of a substitute, 22:13

A wife from his own people, 24:1-67

Promise continues, 26:1-5

Jacob

Jacob and Esau – striving and sneakiness

A stairway to heaven, 28:10-22

Rachel and Leah – love, labour and loss

12 sons... and a daughter (34)

God's promise to the children of Israel, 35:9-15

Joseph

A mini-epic, 37-50

- Dream boy: favouritism, resentment and slavery, 37
- Dream job: Potiphar's house, to prison, and then to the palace 39-41
- Famine arrives, and then brothers, 42-44
- Revelation of Joseph to the brothers, and Jacob's arrival in Egypt, 45-47
- Blessings. Double to Joseph, but Judah rules, 49:10.
- God's will for good, despite human will for evil, 50:20.

God's presence with Joseph

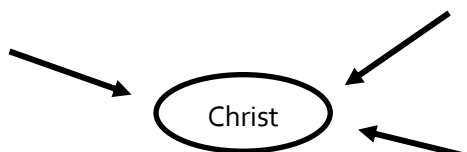
God's will to preserve and rescue his people, though he takes them out of the promised land

God's blessing to nations through his people

God's people are growing in number. They are not in the place he has promised, but he has blessed them and shown his rule.

The picture so far and how it points to Christ

Serpent crusher.
Seed of woman.
Reverses the curse of sin.
Suffers for it.



Promised seed
Seed of Abraham.
Inheritor of rule/blessing
(Note Galatians 3:16).
Blesses nations.

Smoking fire pot.
God alone.
Must be cut to shed blood.
Therefore God and man.

God's big over-arching covenant. He keeps his word and yet saves sinners by sending his Son as covenant Lord. The covenant of grace.