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The obedience of Abraham

Why did God call one person to be the father of His own special nation?

At the first glance, this question seems to be difficult, why God chose one person, namely Abraham, to be the father of His chosen nation. However, we know from the previous article that evil spread and was rampant among mankind. Man didn't learn from the lesson of the fall, and persisted in his disobedience to God until the flood came. Later mankind didn't learn from the flood, and they decided to build the tower of Babel, so God scattered them over the face of all the earth. Thus the divine intervention chose a righteous man, Abraham, from his offspring will come a nation that will be led by God himself. And He will give them His law and commandments until Christ come from them, who will be the savior of the whole world and not for His people only.

In the book of Genesis, the story of the tower of Babel in chapter 11, Chapter 12 begins with talking about God's call to Abram.

"Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran." (Genesis 12:1-4).

Thus Abram (Abraham) left his country and his family and obeyed God through faith, as St. Paul told us in chapter eleven, the chapter of faith, from the epistle to the Hebrews. Thus Abraham lived obeying God through faith until God asked him to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice, so he obeyed God, then God gave him a great promise to which He sworn by Himself as we see from the Holy Scripture:

"Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son-blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." (Genesis 22:15-18).

As a result of Abram's obedience to God, He gave him a great promise that there will be a nation from his offspring ***"as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore"*** In his seed also all the nations will be blessed ***"In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed."*** St. Paul explains in his epistle to the Galatians the meaning of the promise that in Abram's seed all the nations will be blessed: ***"Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ."*** (Gal 3:16).

St. Paul reveals that the words ***"your seed"*** which was said to Abram was in the single form, as it wasn't in the descendants. God was talking about a certain seed from Abram's offspring, who is the Lord Christ the savior.

From that we understand that God called a persons (Abram) to be the father of His nation, Israel, which was the chosen nation in the Old Testament. God looked after this nation and prepared them by giving them the law, commandments, promises, and prophecies about salvation. Christ the savior will come from this nation, but not only for the people of Israel but for the whole world.

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