THE PARTIAL KINGDOM

>> 28 May-3 June 2007 – WEEK 4

[trek] introduction

[trek] is a daily tour guide to help you journey into the bible. It's aims are to:

t - train you to live God's way

r - remind you God is the one who saved you, through Jesus

e - encourage you to tell others about Jesus

k - know the truth so you can't be tricked by lies

[trek] is all about journeying into the bible because it is only in the bible that God speaks to us clearly and completely. When we read the bible, we are hearing what God has to say to us today. That is a seriously special thing! So get into it.

Reflections or questions I have…

[trek] instructions

To get the most out of **[trek]**, work out a time each day when you can read the bible using **[trek]** for 5-10 minutes (by all means read for longer). There are 5 readings. Here's how we suggest you use **[trek]** each day:

1) Ask God to help you understand this part of the bible.
2) Read the part of the bible for that day.
3) As you think about the passage, answer the questions. (Writing may help)
4) Thank God & ask him to help you obey what this passage says.
5) Put what you've learnt into practice in your life.

NOTE: Much more can be said about each passage… you may use the "reflections or questions I have…" box for further thought.

THE BIG PICTURE OF THE BIBLE:

There are 66 books in the Bible. There were some 40 human authors of the Bible. The Bible was written over a period of almost 2000 years. There are many great themes and subjects and stories in the Bible… but ultimately the Bible is ***ONE BOOK,*** *with* ***ONE AUTHOR*** *(God) about* ***ONE SUBJECT*** *(Jesus)*

Our aim this term is to understand **G**OD'S **B**IG **P**ICTURE, that is – the BIG STORYLINE of the Bible. Hopefully by the end you will know God better – and see how from beginning to end the whole of the Bible is about JESUS!

*HERE IS THE SUMMARY OF LAST WEEK…****The PROMISED Kingdom.***
God calls Abe and makes some unconditional promises to him: through his descendants he will re-establish his kingdom. They will be **God's people**, living in **God's place** [the land] under **God's rule** and enjoying his blessing, and through them all peoples on earth will be blessed. That promise is the gospel. It is partially fulfilled in the history of Israel, but is only finally fulfilled through Jesus Christ.

■ [trek day 1] The PARTIAL Kingdom [GBP]

Read Exodus 19:1-13 & Exodus 20:2
What does this passage teach us about God?
How does this relate to the promises God made to Abraham [Gen 12:1-3]?

■ [trek day 2] The PARTIAL Kingdom [GBP]

Read Exodus 19:1-13 [again]
How are Israel to respond to God?
What must they do? Is it possible?
How can God's promises be completely fulfilled?

Thank God that through Jesus he has completely rescued us and made us His People (Titus 1:13-14).

■ [trek day 3] The PARTIAL Kingdom [GBP]

Read 2 Samuel 7:1-17
What has God already done for David?
What does God promises will happen in the future?
How do these promises relate to those made to Abe [Gen 12:1-3]?
What does God promise regarding the coming king?

■ [trek day 4] The PARTIAL Kingdom [GBP]

How does Jesus fulfil the promises made in yesterday's passage?
Matthew 1:1
John 2:18-22
Romans 1:1-4
Mark 12:35-37
Acts 2:24-36

■ [trek day 5] The PARTIAL Kingdom [GBP]

As we look over the huge chunk of the Bible Genesis 12 - 2 Chronicles, we see that the promises of God are partially fulfilled.
Read 2 Corinthians 1:18-22
What do we learn about the way God fulfils his promises completely?

How ought you respond to God for what he's done in Jesus?

Pray about it.

SUMMARY.
God's promises to Abraham are **partially** fulfilled in Israel's history. Through the exodus from Egypt, God makes Abraham's descendants his **very own people**. At Mount Sinai he gives them his law so that they might **live under his rule** and enjoy his **blessing**, as Adam and Eve had done before they sinned. The blessing is marked chiefly by God's presence with his people in the tabernacle. Under Joshua they enter **the land** and, by the time of Kings David and Solomon, they enjoy peace and prosperity there. That was the high point of the history of Israel. They were **God's people** in **God's place**, the land of Canaan, **under God's rule** and therefore **enjoying his blessing**. But the promises made to Abraham had still not been completely fulfilled. The problem was sin, the continual disobedience of the people of Israel. That was soon to lead to the dismantling of the partial kingdom as Israel fell apart.