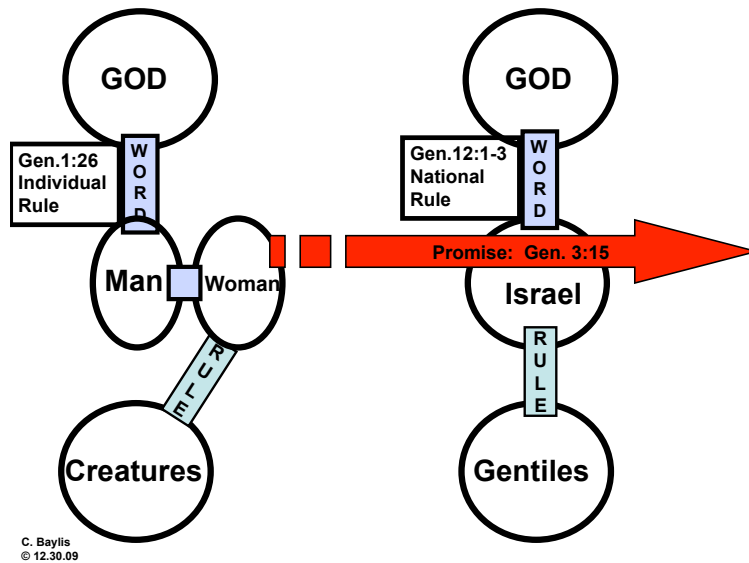


Part II

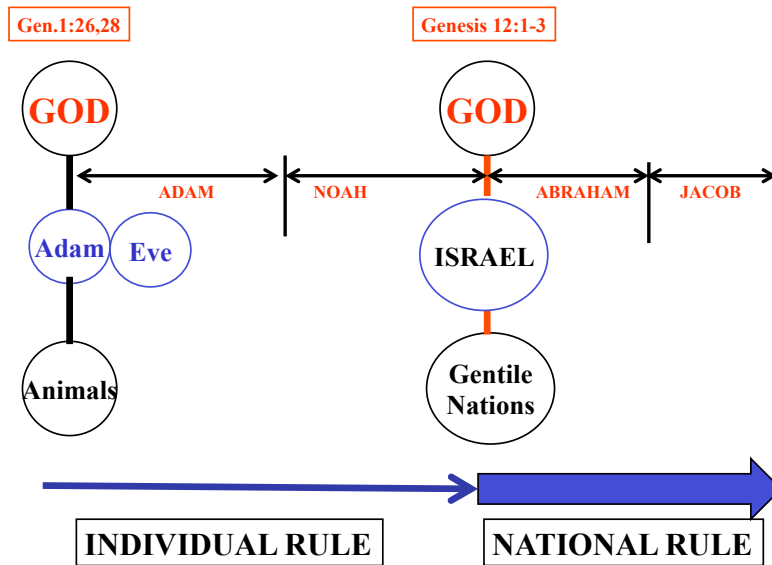
The National Rule of Israel in Abraham/Jacob

Genesis 10--50

The story of Genesis 12—50 is another amazing tapestry that comprises the second of the two main parts of the Book of Genesis, the other being from Genesis 1-9. The first focuses on the individual ruler, while the second relates to the national rule. The first section, the Individual Rule, covered in the previous Part I, became centered in the expectation of an individual Ruler, that of the “Seed of the Woman.” This individual Ruler (“Seed”) will, in Genesis 12, become the Ruler of the Nation Israel, from which He will come and through which He will rule the Gentiles.



Thus, in Genesis 3:15, the Ruler is prophesied and then in Genesis 12—50 this individual Ruler becomes located in a nation. The Nation Israel is created, but in Genesis 12—50 will struggle (in Abraham and Jacob) to embrace the message of the Messiah that is within them. Thus the second section will be about the National Rule in Abraham and Jacob and their rejection of God’s provision in the promise of Messiah.

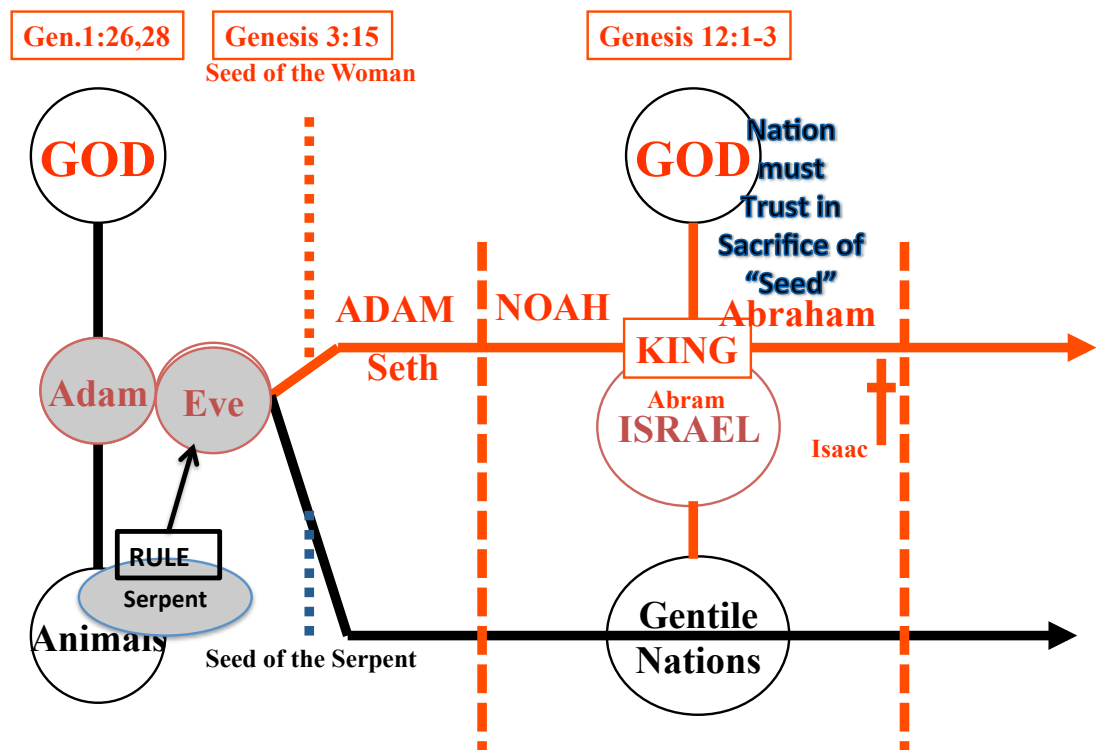


The National Desire to Bring Forth the “Seed of the Woman”

The nation Israel will be created in Genesis 12:1-3 in the promise to Abram. Israel will be the nation that is to provide blessing to the Gentiles (12:3). That blessing is the message of the provision of the “Seed of the Woman” who will deliver them into the new earth and the Kingdom of God, thus delivering them from the curse of the old earth and death.

Israel (Abraham and Jacob) cannot bless the Gentiles unless they receive it themselves.

Abraham will finally realize that he must give up his own attempts to provide the promise and trust in God to provide it in the Seed of the Woman and the sacrifice of his chosen Son (ultimately Christ, seen in Isaac).



Jacob, the second national representative, will deceive and plot to also receive the blessing in his own abilities. Finally, his best efforts will come to naught as he loses his favorite son, Joseph. Joseph is the one who is to represent the Seed

for that generation. The nation in Jacob is preserved through famine by God's unseen hand working through His "Messiah" Joseph. The nation is delivered through Joseph and comes to recognize him as their Messiah by bowing at his feet in fulfillment of God's promise. Thus Jacob represents a nation that will not come to its own sanctification relationship with God until they recognize their Messiah in Jesus and bow at His feet as well. In the story of Jacob it is this "Messiah" that blesses the Gentiles (Egypt) even though the nation in the 12 sons has rejected him. So also with Christ, Jesus blesses the Gentiles (Acts 10—28) apart from the nation, Israel, who rejected Him as well.

