Old Testament Survey
Theological Excursion: The Purpose of Election

"Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility."

--Baptist Faith and Message (2000)

- Historical Tensions: Calvinism vs Arminianism (Sovereignty of God vs Freewill of Man)
  Ex. Spurgeon's (Calvinist) response when asked if he thought he would see John Wesley (Arminian) in heaven?

- Personal Tensions and Current Convictions
  Election has more to do with _____ than people. In His sovereignty God chooses specific individuals to gift by His grace His glorious salvation for the purpose of _____ His glory and _____ His name among the nations.

F. The election of Abraham **Genesis 12:1-3**; **22:15-18**

We do not know why God chose Abraham over his brother Nahor (Gen 11:27), but we know His purpose of choosing Abraham.

"And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (Gen 12:3)
Ex. His choice of Ray over Rocky; His choice of Mario

3. Through Abraham would come the blessing of salvation for the _____

4. Through Abraham would come the blessing of salvation for the _____

Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you. So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Galatians 3:7-9 (NIV)

G. The election of Isaac **Genesis 26:2-4**

H. The election of Jacob **Genesis 28:13-14**

I. The election of the nation of Israel **Exodus 19:1-6**

Could other nations be saved or was the election exclusively for Israel?

God chose Israel to be the nation from which the _____ would come and through whom His glory would be displayed and declared.

J. The election of the Church

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. **1 Peter 2:9** (NIV)

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." **Matthew 28:18-20** (NIV)

What then is the primary purpose of the Church?
To display the glory of God and to declare the gospel of Jesus

What then is the primary purpose of every believer?
To display the glory of God and to declare the gospel of Jesus

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Next Week's Assignment:

Week Five: Hebrew History - Joseph (Gen 36-50)

What is the significance of the first born son in the Hebrew culture?

How did the religion of the Egyptians differ from that of the Hebrews?