

## **Genesis 12:8-20**

### **The Pilgrim's Journey**

#### **Introduction:**

The New England Puritans that crossed the Atlantic unto America in the Seventeenth century knew that they would be facing great difficulties dealing with the harsh winters and establishing a new governing body. But for them it was worth the sacrifice to have freedom of Biblical worship. William Bradshaw affirming that, "the way of worship ought evidently to be prescribed by the Word, or else ought not to be done." William Ames who writes, "The Marrow of Sacred Divinity" in 1638, "all things necessary to salvation are contained in the Scripture, and also those things necessary for the instruction and edification of the church." The pilgrim-puritans knew that the new land in Plymouth would be no different than what the writer of Hebrews states: "They confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth."

#### **I. Abraham's Worship – v.7-8**

- A. The Altar – Hebrews 9:9-12**
- B. Traveling to Bethel – "The house of God"**
- C. Pitching a tent – (Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress)**
  - 1. What exactly is a pilgrim? Heb. 11:10,16
  - 2. A Paradox
- D. Taking possession of the land:**
  - 1. Jesus assures us that He has been given authority by His Father over the nations – Matt. 28:18-20
  - 2. Our possession of the land is not through military might – II Cor. 10:4,5

#### **II. Abraham in Egypt – v.9-20, Isa 31:1**

- A. The famine came to test Abram's faith – I Pet. 1:6,7**
- B. Sometimes one sin leads to another sin – v.13**
- C. The Lord rescues us as we play out our sinful schemes – II Tim. 2:13**
- D. Abraham finally comes to his senses and went back to Bethel – 13:1-3**

#### **Conclusion:**

- 1. *God's call upon Abraham is to follow and place absolute confidence in Him – Heb. 11:1*
- 2. *The trial of Abraham's faith is the lot of all God's children – Rom. 5:3-5*
- 3. *Do Not give place to the world's way of thinking nor the devil. Stay out of Egypt! Rom. 12:2*