Each believer in Jesus Christ can get a birds-eye overview of the experiences God has for them in their walk with God over a life-time as they look into the life of faith experiences of the three patriarchs of the Old Testament... Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The phrasethe God of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob Is repeated several times...

God said to Isaac: (Gen 26:24) I am the God of Abraham thy Father (after well digging)

<u>God said to Jacob:</u> (Gen 28:13) I am the God of thy Father, ...Abraham & the God of Isaac At Bethel's dream

God said to Moses: (Ex 3:6, 15, 16, 4:5)

I am the God of thy Father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob And Moses hid his face Exo 3:6

....<u>Tell the children of Israel</u>... the Lord God of your Fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob hath sent me unto you Exo 3:15

...Call the elders together and tell themThe God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob hath appeared to me. Exo 3:16

...Take the serpent by the tailthat they may believe that the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob hath appeared unto thee. Exo 4:5

In DAVID's Prayer of ...

1Ch 29:18 O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare their heart unto thee:

In Hezekiah's Decree of ...

2Ch 30:6 So the posts went with the letters saying, Ye children of Israel, turn again unto the LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the remnant of you, ...

In Jesus mention of the burning bush incident of ...

Mr 12:26 have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?

Stephen mentions it : ...

Ac 7:32 Saying, I am the God of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.

GOD WANTED A PEOPLE, A NATION Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob

In ABRAHAM we see patterns

-HE STARTED AS AN IDOLATOR Josh 24:2

-GOD CALLED HIM FROM AMONG IDOLATROUS NEIGHBORS Gen 12:1

-ABRAHAM RESPONDEDNOT KNOWING WHERE HE WENT HEB 11:8

-GOD IS THE SOURCE / FOUNTAIN/ ALL IS IN GOD, BY GOD, FROM GOD

-NOTHING ORIGINATES FROM ABRAM ... (not even Isaac) (NOT EVEN WEALTH)

-HE WENT OUT NOT KNOWING WHERE HE WENT (We didn't know we'd be here when we started)

-DISTINGUISHED BY HIS DEEDS, WEALTH GAINED FROM UNUSUAL CHANNELS

-CHOSEN -CALLED -SEPARATED

-TESTED Go where you know not Lot & the land issue Ishmael Isaac's Offering War & Intercession for his kin

-EXPERIENCES: looked for a city Given the covenant of circumcision Built altars Dug wells Paid tithes -TITHES (acknowledgment of God's provisions)

In ISAAC we see patterns ...

-THE RECEIVER NOTHING OF HIMSELF

-HAD NO DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

-BORN INTO EVERYTHING

-ORDINARY : No wars. No Tests. No Accumulation of Wealth. It All came to Him.

-BORN INTO EVERYTHING

Extraordinary thing was his ordinariness Had nothing but what was given him It was all a gift, even his wife

-RE-DUG HIS FATHER'S WELLS UNTIL HE CAME BACK TO THE COVENANT WELL

In JACOB we see patterns ...

-REPRESENTS THE SQUASHING OF NATURAL MAN, STRENGTH, SELF-WILL

-DISTINGUISHED BY HIS MUCH SUFFERING

-BARGAINED FOR EVERYTHING (Even his wife)

-NATURAL STRENGTH MUST BE BROKEN most clever and able man, cheat his brother, deceive his father, connive to take his uncle's possessions Everything went wrong

-PREPARED TO GIVE ALL HE ACQUIRED AWAY

-GOD'S JUDGEMENT UPON ALL JACOB ACCOMPLISHED BY HIS CRAFTINESS

-HE MET GODCRIPPLED ...FINISHED ...END OF RELIANCE UPON HIMSELF

-THE DECEIVER WILL BE DECEIVED

PRINCIPLES FROM ABRAHAM, ISAAC, & JACOB IN CHRIST

1ST> (Abraham) : God is the Source of Everything

 2^{nd} (Isaac) : Everything is a Gift. We have nothing we've not received. No earning.

3rd > (Jacob) : All Human Effort / Strength is Not Accepted. It must be broken.

ie Jacob always had a plan to work things out for God His own methods of self-advancement......All self methods are disciplined out by the Spirit It is a nature from birth, that has to be worked out..... Used deceit, guile to prosper ... birthright, ... wealth by questionable methods God's hand against the results of our craftiness.....Suffering took the craftiness out of him He wrestled in the dark with angel but Day-Light was coming He never saw the deceit of his sons about JosephMust lose faith in your Self

<u>A summary thought</u>: God chooses ordinary sinners to follow his lead. He becomes their ultimate source as he bestows his free gift and inheritance of eternal life upon all those who are willing to submit to his discipline of His Spirit which keeps his free gift from being abused.

In ABRAHAM = We see GOD'S PURPOSE IN HIS CHOOSING

In ISAAC = We see LIFE THAT IS GIVEN IN THE SON

In JACOB = We see GOD'S WAYS OF BREAKING SELF-WILL TO MAXIMIZE THAT GIVEN

THE SPIRIT OF GOD HAS HIS OWN METHODS OF ATTAING GOD'ENDS. HE WILL NOT SETTLE FOR LESS THAT HIS WILL – HIS WAY – HIS MEANS – HIS TIME - HIS GLORY !

PARALLEL EXPERIENCES FOR US IN CHRIST JESUS....

IN ABRAHAM: GOD IS THE SOURCE OF OUR

OUR CHOOSING

OUR CALLING

OUR ASSIGNMENT TO FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSE IN OUR LIVES

IN ISAAC: ORDINARY - A RECEIVER OF FATHER'S PROMISES

ORDINARY LIVING IN HIS FATHER'S PROMISES

IN THE SON CHRIST JESUS WE ARE HEIR RECEIVER OF ALL

NOTHING IS OF THE OURSELVES

BORN INTO EVERYTHING WE ARE Gal 4:29, 3:29 Isaac the heir was **born after the Spirit** & we who are called Abraham's seed are heirs according to promise

IN JACOB : WALKING AFTER THE FLESH IS CONDEMNED

GOD WANTS TO BLESS. BUT HE WANTS TO DO IT WITHOUT CONNIVING, CHEATING, DECEIVING, OR CONNING.

MUST MEET & WRESTLE WITH GOD ON THE EVE OF LOSING EVERY

THING HE BARGAINED FOR.

MUST BE CRIPPLED IN HIS WALK FOR THE REST OF HIS DAYS.