



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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God promised to make Abraham a great nation but please remember that Abraham is married to Sarah who is barren. This will cause Abraham a lot of grief and heartaches as we will see in other Way Points.

III- His Sidetrack:

So Abraham has been given a clear directive from God to separate from family. Notice the first thing that happened was that He did not completely do as instructed but took his father along. *Genesis 11:31* “**And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.**”

Abraham is still following his father instead of striking out on his own. Lot his nephew is also along. Notice they left headed toward Canaan but stopped at Haran. We can only speculate why they stopped here. We do know that this is the place where Abraham's brother Nahor settled and was where Isaac's wife would later come from.

Notice what M.G. Easton M.A., D.D., *Illustrated Bible Dictionary* says:

Heb. *haran*, i.e., “parched;” or probably from the Accadian *charana*, meaning “a road.” A celebrated city of Western Asia, now Harran, where Abram remained, after he left Ur of the Chaldees, till his father Terah died (Gen 11:31, Gen 11:32), when he continued his journey into the land of Canaan. It is called “Charran” in the LXX. and in Act 7:2. It is called the “city of Nahor” (Gen 24:10), and Jacob resided here with Laban (Gen 30:43). It stood on the river Belik, an affluent of the Euphrates, about 70 miles above where it joins that river in Upper Mesopotamia or Padan-aram, and about 600 miles northwest of Ur in a direct line. It was on the caravan route between the east and west. It is afterwards mentioned among the towns taken by the king of Assyria (2Ki 19:12; Isa 37:12). It was known to the Greeks and Romans under the name Carrhae.

After traveling some 600 miles Abraham sets up living in Haran instead of going on to the promised land. Abraham was camping beside the road instead of traveling on into the will of God. Abraham is going to dwell here for five years. I want you to notice the underline in the text above under his call. It says, “**Now the LORD had said unto Abram...**” God had told him to go past this point.



Coordinates:
Genesis 11:29-12:9

Sights to See:

- 1- Abraham let family and other good and righteous things get in his way and distracting him from the perfect will of God.
- 2- To the casual observer this may seem like a minor point but how many have never moved along in their walk with God after getting bogged down. How many people have camped beside the road or boated on the lake and never found time for God again?
- 3- How many have never begun the journey and have never even gotten to Haran?
- 4- Abraham was willing to start the journey that he was not sure where he would end up. God told him to go and he would show him where when he got there.
- 5- We need to examine our lives and make sure that there is nothing that we are putting before God, be it family, job, personal comfort or whatever.

