The Book of Incarnations! Introduction Slide Notations

"Inspiration" Many read the Word for *inspiration!* Inspiration: the condition of being intellectually, emotionally stimulated to a high level of feeling or activity. Thinking high(er) and lofty thoughts! A sudden creative idea or act! Inspiration is necessary... it is "breath!" But "inspiration" is not enough...

It must become incarnational to change us!

"Incarnation" Incarnation happens to the inspired word of God when it finds our hearts! As The Living Word became flesh and lived among us... (substantive/solid). So the Word becomes 3d, so that we can see it, feel it, hear it and live in it! It takes our hand and we walk and talk with it thru life, it even non-verbally guides us, directs us...!

So the Bible is full of "breathed" stories from God, about God... that must come alive in us... that must put traction under our feet... Or it's just so much mind candy... sweet, fattening, puffy... We must go beyond inspiration, intellect and knowing to incarnation, heart and living!

On the way... Many great "stories" in scripture... Noah and the Ark! **Gen 6-10** Great kids story about animals brought into the ark two by two... Great adult view of God/feelings toward violence/corruption of men's hearts, wages of sinfulness, God's desire to save!

Very inspirational!

On the way... The story finalizes w/the sons of Noah... Receiving Adam's commission to 'be fruitful and multiply and replenish...' **9.1** "And of them was the whole earth overspread!" **9.19** There's not a living soul in modern society that isn't connected right there! *That incarnational truth should affect the way we live everyday...*

The incarnational truth is that when we are dealing with people we are dealing with relatives! Prejudice based on "other people groups" is a shallow lie!

On the way... The Tower of Babel! Gen 11 Great kids story about tall tower ascending upward thru the clouds... Inspirational view of man's ability to "accomplish anything we set our minds and hearts to do!" But commentary wasn't really that they had solved weightlessness/moving in...

The incarnational truth of the story is that man, independent of God, is a frightful being!

On the way... Abraham! The father of our faith! Gen 12-25 So many episodes to help us walk it out! "When you have a ridiculously high calling/covenant with God!" A place, a people, prosperity, prominence, plenty, protection and purpose! INSPIRATIONAL! "When you have a beautiful wife!" or, "When you are blessed beyond what you can protect!" 12.10 What to do when someone close to you gets grabby! 13.6 What to do when the grabby, get grabbed! 14.12 What to do when you've had a victory that completely blows your mind! 14.17 What God does despite the things we've done to blow it! 15.1 The dangers of old age self-indulgence! 16 The faithfulness of God in the face of our ineptitude! 17.1-8 The pains of a new way/new day! 9-14 When the promises are too big to believe! 15-19 What to do when the sky is falling! 18-19 What to do in the presence of scary unbelievers! 20 What to do when the miracle seems impossible! 21

Abraham and Isaac! Gen 22.1-10 "Abraham?" 'Here I am Lord.' "Take your son, your only son, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I will show you..." And Abraham got up early in the morning, loaded up the wood, took two servants along with Isaac and headed out... After three days, Abraham lifted up his eyes and knew he was at the place. He said to his young men, stay here while the boy and I go up and worship. He gave Isaac the wood to carry, took the torch, and then went up. On the way Isaac asked, 'father, we have the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb...?' And

Abraham said, 'My son, God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering.' When they arrived at the place, Abraham built an altar, laid the wood in order, bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar. He took the knife and stretched out his arm to slay his son...

Many people have stumbled over this "inspired" story... can't get it out of their head: 'God asked him to kill his son!'

Hebrews 11.17-19 By *faith,* Abraham (who had received the promise that his seed would come from *his only begotten son,* Isaac), when he was tried, offered up his son; accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; and it was from there, from that picture of faith, that he received him again.

Message to the heart...

- 1. When you come to the place where you are willing to give God your very best...
- 2. And account it as a righteous request...
- 3. With full faith and trust that He has not changed the game plan one bit...
- 4. That He still wants to fulfill His promises for your fulfillment...
- 5. But He doesn't want His promises to take away His prominence...

Then you have come to the very reason God gave us His Word by inspiration... Incarnation...

All Scripture is given by *inspiration of God,* and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2T3.16,17