



Egypt in Abram's Time

Abram's obedience to God took him and his family into what is today known as Southern Israel and Jordan. However, his fear of famine brought him further south into a land long settled by historic man, the ancient land of Egypt. The Nile River Valley had been a resource for life dating back to 3200 B.C. The river provided life with an abundance of rich soil across the flood plain and the desert became a natural barrier, protecting Egypt from invading armies. Under the dynasties of the Pharaohs, Egypt enjoyed a magnificent civilization. The creation of a united government, a 365-day year, knowledge of art and architecture, medical science, the study of astronomy and a thriving sea trade created tremendous wealth for this country. Egypt inspired the Greek, Roman and western civilizations throughout its history. It was into this growing culture that Abram moved his family. The time of his adventure is dated by historians as sometime between 2575 – 2150 B.C. Egypt's grandeur, under the Pharaohs, ended following the reign of Ramses III which was from 1195 – 1164 B.C.

Abram and his family moved into a vast wasteland of sand, crossing it and settling into a culture and civilization developed over a thousand years. Abram's decision to move beyond God's instructions is a decision many of us make. Fear has the amazing ability to cause us to lose perspective, and to think that God would want us to take the next step based upon our own, human wisdom rather than wait and listen for His voice. God proved Himself over and over to Abram and never left nor forsook him or his family, yet fear and desire for comfort prevailed. The cost for Abram was high. Let us learn that the enticements of the world can never overwhelm the abundance of a God who promises that through trusting Him, He will open the windows of heaven and pour forth with abundance all that we need.