Three banana peels The Enemy throw in our path



²² After he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked faithfully with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³ Altogether, Enoch lived a total of 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away

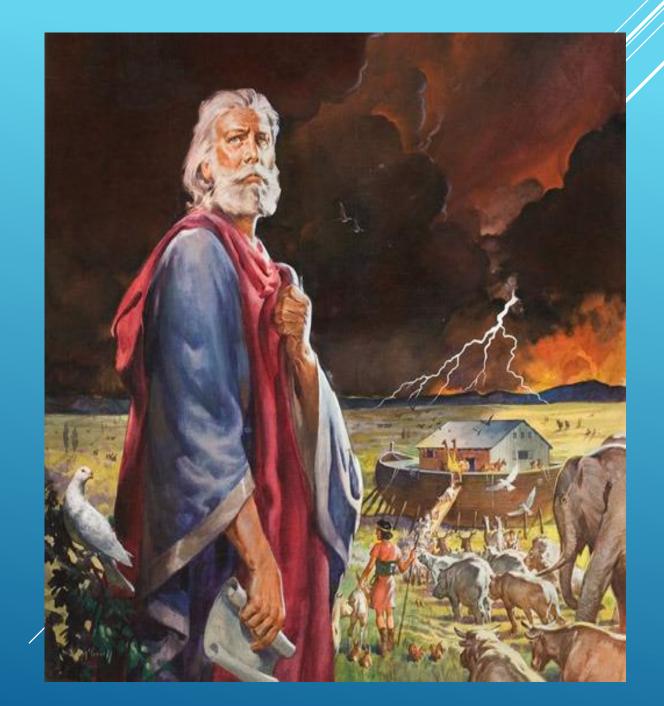
Genesis 5:22-24



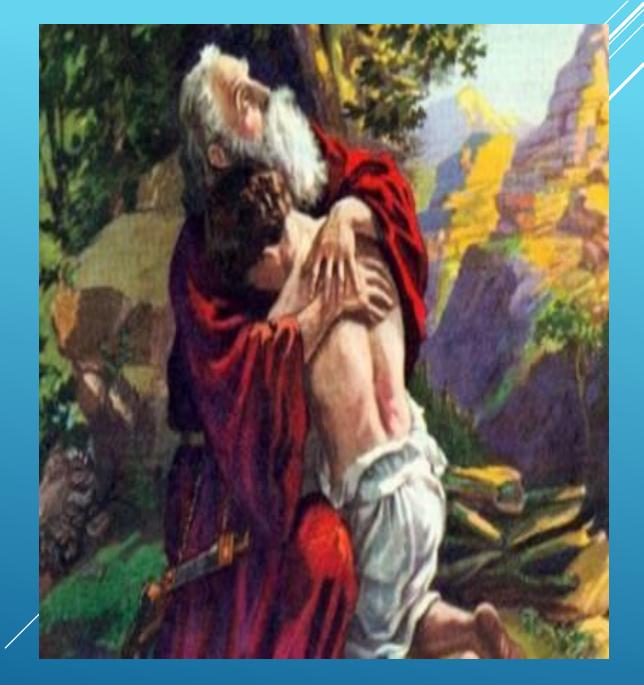
⁹ This is the account of Noah and his family.

Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and <u>he walked</u> faithfully with God.

Genesis 6: 9



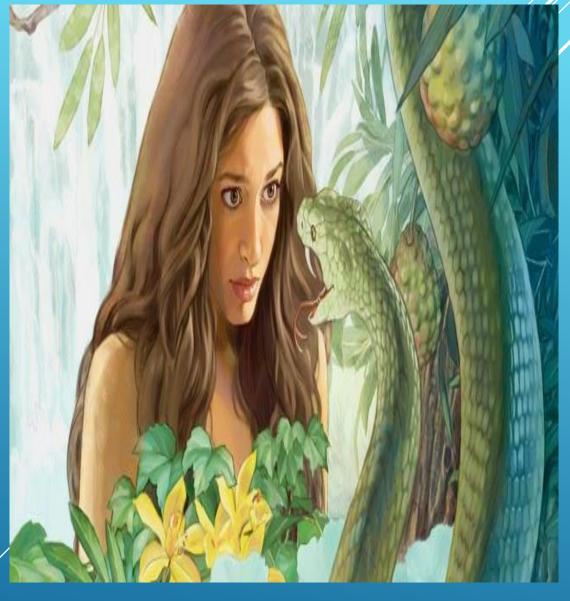
When Abram was ninetynine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Genesis 17:1



Trap # 1

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "<u>Did God really say</u>, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" Genesis 3:1

1.The issue is more complex than obedience or disobedience, although the outcome is disobedience.
2.The serpent attacks the trustworthiness
And sovereignty of God.
3. The real attack was in the value of the couple.



The serpent questioned God's benevolence, and implied that the woman was lacking something. You are not smart enough or intelligent enough , you should understand God's words correctly.

but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must <u>not touch it</u>, or you will die. Gen. 3:3 The woman repeated God's words, and Added some, to underline she really Understood God's warning.



"For God knows that when you eat from it your <u>eyes</u> will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:5

The serpent mocks Eve apparently lack of intelligence. You are not God, just a human! If you eat the fruit you will be like God.



Satan continues using the same strategy, making people feel inferior, incomplete.

- Abraham feels inferior to the Canaanites and lies about the beauty of his wife.
 Genesis 12:10-20
- Sarah feels inferior due to the infertility to agree to the affair of her husband.
 Gen 16:1-2
- Esau was feeling inferior when he agreed to sell his birthright for a plate of lentils.
 Gen. 25:31-34



People still feel inferior today, we deal with this issues in many ways, including Alcohol, tobacco, drugs.

Persons get into bad marriages because they feel inferior.

They make bad decisions because they feel inferior.

Spend money in toys, jewelry, clothes and many other things because they feel incomplete, and without these things we may feel inferior.

The idea that God can't be trusted and that we are no enough still alive today.



Trap # 2

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. ² Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. <u>Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering</u> on a mountain I will show you." Genesis 22:1-2

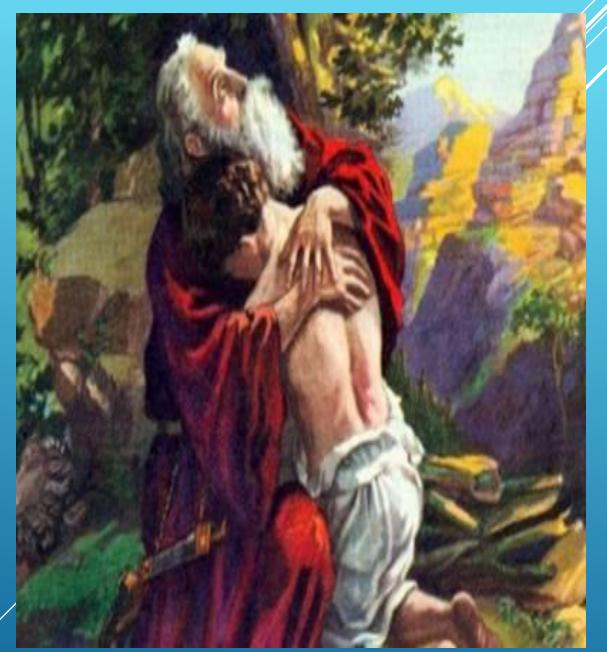
God tested Abraham's faith. If seems an issue of obedience, but an issue More important than obedience is presented here.



The concept of Love is presented here, for the first time in the Bible.

Isaac was Abraham <u>greatest</u> <u>blessing</u>, his greatest possession, his hope for the future.

Isaac represent all God's blessing in a single person.



- We tend to focus in God's gifts.
- The test was to find out if Abraham <u>loved God more</u> than his beloved son, his dreams, or the plans for the future.
- The emphasis in the blessings more than in the giver can become a curse.

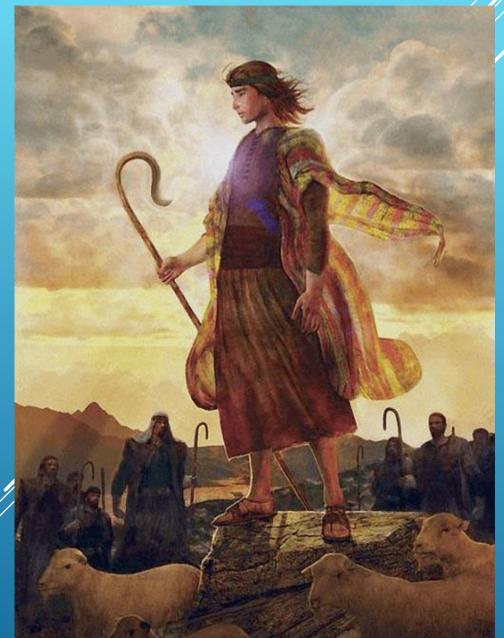


Trap # 3

² The LORD was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. ³ When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did,

Genesis 39: 2-3

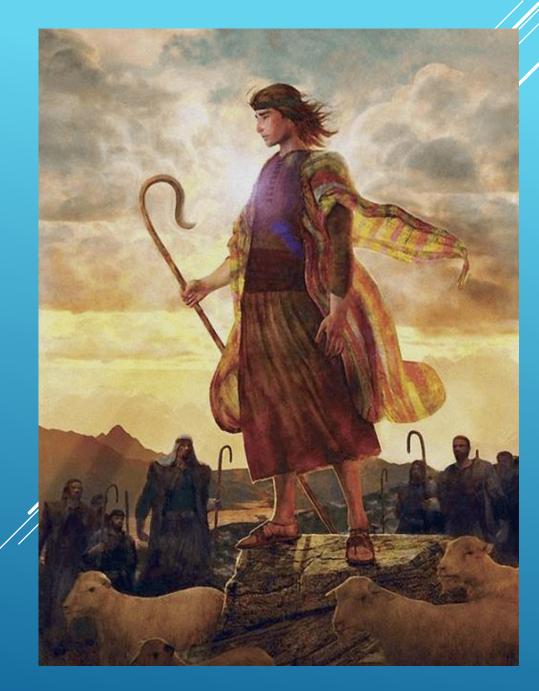
⁵ From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, <u>the LORD blessed the</u> <u>household of the</u> <u>Egyptian because of Joseph</u>. The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. Genesis 39:5



²¹ the LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. ²² So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there. ²³ The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

Genesis 39:21-23

Pharaoh describe Joseph in this terms: ³⁸ So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God ?" Genesis 41:38

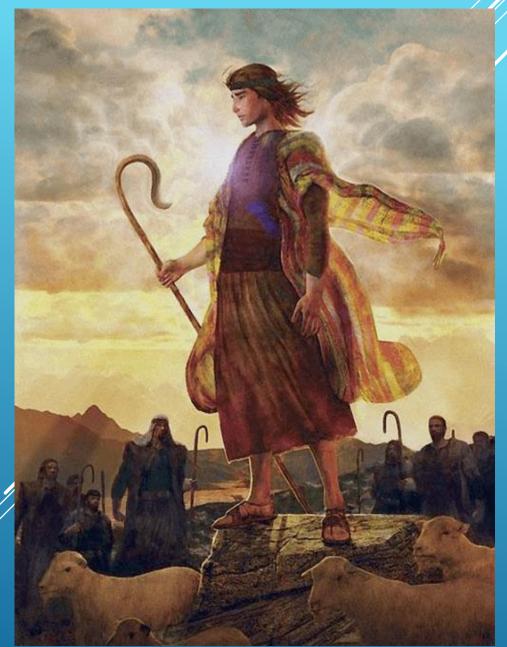


When he encountered his brothers this is how he reacted:

⁷ As soon as Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but <u>he pretended</u> to be a stranger and spoke harshly to them. "Where do you come from?" he asked.

Genesis 42:7

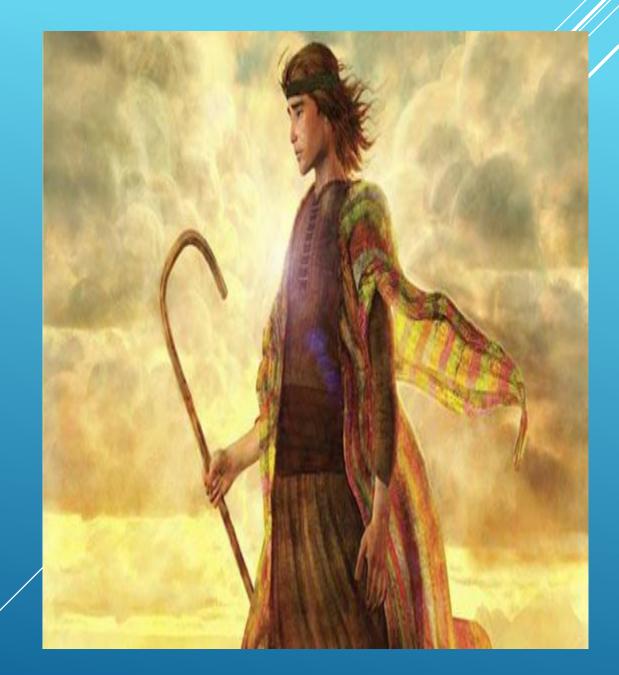
⁹ Then <u>he remembered his</u> <u>dreams</u> about them and said to them, "You are spies! You have come to see where our land is unprotected." Genesis 42:9



Joseph didn't handle the situation with his brothers very well. He accused them of being spies. He kept one of them in prison. The Bible tell us that he weeps a least twice indicating a very emotional and in distress Joseph. He even swears in the name of **Pharaoh twice: Genesis 42:15-16** Pharaoh was a living god in Egypt. No Hebrew would dare to ever swear in the name of pharaoh.



Joseph's troubles where connected with the highly favor of God. **Eve's temptations was to** feel inferior, Joseph's temptation was to feel superior. According to his dreams his brothers where to bow down in a worship act. This blessings seems to tempt Joseph to separate from God. He passed the test when Judah mention the sorrow of his father.



And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. ...⁷ But <u>God sent me</u> ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. ⁸ "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. Genesis 45:5,7,8



Joseph's temptation is very troublesome, we are call to serve with God in the plan of salvation, but we need to remind ourselves that we are instruments that God can use as He pleases. Its easy to fall for success, thinking that we are the ones who produced, everyday we need to remember the words of John 15:5



"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

