

ἄλλοι μὲν οὖν ἐπισημαίνουσιν ὅτι
ἐκ τῆς ἀρχῆς ἦν ἐκεῖ ἡ ἀποστολή
καὶ ἡ ἐκκλησία

GALATIANS

Before The
Gospel There
Was... Gospel

ἀφίσαυ
τὸς αὐτὸς
λαλοῦσα
πρόμνη

καὶ πῆσσαν
ταῦτα τῶν

Galatians 3:6-9

just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

just as **Abraham** “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”

2 Chronicles 20:7

Did you not, our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel, and give it forever to the descendants of **Abraham your friend**?

Isaiah 41:8

But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of **Abraham, my friend**

Nehemiah 9:7-8

You are the LORD, the **God who chose Abram** and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and gave him the name Abraham. **You found his heart faithful before you**, and made with him the covenant to give to his offspring

The Problem Of Age

Genesis 15:2-3

But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir."

The Promise Of A Miracle

Genesis 15:4-5

And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

Genesis 15:6

And he **believed** the Lord, and he **counted**
to him as righteousness

Believed=

Faith/Trust in God/Christ

Counted to him=

To impute or credit
someone's account

The faith by which we are justified is saving faith. Faith is like a channel through which the benefits of Christ flow to us. We are not justified on account of faith; we are justified through faith. It is the work of Christ, not our faith, which is the foundation of justification. Faith itself is the gift of God.

– Alistair McGrath



Know then that it is **those of faith**
who are **the sons of Abraham.**

John 8:31-33

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "**We are offspring of Abraham** and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

Romans 9:7-8

and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.

Galatians 4:4-5

But when the fullness of time had come,
God sent forth his Son, born of woman,
born under the law, to redeem those
who were under the law, so that we
might receive adoption as sons.

And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, **preached the gospel beforehand** to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed."

God's Progressive Revelation / Salvation Plan



Faith looked forward

Faith looks backward

Death of Christ

Direct knowledge of Christ not required

Direct knowledge of Christ required

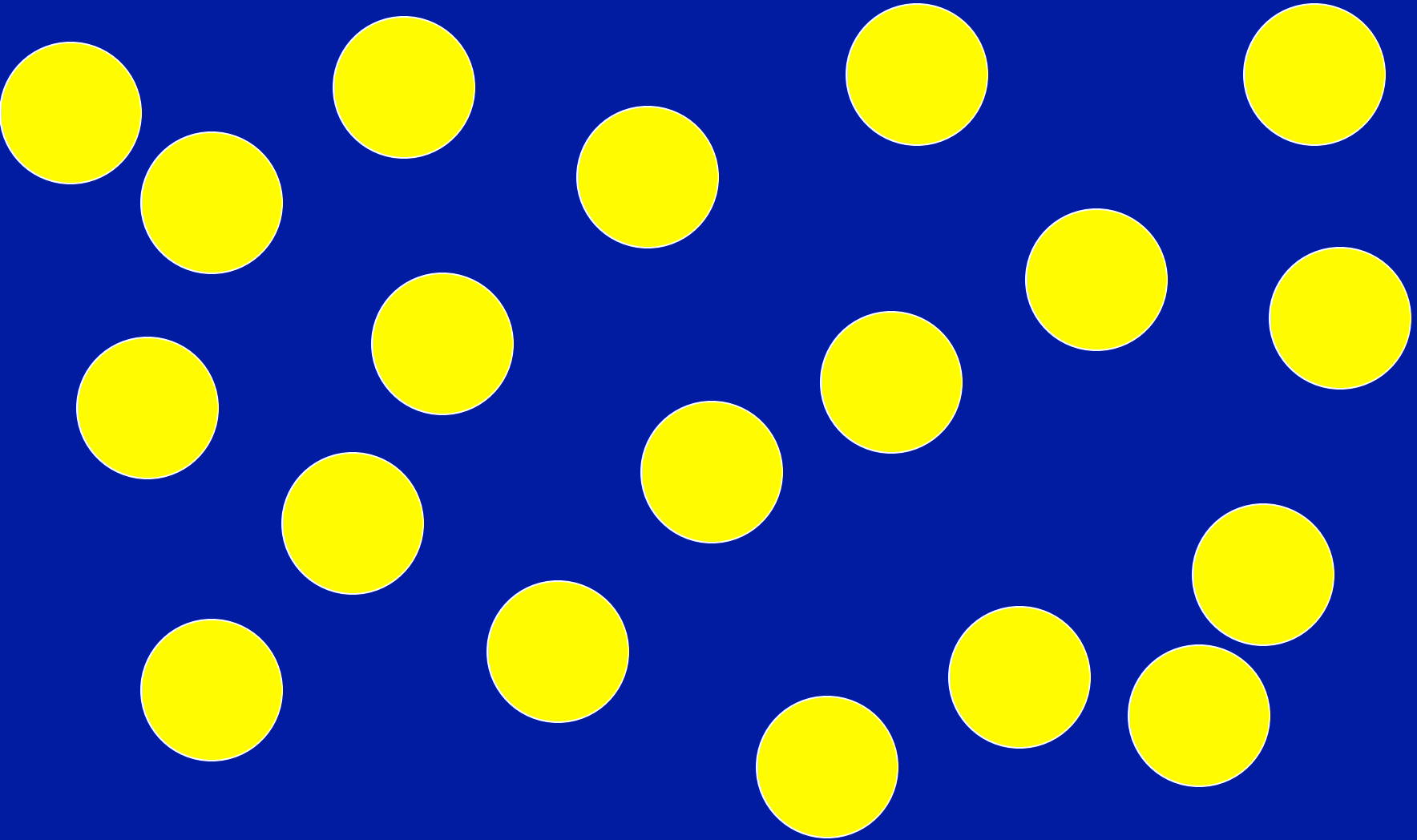


Genesis 11:7-9

Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

The Families Of The Earth

Separated by language and culture, spiritually lost and seemingly without hope

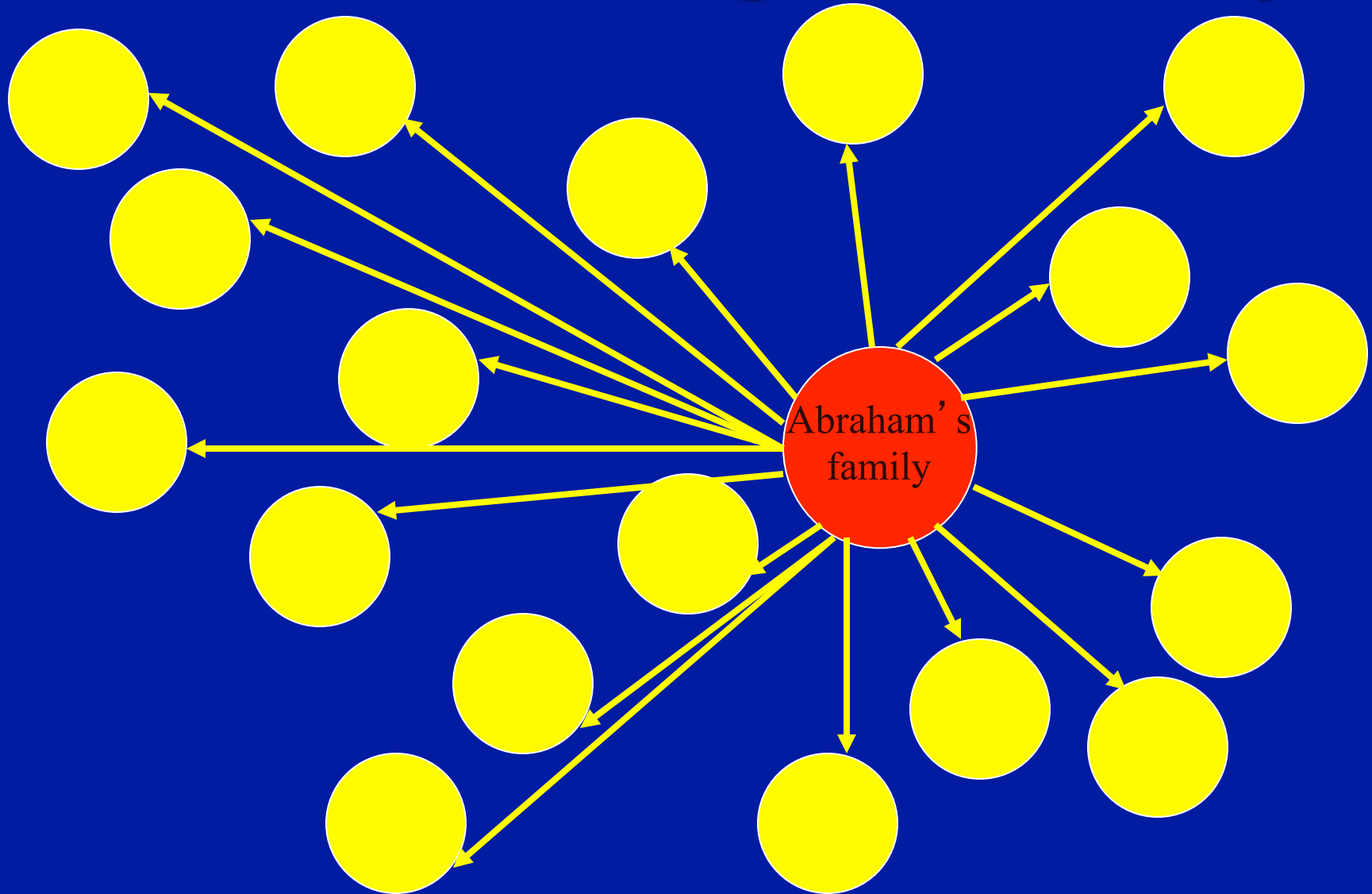


Genesis 12:1-3

Now

the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. **And I will make of you a great nation**, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**”

The Families Of The Earth Blessed Through One Family



The idea of missions, that is, God's desire to bless the entire world, did not begin in the New Testament or with Jesus. Missions began in the heart of God.

- Steve Heartsill

So then, those who are of faith are
blessed along with Abraham, the man
of faith.

Abraham was a good man, even a great man. He is a model of Old Testament piety. Yet Abraham was not saved by his works, not *could* he be saved by them. If this man could not be saved by good works, it is certain that you and I, who are far less pious and godly than he was, cannot be saved by them.

– James Montgomery Boice



All the names are in the same family register. One may have more grace than another, but God our heavenly Father has the same tender heart towards all. One may do more mighty works, and may bring more glory to his Father, but he whose name is the least in the kingdom of heaven is as much the child of God as he who stands among the King's mighty men. Let this cheer and comfort us, when we draw near to God and say, "Our Father."

– Charles Spurgeon

