A painting depicting the three patriarchs of the Hebrew people: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Abraham is on the left, wearing a red robe and holding a staff. Isaac is in the center, wearing a white robe and holding a book. Jacob is on the right, wearing a yellow and brown robe. In the background, there are several smaller figures, including a woman and children, representing their descendants.

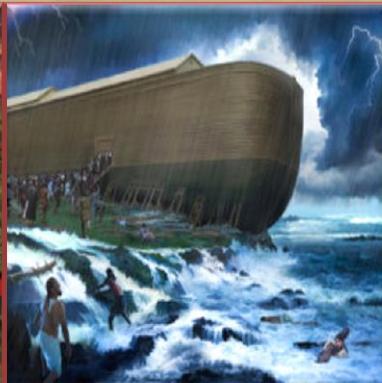
GLOBAL REBELLION AND THE PATRIARCHS



Genesis tells stories of deception and broken relationships since the fall. During that period of time, the cosmic conflict spread throughout the Earth.



Cain's sin.



The rebellion
of the
Antediluvian.



Abraham's
experience.



Jacob's conflict.



Joseph's vision.

CAIN'S SIN

"Then the Lord said to Cain, 'Where is Abel your brother?' He said, 'I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?'" (Genesis 4:9)

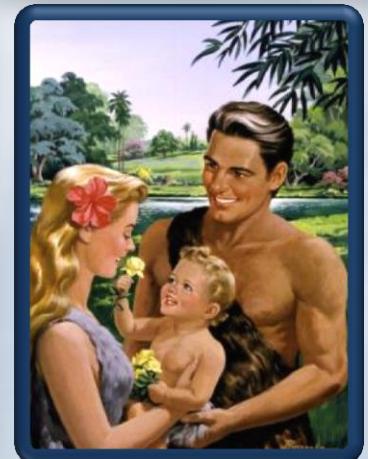
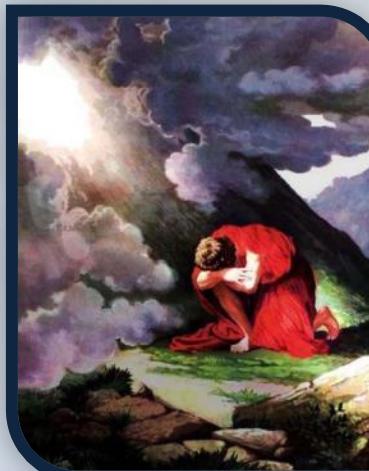
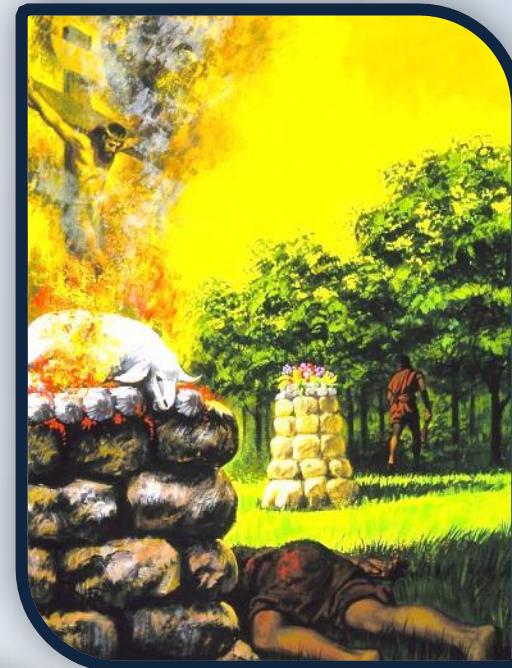
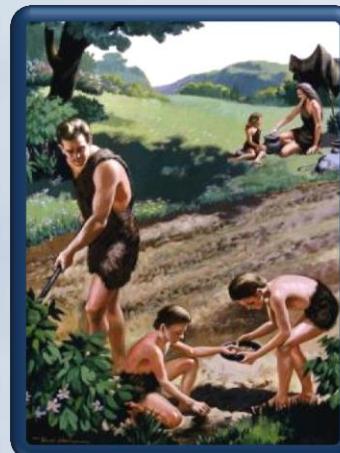
When Cain was born, Eve thought he was the promised Messiah who would redeem them. But he wasn't.

Cain's offering was rejected, but Abel's was accepted. Cain got angry with his brother Abel instead of thinking over why his worship was rejected.

The father of lies induced him to commit murder. Cain killed his brother and then lied to hide his sin ("I do not know.")

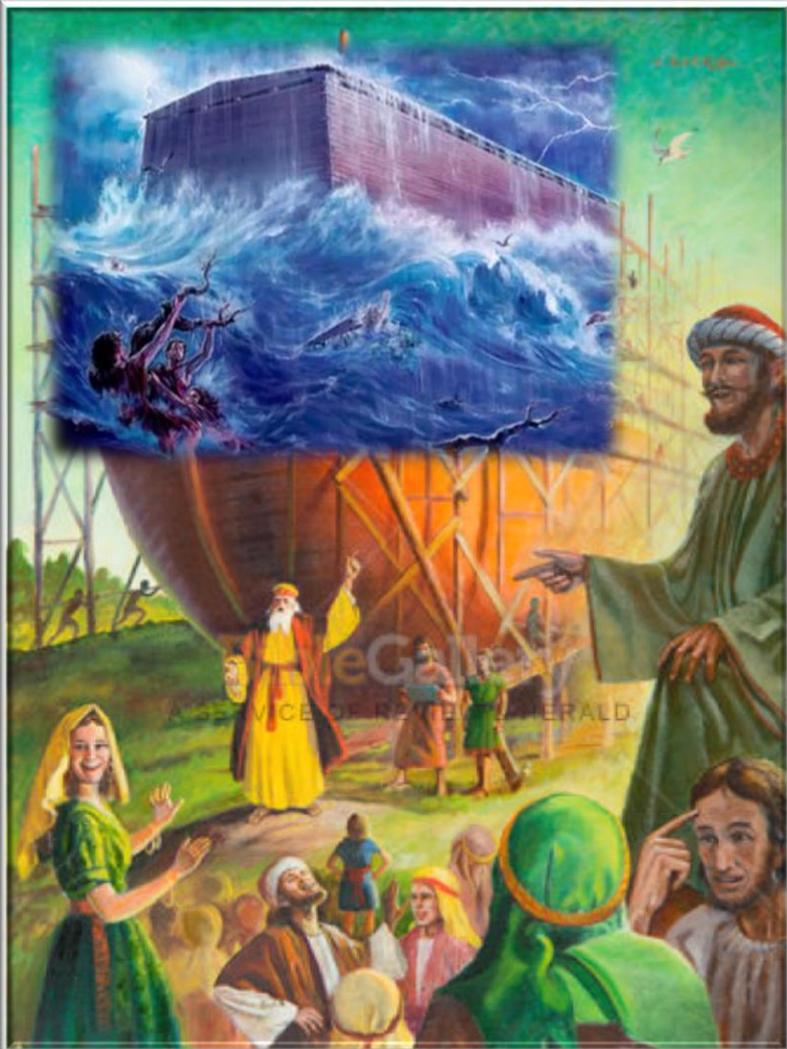
Cain answered God in a defiant way, showing no repentance.

The birth of Seth brought hope back, since the promised Messiah would be his descendant.



THE REBELLION OF THE ANTEDILUVIAN

"Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." (Genesis 6:5)



Cain's descendants got swept up in sin very quickly.

Seth's descendants remained faithful to God for some time, but the whole mankind eventually rebelled against God.

God decided to radically stop the rebellion, turning the Earth back to its first state; "without form and void." (Genesis 1:2). "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord." (Genesis 6:8).

That was a new beginning, but problems arose again. Noah got drunk and Cam acted in a shameful way.

Nevertheless, hope remained thanks the faithful descendants of Sem.

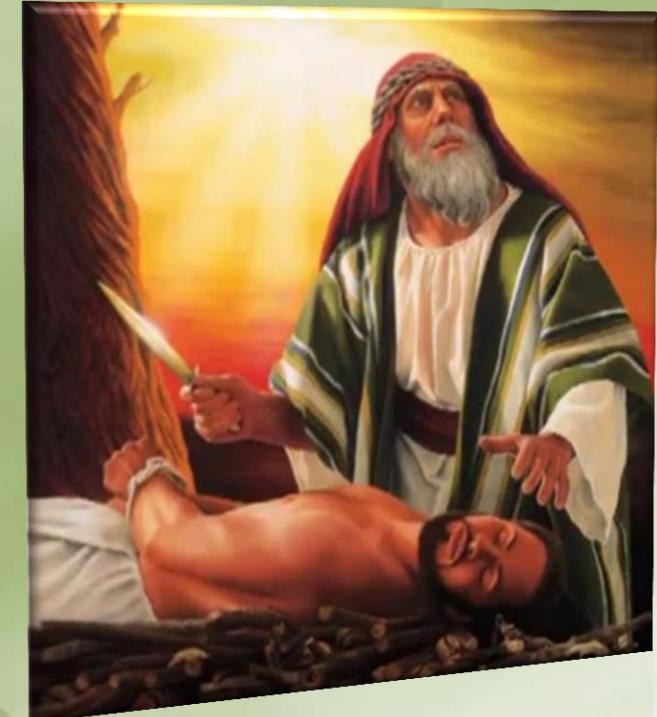
ABRAHAM'S EXPERIENCE

"Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son." (Genesis 22:13)



God promised Abraham a child; in his seed all the nations of the earth would be blessed (Genesis 22:18). God confirmed that promise to Isaac (Genesis 26:4) and Jacob (Genesis 28:14).

How is having to kill the son of the promise related to the cosmic conflict between good and evil?

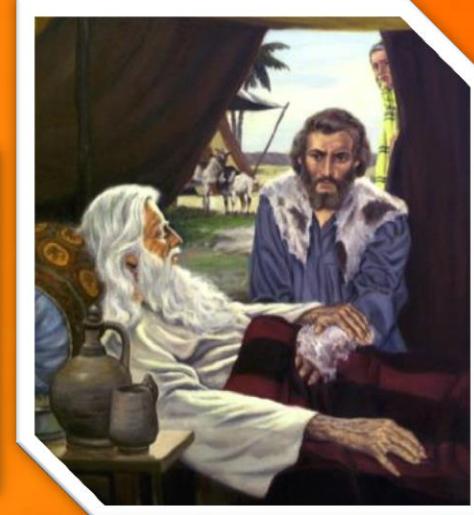
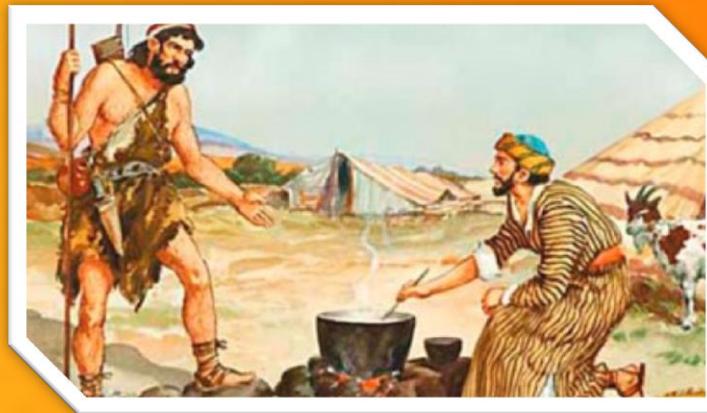


"Because Abraham had shown a lack of faith in God's promises, Satan had accused him before the angels and before God of having failed to comply with the conditions of the covenant, and as unworthy of its blessings. God desired to prove the loyalty of His servant before all heaven, to demonstrate that nothing less than perfect obedience can be accepted, and to open more fully before them the plan of salvation."

JACOB'S CONFLICT (I)

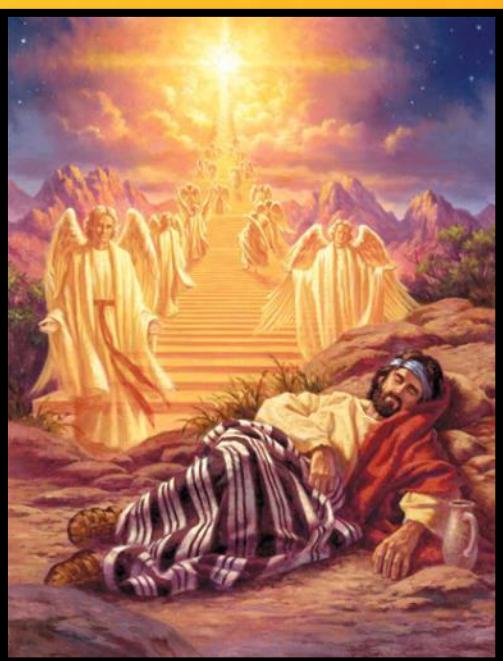
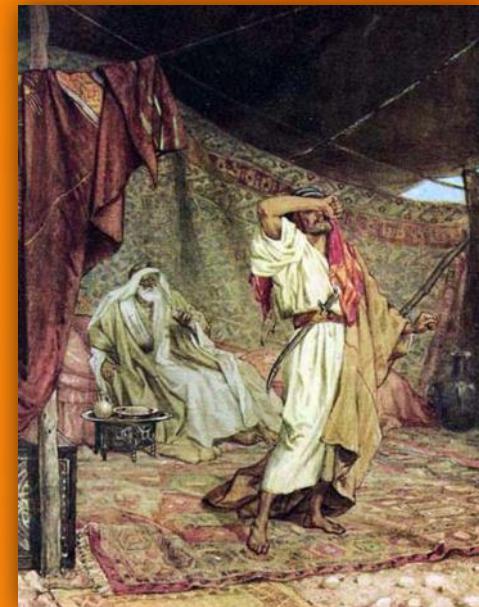
"Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you." (Genesis 28:15)

Jacob forced his brother to sell him the birthright. Then he deceived his father to steal the blessing from Esau.



Esau's reaction was emphatic; he would kill his brother. Rebeca sent Jacob far from home to save him.

God met him and bless him in the midst of his desperation. Despite all his mistakes, God didn't see him as Jacob—the deceiver—but as Israel who would cling tightly to God.



JACOB'S CONFLICT (II)

"Deliver me, I pray, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau; for I fear him, lest he come and attack me and the mother with the children." (Genesis 32:11)

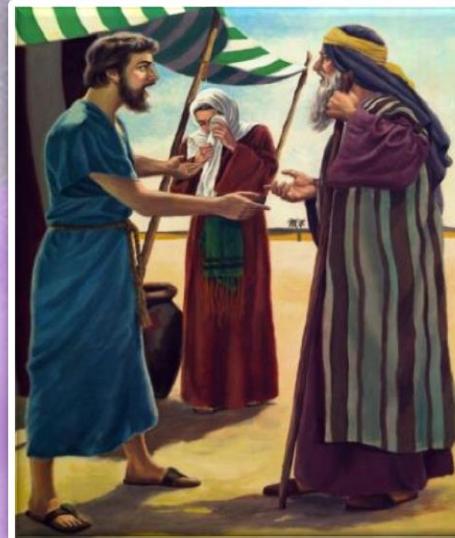
Jacob decided to return home after being deceived by his father-in-law for 20 years.

He was chased by Laban and God freed him (Genesis 31:29). He finally lost heart when his brother came to him with 400 armed men.

He prayed all night long and he fought against God and clung to Him. Jacob ended lame and helpless after that fight.

When Esau saw Jacob like that, he thought he was no longer a danger, so he decided to forgive him.

If we want to overcome this conflict, we must cling tightly to God like Jacob did. He will defeat Satan and He will guide us to the Promised Land.



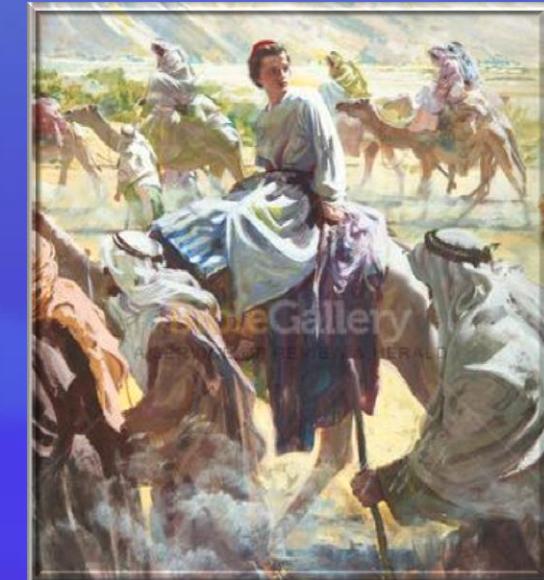
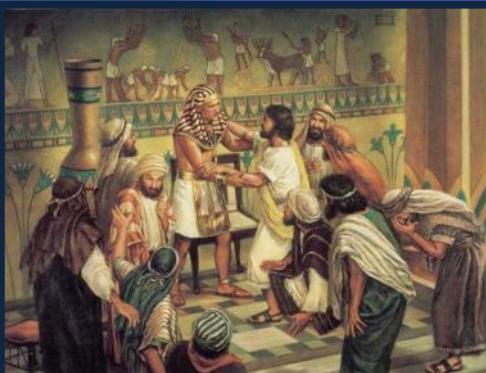
JOSEPH'S VISION

"But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life." (Genesis 45:5)



A coat of many colors, two dreams and a father that sends his youngest son to spy his brothers. That was a tragic story.

Joseph made a pact with God; he chose to serve Him no matter the circumstances. And the circumstances were harsh for many years.



Joseph became the second-in-command in Egypt, so he could've taken revenge on his brothers. Nevertheless, he didn't focus on their evil, but on God's guidance in his life, his family and every person on Earth.

We need Joseph's vision. We must see beyond people and circumstances. We must see God guiding our way, fulfilling His purpose in this world, in our family and in us.



“It is thus that God’s purpose in calling His people, from Abraham on the plains of Mesopotamia to us in this age, is to reach its fulfillment. He says, ‘I will bless thee, ... and thou shalt be a blessing.’ Genesis 12:2. The words of Christ through the gospel prophet, which are but re-echoed in the Sermon on the Mount, are for us in this last generation: ‘Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.’

Isaiah 60:1. If upon your spirit the glory of the Lord is risen, if you have beheld His beauty who is ‘the chiefest among ten thousand’ and the One ‘altogether lovely,’ if your soul has become radiant in the presence of His glory, to you is this word from the Master sent. Have you stood with Christ on the mount of transfiguration? Down in the plain there are souls enslaved by Satan; they are waiting for the word of faith and prayer to set them free.”