The early life of Abraham (a.k.a. Abram.)

Cleared for take off.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

1. The single biggest lesson.

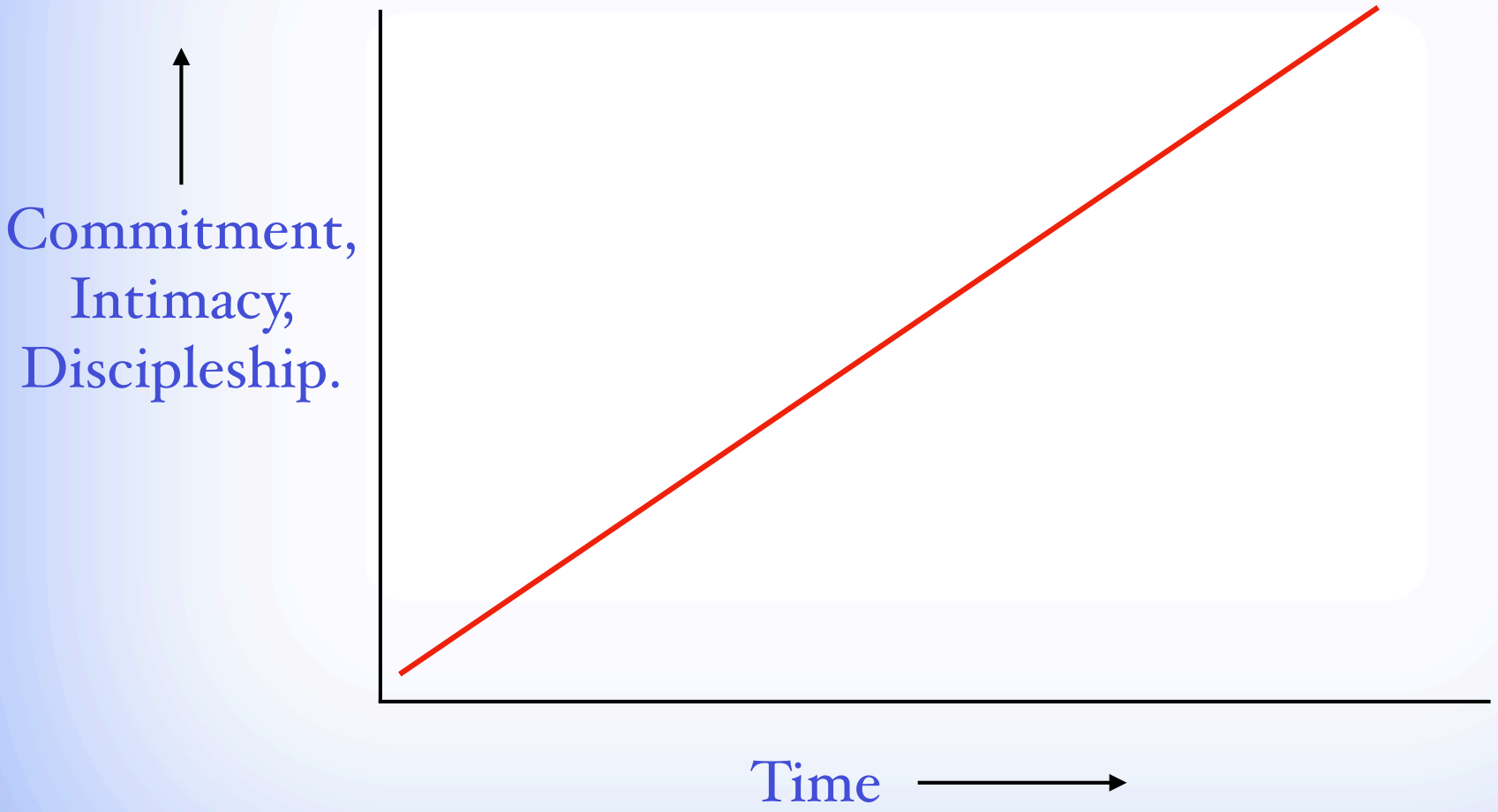
Genesis 15.6. *"Abram <u>believed</u> the Lord, and he <u>credited</u> it to him <u>as righteousness</u>".*

Romans 4.9, 4.20-23 (3 times); Galatians 3.6;

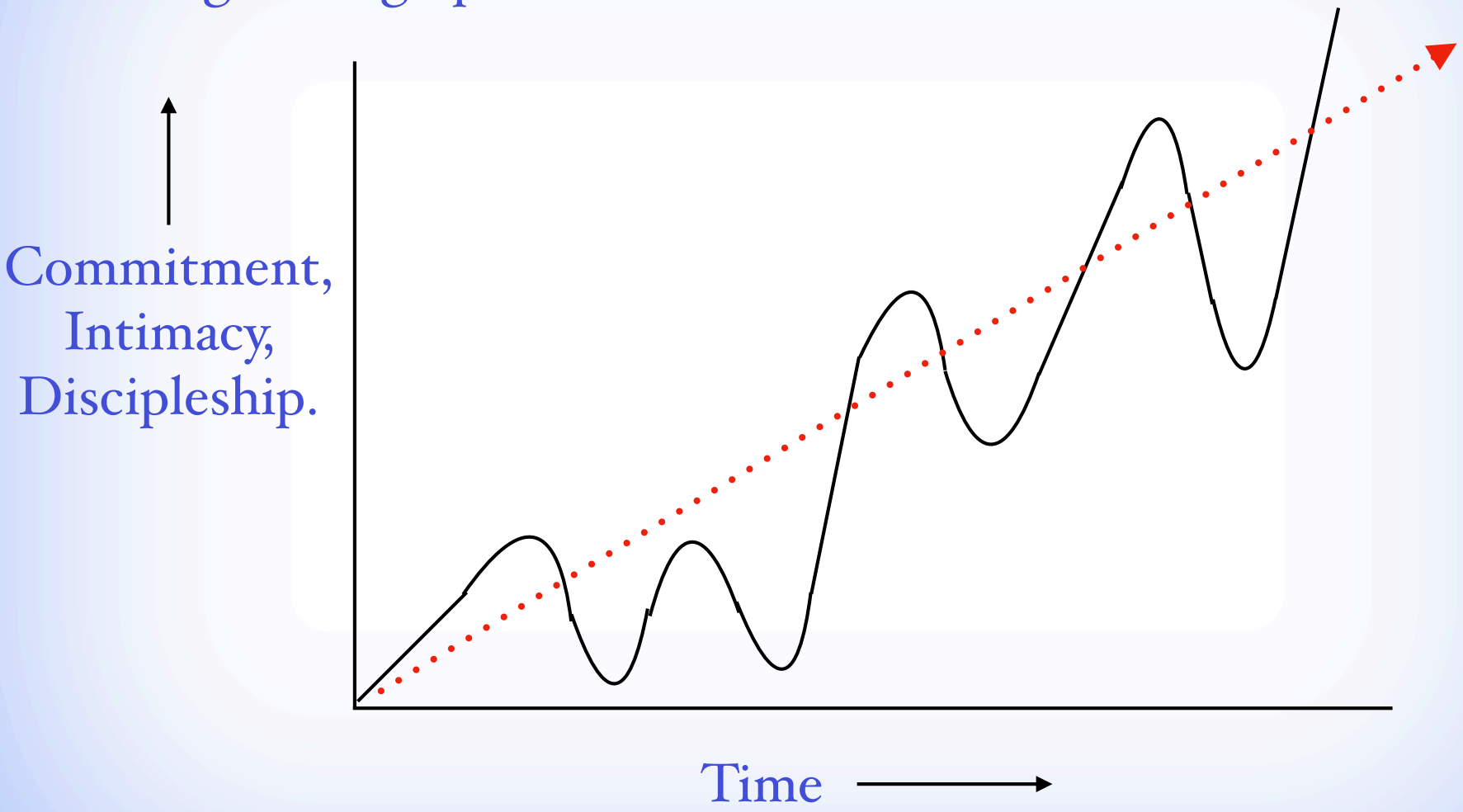
James 2.23

2. The significance.

Our imaginary growth graph



Our true growth graph



GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

1. The single biggest lesson. Genesis 15.6

2. The significance.Genesis 11.31b; 12.8,9,10; 13.1,3 + 6

   a. Note the recurring idea. From >>>To...BUT!!!!

   b. A false formula.

   c. What happens with a false formula?

"For the first time in his life, his head came in contact with reality, and the impact proved fatal!!"

   i. Defection.

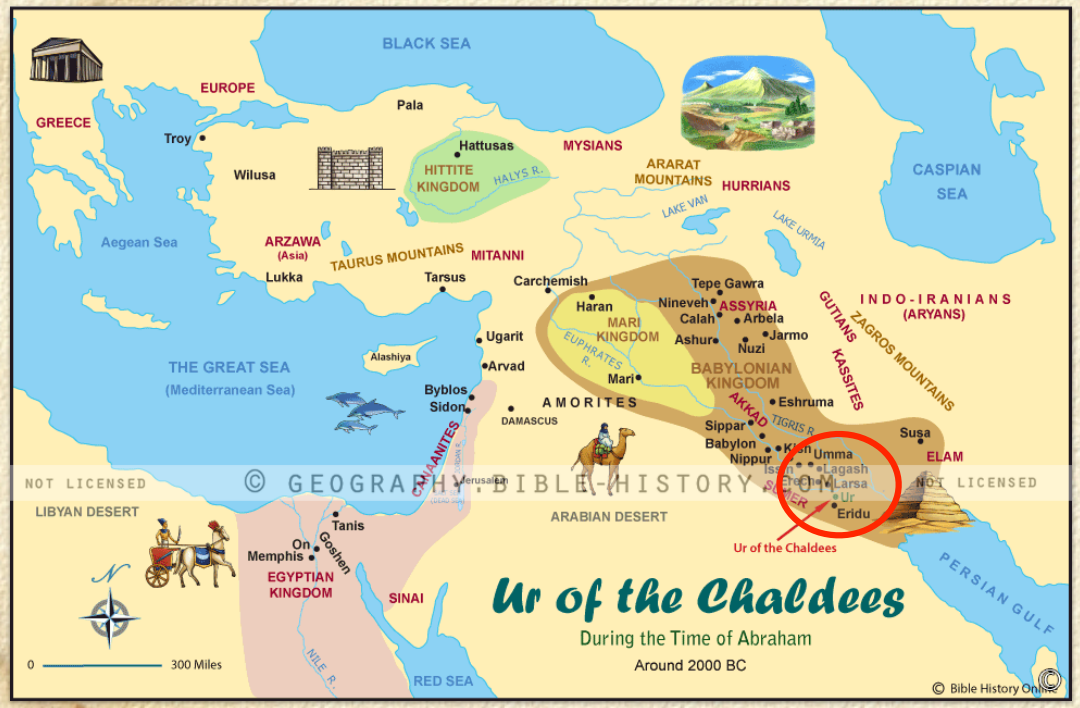
   ii. Denial.

   iii. Depression.

   iv. Development.

3. The setting. Genesis 11.31

a. Not too different - Ur of the Chaldeans





b. The basics never change.

"Whenever God want to do something new in our life; whenever He wants to move us on to another level, He almost always begins with the same thing. But what?"

4. The starting point for Abraham.



"Whenever God want to do something new in our life; whenever He wants to move us on to another level, He almost always begins with the same thing. <u>He speaks to us.</u>"

Genesis 12.1

CLEARED FOR TAKE OFF - HOW DOES THE LORD SPEAK TO PEOPLE?

1. The Lord speaks in many ways to His servants. Heb. 1.1

   a. Supernaturally - but does He still do this today?

      i. Some say "No, Christ has come and we have the Bible". Hebrews 1.2, 1 Corinthians 13.10

      ii. Others say "Yes, God has not changed".

      iii. Still others say "Yes, but ....".

   b. Naturally. Find your "thin places".

2. The Lord speaks through His servants.

   a. Thought our words - prophetically.

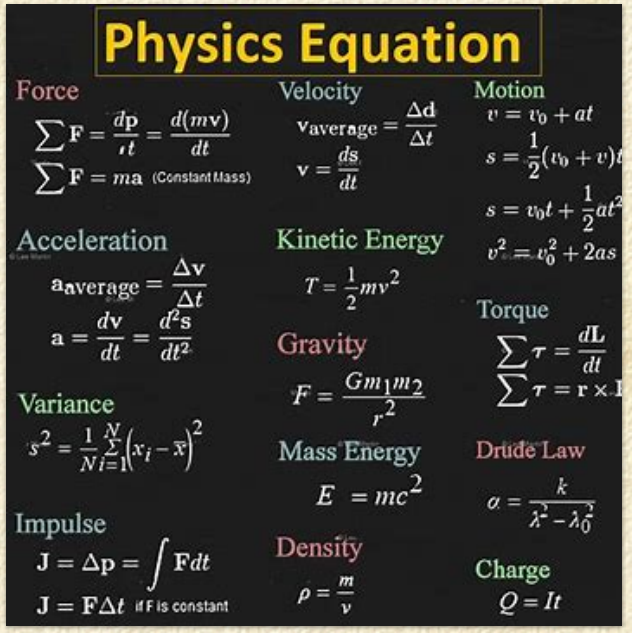
   b. Through our walk.

3. The Lord speaks through creation. Romans 1.20; Psalm 19.1-4a

Aesthetically



Scientifically



4. The Lord speaks through our conscience. Rom. 2.14-15



a. Our conscience can be sensitised - eg. Pharisees.

b. Our conscience can be seared (burned). 1 Tim 4.2

c. Our conscience can be spot on (accurate). 2 Tim 1.3

5. The Lord speaks through the scriptures. 2 Tim 3.15-16, 2 Timothy 1.13

6. The Lord speaks supremely through His Son. Hebrews 1.1-2; Colossians 1.15, Hebrews 1.3; John 1.1,14,18

7. We are not certain how He spoke to Abraham. Acts 7.2

THREE QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

1. *When was the last time the Lord spoke to you?*

2. *What did He say?*

3. *What have you done about it?*