SYCHRONIZING THE HOLY BIBLE (KJV) and JASHER

The story format is for easier reading. Duplications removed. Abram-Birth of Isaac, Part 3 By Maralyn B. Dyck

Introduction: Where the Dead Sea Scrolls are the same as the Bible, I have, for the most part, used the Dead Sea Scrolls for this story. The Bible version, of course, you can read from the Bible. My comments are in brackets. The Holy Bible will be in black normal writing and the scrolls will be in Italics. Remember, the scrolls are not divine scripture, but they appear to be very accurate as far as history is concerned; they give more details which are very interesting. Various interpreters could have changed things a bit over the years.

Genesis 13-15 And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife and all that he had. Lot went with him, into the south. Abram was very rich in cattle, silver and gold. His journeys took him to Bethel where his tent had been in the first place, between Bethel and Hai. He had made an altar there.

Once there Abram called on the name of the Lord. Lot also went there. Both had flocks, herds and tents, a great company of people. The land there was not able to support so many animals, making it very difficult for them to continue living there together.

There was continual strife between the herdmen of Abram and the herdmen of Lot. Also in the area were the Canaanites and the Perizzites with their many herds.

One day Abram and Lot were discussing the problem. Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between us and our herdsmen. Please separate yourself from us; the land is all before us. If you choose to go the left, I will go to the right; if you choose to go to the right, I will go to the left."

Lot looked about him and noticed the plains of Jordan down in the valley. It was well watered everywhere before the Lord before destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. As far as Zoar, it was fertile like the land of Egypt. Lot chose the plains of the River Jordan and journeyed east with his people and herds.

Abram decided to continue living in the land of Canaan, while Lot pitched his tents in the area of the cities of the plains, near Sodom.

However, the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked sinners before the Lord.

The Lord said unto Abram, "Lift up your eyes and look from where you stand to the north, south, east and west. All the land that you are seeing, I will give to you and your seed forever. I will make your seed as the dust of the earth. Arise and walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give to thee."

Then Abram packed up his tent to live in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the Lord.

Genesis 14-15 and Jasher 16 (I will now use Jasher as it gives more details.)

At that time Chedorlaomer king of Elam sent to all the neighboring kings: to Amraphel (Nimrod), king of Shinar, who was then under his power, to Tidal, king of Goyim (nations), and to Arioch, king of Elasar, with whom he had made a covenant, saying, "Come up to me and assist me, that we might smite all the towns of Sodom and its inhabitants, for they have rebelled against me for thirteen years." (They refused to pay tributes.)

All four of these kings marched together with all their camps, about 800,000 men. They smote everyone they found on their route. (They smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth-Karnaum, Zuzims in Ham and the Emims in Shaveh Kiriathaim; also, the Horites in their mount Seir, unto Elparan, which is by the wilderness. Then they returned and came to Enmishpat, which is Kadesh, and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that lived in Hazezontamar.)

The five kings of Sodom and Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboyim, Bera king of Sodom, Bersha king of Gomorrah and Bela king of Zoar went out to meet them, and they all joined together in the valley of Siddim.

The kings of Sodom and Gomorrah were pursued by the kings of Elam. The valley of Siddim was full of lime pits and the kings of Elam pursued the kings of Sodom. The kings of Sodom, with their camps, fled and fell into the lime pits. All the others that remained went to the mountains for safety. The five kings of Elam pursued them right up to the gates of Sodom. Once there they captured all the people and spoils from Sodom and Gomorrah and left.

They also took Lot, Abram's nephew, and all his people and property.

Abram's servant, Unic, saw this and reported to Abram, in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, confederates with Abram, all that the kings had done to the cities of Sodom, and that Lot had also been taken by them.

When Abram heard this, he rose up with about 1800 men that he had with him and followed them as far as Hobah [*Dan*] which is left of Damascus. That very night Abram went after those kings and smote them. They killed all the armed men, but the four kings had escaped. They had each separated and escaped in a different direction.

Abram recovered all the stolen people and properties, including Lot and his people and property. When Abram and his men passed the valley of Siddim, Bera king of Sodom and his men came up out of the lime pits into which they had fallen, to meet Abram and his men. (They had obviously played dead for the benefit of the pursuing kings.)

On their return route they were met by (Chedorlaomer, Adonizedek, Melchizedek), king of Jerusalem [Salem], who took his men and went out to meet Abram and his returning army with bread and wine, and they remained together in the valley of Melech [valley of Shaveh, which is the king's dale.] He was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed them and the most high God for their deliverance and safe return. Abram gave him tithes of all the bounty recovered from the war. (Different versions and scrolls use different names for Melchizedek.)

The kings of Sodom did not take any bounty for themselves, but asked for the return of their people. Abram refused to take any goods for himself but asked for a portion for the men who went with them, *including the men who watched the baggage*, and their food that they had eaten. Abram did not want them to be able to say that they made him rich.

Abram gave orders to the kings of Sodom about Lot; and then they each went their own directions back to their homes. Lot went with them and also returned to his home near Sodom and Abram and his people and warriors returned to the plain of Mamre.

The Lord appeared to Abram in Hebron and said, "Do not fear, thy reward is very great before me, for I will not leave you until I shall have multiplied you and blessed you and made your seed like the stars in heaven, which cannot be measured nor numbered. And I will give unto your seed all these lands that thou see with your eyes, to them will I give them for an inheritance forever, only be strong and do not fear, walk before me and be perfect.

Abram replied by asking what reward could he receive. He had no sons. The only one in his household that could inherit was his steward, Eleazer of Damascus. God told Abram that his seed would be from his own bowels.

God led him out into the open land and told him to look towards the heavens and count the stars; so would his seed be, so many that they could not be numbered. He reminded him that he had brought him out of Ur of the Chaldea to give him this land as his inheritance. He believed what God said, and God counted it to him for righteousness.

He asked God how he would know it would be his inheritance. God instructed him to take a three year old heifer, and she goat of three years, a turtledove, and a young pigeon. Abram followed God's instructions. He cut each animal in half and laid the pieces all side by side, but the birds he killed and placed them whole. Abram guarded the carcases from the fowls of the air, driving them away.

When the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram and a horror of great darkness fell upon him.

The Lord told him that his seed would be a stranger in a land not their own where they would serve others and be afflicted by them for four hundred years. That nation whom they would serve would be judged by God. Afterwards they would come out of the land with great wealth. Abram would die in peace at a good old age. However, in the fourth generation they would return to the land. The iniquity of the Amorites was not yet full.

It came to pass that when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace and a burning lamp passed between all the pieces. "In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "Unto your seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: The Kenites, and Kenizites and the Kadmonites, and the Hittites and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

When Abram was 78 years old, Reu, the son of Peleg, died at the age of 239.

Sarai, daughter of Haran, Abram's wife, was still barren. She longed for children of her own. When she realized she was not going to have any children of her own, she decided to give Hagar, her Egyptian maid, to bear a child for her to call her own. Sarai had taught Hagar and she faithfully followed Sarai's good ways. Hagar agreed.

GENESIS 16 Sarai went to Abram and said to him, "Behold now, the Lord has restrained me from bearing. I appeal to you that you will go into my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her." (This appeared to be a custom in those days as he did not seem surprised or upset with this request.)

Abram listened to the voice of Sarai and Sarai took Hagar her maid and gave her to her husband to be his wife (concubine in Jasher.)

As a result, Hagar conceived her baby very quickly. She rejoiced greatly over her quick conception, but she began to despise Sarai. She began to think that she was better than her mistress, Sarai, for she had conceived

quickly and Sarai was barren. (Pride entered the scene at this point.) As for Sarai, she became jealous of her maid, thinking that Hagar must be better than she was because she had conceived so quickly.

She decided that she had been wrong to insist that Abram have a child by Hagar and went to Abram and told him that she had made a mistake. She complained to him that when Hagar and Sarai were both present before Abram at the same time, Hagar did not heed her commands and Abram did not say anything about it to Hagar. She then accused Abram for doing wrong by her. (She could not understand what was happening and blamed him.)

They had been living in the land of Canaan for ten years at this time.

Abram said to Sarai, "Your maid is in your hand; do to her however it may seem good to you" and Sarai began to inflict her. Finally, Hagar had enough and she fled from Sarai into the wilderness.

An angel of the Lord found her in the place where she had fled, by a fountain of water in the wilderness on the way to Shur. He said, "Hagar, Sarai's maid, where have you come from and where are you going?"

And she replied, "I am fleeing from my mistress, Sarai."

The angel of the Lord said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit yourself under her hands. And he said to her, "I will multiply your seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. Behold, you are with child and shall give birth to a son and shall call his name Ishmael, because the Lord has heard thy affliction. He will be a wild man; his hand shall be against every man, and every man against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren."

And Hagar called the place of that well Beer-la-hai-roi. It is between Kadesh and the wilderness of Bered.

And Hagar bare Abram's son, Ishmael. Abram was now 86 years old.

JASHER 17 and **GENESIS 17** When Abram was 91, the children of Chittim made war with the children of *Tubal, and ended up being a long war with many back and forth activity.* (It is an interesting war, but since it does not involve Abram and his line, I am not including it here. You can get all the material I am skipping in these stories directly from the Book of Jasher. Details at end of this story.)

When Abram was 99 years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and told him He would make a covenant between Himself and Abram and would greatly multiply his seed in the earth. He also told Abram that He was the almighty God and instructed him to walk before Him and be perfect.

Abram fell on his face and God talked with him some more. He told him that His covenant was with Him and that he would be the father of many nations. He also said, "Neither shall your name anymore be called Abram; your name shall be Abraham; for you will be the father of many nations. I will make you fruitful and many nations and kings shall come from your seed.

"And I will establish my covenant between us and your seed in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto you and your seed."

God promised to give him the land that he was now occupying as a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession and He would be their God.

God made a requirement that would seal the covenant between Abram and his seed as a token of his acceptance of this covenant between them and God.

" Every man and male child must be circumcised. You must circumcise the flesh of your foreskin. Babies will be circumcised on the eighth day after they are born. Every stranger or foreigner who is owned by you must all be circumcised. Those who are not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he has broken God's covenant.

Also your wife Sarai shall no longer be called Sarai, but her name shall be Sarah. I will bless her and give thee a son also of her."

Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said in his heart, "Shall a man who is 100 years old bare a son? Sarah is 90 years old!"

Then Abraham said to God, "O that Ishmael might live before thee!"

JASHER 18 and 19 And Abraham arose and did all that God had ordered him to do. Ishmael was 13 when he was circumcised, on the same day as Abraham.

One day when Abraham was sitting in the sun outside his tent, the Lord appeared to him in the plain of Mamre, and sent three ministering angels to visit him. He looked up and saw three men coming towards him in the distance, and he rose up and ran to meet them. He bowed before them then brought them unto his house.

If I have found favour in your sight, please turn in and eat a morsel of bread; and he persuaded them to do so and they turned into the house. Abraham gave them water and washed their feet, and he seated them under a tree at the door of the tent.

Abraham went out to his flock and picked out a calf, tender and good, and killed it and gave it to his servant Eliezer to dress. Abraham then went into the tent to Sarah and asked her to quickly make a batter to cover the pot containing the meat, and she did so.

While things were cooking, Abraham took butter, milk, beef and mutton, and gave it to them to eat before the flesh of the calf was sufficiently done, and they did eat.

When they had done eating, one of them said to Abraham "I will return to you according to the time of life, and Sarah, your wife, shall have a son."

GENESIS 18 Owing to her old age, Sarah laughed silently to herself, thinking, "Now that I am so old, am I still to have that pleasure, especially with Noah also being so old."

And the Lord said unto Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying that she is too old? Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time, according to the time of life, Sarah shall have a son."

Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh!" And God replied, "Nay, but you did laugh."

The two messenger angels in the form of men then rose up from there and turned and looked toward Sodom. Abraham went with them part way to show them the way.

And the Lord decided not to hide from Abraham the things He was about to do to Sodom. He did not go with the men but stayed to talk to Abraham about what was going to happen down in the Jordan Valley where the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were.

The four major cities of Sodom each had a judge to rule over them. Their rulings and judgments were very evil.

e.g. If a stranger entered their cities, they would strap them to a bed. If he was to short, they would stretch him until he was the length of the bed, an extremely painful torture. If they were too long, they would fold the pad around him so tight that he screamed in pain and could barely breathe. Eventually they were freed, minus their belongings, so that they would warn other strangers not to come to their cities.

Another treatment involved starving them until they died, then they stole all their clothes and belongings. Once dead they were carried out into the desert and dumped there.

Sometimes they were taken to court for trespassing and then sentenced. They were sent out of the cities, without their belongings and no food or animals for travelling. Jaresh describes things in great detail. One of Lot's daughters, Paltith, was caught sneaking food and water to a man they were starving to death. She was caught, judged and burned to death in a fire in the middle of the street until nothing was left but the ashes. The citizens cheered it all on saying she deserved to die for preventing the man from starving.

(I am not going to go into more details and other evils that they were doing here. If you want to know more about it, you can read it all for yourself in the Book of Jasher)

The Lord then talked to Abraham. Abraham was understandably horrified by what was going to occur. Lot and all his family were down there. Abraham began to argue with the Lord asking if He would stop the action if there were fifty good people found there. He said He would not destroy Sodom for fifty righteous men. Abraham continued with 45 men, then forty, thirty, the twenty and finally, ten. The Lord said He would not destroy the area if even ten righteous men were found to live there. Abraham was ashamed of pushing the matter so he stopped there. He knew Lot was the only righteous man down there!

The Lord turned and went away and Abraham returned to his tent.

The angels reached Sodom in the evening. Lot was sitting in the gate. Lot saw them and went to them and bowed down before them. He begged them to come and stay in his house for the night because the night was too evil for them to be about at that time. They went with him into the city and into his home where Lot fed them and showed them to their sleeping area.

However, before they had an opportunity to lay down, the people of the city began surrounding the house; people from every quarter! They called out to Lot and asked him where the two men were who had just arrived in the city of Sodom. They wanted to have sex with them.

Lot went out of the house and shut the door behind him and begged them not to be so wicked. He even offered two of his daughters to appease them if they would leave the men alone. None of them suspected that the men were angels, not even Lot. They were in a mob mode and disagreed with them. They wanted the two men and would also do the same to Lot for stopping them from having them.

The men moved forward to break down the door, but never got all the way up to it! The two angels in the house reached out and grabbed Lot bringing him back into the house and shut the door. They smote all the men at the door, both small and great, with blindness and they wearied themselves trying to find the door.

The men asked Lot if he had other family in Sodom besides his wife and two daughters who were in the house. He said he did. He was told to go quickly and find them and bring them to them and to get out of the house up into the mountains behind them. Lot did so, but they just laughed at him and sent him away home.

In the morning the angels told Lot to get his family and go up into the hills for the Lord was going to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah and all their wicked cities right away. One man took the hand of Lot and his wife, the other took each of the daughters by hand and hurried them outside the city. They told them to keep going and not to look back, stopping only once they were up into the hills, not on the plains, for they would all be destroyed if they stopped too soon.

Lot tried to argue with them because of his family still in Sodom. He said there was a little city not far from there and asked if they could flee there. Lot was afraid of the men living in the hills.

The angels agreed and they said that they would spare Zoar from destruction for their sake. They promised not to start the destruction until they were safely out of danger. The sun had just risen when Lot entered Zoar.

The destruction started and the Lord rained brimstone and fire from out of heaven, destroying all the cities and the plains surrounding them, including all the inhabitants.

However, Lot's wife looked back and she was turned into a pillar of salt. They had been expressly warned not to watch the destruction and she disobeyed.

Lot decided not to stay in Zoar for he was now more afraid of the inhabitants there then in the hills, even though it was a small city. He took his two daughters into the mountains behind Zoar and they lived together there in a cave.

After some time had passed and mourning for their mother and family was over the two girls had a very serious discussion together. Their father was old and they had no men that they could marry and bare children. They decided to get their father really drunk, then they in turn went and laid with him. They wanted to preserve the seed of their father in the land.

In the course of time both girls conceived and bare sons. The oldest girl's son was named Moab, which became the beginning of the Moabites. The younger girl's son was named Benammi, which became the beginning of the Ammonites.

Abraham got up early in the morning and looked out over the Jordan valley and saw that the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

The oxen which stood in that place where Lot's wife had turned into a pillar of salt. They used the pillar as a salt lick every morning, and on the following morning, the salt would be there again! This continued for a very long time, right up to the time that Josher wrote this scroll.

After this a period of time when the sons were growing up Lot took them over to the other side of the Jordan valley to live. They took wives from the land of Canaan. They had children and became fruitful and multiplied.

Genesis 20-21, Jasher 20 And Abraham journeyed from the plain of Mamre, and he went to the land of the Philistines and dwelled in Gerar. Abraham was now 100 years old. He had now lived in Canaan for 25 years.

Once again Abraham told Sarah to claim that she was his sister. As before, the officers of Abimelech, king of the Philistines, saw that Sarah was exceedingly beautiful, and they asked Abraham concerning her and he told them that she was his sister.(She must have been very well preserved, for she was now very old!)

King of Abimelech sent his officers to get her and bring her to him, which they did.

He told Sarah that his land was before her, and she could place her family and everyone with them anywhere in the land that they wished to dwell. He would elevate her brother above all his people. Abimelech sent for Abraham and told him this as well. Then Abraham went out into the land and decided to stay at Gerar.

However, that night God visited Abimelech in a dream with a drawn sword in his hand and stood over Abimilech wishing to kill him, and the king was terrified in his dream and wanted to know why He wanted to kill him. He replied telling him that he would die because he had taken Sarah from her husband Abraham. He warned him that he would die if he did not return her to Abraham, then all his household would die as well. The same angel in the figure of a man was seen standing over his subjects with a drawn sword and all were greatly frightened, wanting to know the meaning of all that was happening.

And the angel of the Lord smote the whole land of the Philistines on that night, and there was great confusion that night and in the morning. Every womb was closed, and all their issues, all on account of the King's action regarding Abraham's wife. That was his dream.

He woke up in the morning in terror and confusion. He called in his servants and told them and all his people his dream, and the people were frightened. His main officers begged him to return Sarah to Abraham right away.

The king called Sarah before him and asked her why she had lied and said he was her brother. She replied that she did not lie, that he was her brother but was also her husband. God had promised plagues upon them if they refused to return Sarah to Abraham.

The king next called Abraham before him and asked him why he had lied to him. He replied that he was afraid that if he knew he was her husband, he would kill him in order to keep her.

Abimelech then took flocks and herds, men servants and maid servants, and a thousand pieces of silver and gave them to Abraham, and then he returned Sarah to Abraham. They left the king with honor and respect and were allowed to live in Gerar, the land area of their choice.

Abimilech begged Abraham to pray for his people that the plague that had been placed on his people might be lifted from among them. Abraham did so; the Lord heard his prayer and healed Abimilech and all his subjects.

And the Lord visited Sarah as he had promised and she conceived, and she bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham called him Isaac and circumcised his son on the eight day as God had commanded him. He was 100 years old; Sarah was 90 years old.

(Continued in the next article.)

Ancient Book of Jubilees by Ken Johnson, Th.D., The Books of Enoch by Joseph B. Lumpkin, Ancient Book of Jasher by Ken Johnson, Th.D. OR all three in one volume called Genesis by Rob Skiba. Available on Amazon.