

Some questions raised by Genesis 12.5-9

1. How does Abram chose which direction to go or when to stay/leave from a location?
2. After living for 75 years in a walled city, how are we supposed to understand he has gained the skills needed to live as a wandering nomad?
3. Why do there seem to be no other people around as Abram travels near cities?
4. What might Sarai be thinking or feeling about all this? Or Lot?
5. In 12.7, how does Abram know that it is "YHWH" who is speaking to him, given his building an altar to YHWH?
6. In 12.7, what does it mean for YHWH to "give" land to Abram's "seed" when the Canaanites are already there?
7. Which "this land" are we or Abram to understand is being "given"?
8. In 12.8, why so much detail about local places, and the threefold use of "there" in vv. 7-8?
9. In 12.8, what does it mean that Abram "invoked" or "called upon" the name, YHWH?
10. In 12.9, why is Abram going to the southern desert, known as "the Negeb"?