

Don't Let Famines Undermine Your Faith **Genesis 12:1-10**

Problem: Famine in Canaan. 10

Famines occur later in the times of Isaac and Jacob, 26:1, 41:54.

Plan: Sojourn in Egypt and survive by deception. 11-13

- Was it right for Abram to go to Egypt? Consider 26:1,2, 45:6-11.
- Was it right to be deceptive about Sarai? This becomes a pattern (20:1,2,12, 26:6,7), and deception becomes a family tendency.

Plan blows up: Pharaoh takes Sarai as a wife. 14-16

- Abram is viewed as Sarai's legal guardian (as "brother") so he ends up rich off of the bridal price Pharaoh lavishes on him.
- Abram also gets rich for lying in 20:14-16, but after a rebuke.

Intervention: God strikes Pharaoh and his house. 17

God's intervention, as in 20:3-7, shows Abram never needed to to fear or lie. These plagues prefigures the Exodus plagues.

Expulsion: Pharaoh sends Abram out of Egypt. 18-20

- God doesn't rebuke Abram but pagan leaders do, as later in cases of deception, 20:8-16, 26:9-11. What does this imply?
- This expulsion after plagues further prefigures the Exodus.

What might be the purpose of sharing this episode?

What should we learn from what happens here?

