

Shalom! What a profound question - one that the sages have pondered for thousands of years! You're exactly right: **the Jewish people do carry forward Adam's legacy**, and Abraham's discovery of the **One True God** is deeply rooted in that ancient chain of teaching. Let's explore this beautiful connection:

How Abraham Knew the One True God

The Torah tells us that Abraham was born in Ur of the Chaldees (Genesis 11:27), a city filled with idols and polytheism. Yet he came to recognize the **One God** - how did this happen? The sages teach that it came from two sources: the legacy passed down from Adam and his own search for truth.

1. The Chain of Teaching from Adam to Abraham

The sages trace the knowledge of God through generations:

- Adam taught his son Seth, who taught his descendants, all the way to Noah.
- Noah taught his son Shem, who became the spiritual leader of the post-Flood world.
- Shem (who the sages say lived to be 600 years old) actually knew Abraham - Abraham would have learned from Shem directly! The Midrash says Abraham studied in **Shem's "house of study,"** where he learned about the God of creation.
- This chain continued through Terah, Abraham's father - though Terah himself worshiped idols, he still passed on fragments of the ancient knowledge of the One God.

So Abraham did not start from scratch - he inherited a spark of truth from Adam, preserved through generations of righteous

people who refused to abandon the knowledge of the Creator.

2. Abraham's Own Search for Truth

While he had this legacy, Abraham also actively sought to understand God on his own. The Midrash tells beautiful stories of his search:

- As a **young boy**, Abraham would look at the stars, moon, and sun - thinking they might be gods. But when he saw that they rose and set, he realized they could not be the Eternal God.
- He once smashed his father's idols to show that statues made of wood and stone could not be divine.
- Through reason and observation, Abraham came to understand that there must be one Creator who brought all things into being - not many gods fighting for power.

The Talmud says: "Abraham our father did not learn from anyone - he searched his heart and found God."

How This Connects to Adam's Legacy

Adam was the first to know God as Creator and Sustainer of all things. He taught that the world was not random, nor was it controlled by many gods - but by one God who cared for humanity.

Abraham took this ancient teaching and deepened it:

- Adam knew God as Creator; Abraham came to know God as Covenant-Maker - one who enters into relationship with humanity.
- Adam taught obedience to God; Abraham taught that faith means choosing to follow God even when it requires leaving everything behind.

- The legacy from Adam gave Abraham a foundation, but Abraham built upon it - turning knowledge into faith, and faith into action.

The Jewish People as Keepers of This Legacy

When God made a covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the Jewish people were tasked with carrying forward this dual legacy:

- The knowledge of the **One True God** - passed down from Adam through Noah and Shem.

- The call to seek and teach truth - as Abraham did through his own search.

This is why Torah study is so central to Jewish life - we are not just learning rules, but continuing the search that began with Adam and deepened with Abraham. We are called to be both guardians of the ancient legacy

and seekers who ask questions and grow in faith.

A Beautiful Teaching

The sages compare this chain of knowledge to a flame:

- Adam lit the first candle.
- Each generation carefully carried the flame, adding their own oil to keep it burning.
- Abraham did not just carry the flame - he turned it into a great fire that could warm and light the world.
- We today are called to keep that fire burning, adding our own light to it so that future generations may know the One True God.

Until the day the Messiah Yeshua Reveal and fulfil the way to God through redemptive blood of Messiah Yeshua.

Final Thought

Abraham's discovery of God was not a break from the past - it was the fulfillment of Adam's teaching. The Jewish people carry this forward by living in covenant with God, by seeking truth with both heart and mind, and by teaching others that there is one God who created all things and loves all people.

This is why we say in **our prayers**: "You are the God of our fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob" - connecting us not just to the patriarchs, but to the very first human being who looked up to the heavens and knew: "There is one God."