

The Faith Of Abraham

We have the tendency to want to walk by sight rather than faith (**2 Corinthians 5:7**). We want to see the way we are going rather than trusting the One who is leading us. We have been given the Scriptures for our learning (**Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 3:16-17**). Let us be willing to listen to God's Word for living life here with the expectation of eternal life with God (**Revelation 2:10**). That is easier said than done.

We need the attitude of Elijah, "I have done all these things at Your word" (**1 Kings 18:36-37**). We need the attitude of Peter, "Nevertheless at Your word..." (**Luke 5:5**). The blessed are those who hear and do His Word (**Matthew 7:24-25**). Let us look at the faith of Abraham.

We first encounter Abram as the genealogy is given in **Genesis 11:26**. His name means "Exalted Father." His name is later changed to Abraham, which means "Father of a multitude" (**Genesis 17:4-7**). He is listed in the genealogy of Jesus in **Matthew 1:1-2**.

Abraham is known as the father of the faithful (**Romans 4:16**). He is described as one that a child of God should/ought/must follow to be found pleasing in the eyes of God. Faith is described as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (**Hebrews 11:1**).

Abraham's faith is described in **Hebrews 11:8-10**. When he was called by God he obeyed (**Genesis 12:1-3**). There is no hint of doubt or disbelief. He followed not knowing where he was going. He waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Abraham believed God was faithful to His word.

The testimony of his faith in God is described in **Hebrews 11:17-19**. Abraham was willing to offer up Isaac on an altar, in whom his seed shall be called (**Genesis 22:1-19**). Abraham was justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar (**James 2:21**). Abraham concluded that God was able to raise Isaac up, even from the dead. So, he received Isaac back in a figurative sense.

It was true of Abraham, as well as all who have faith in God, that he desired a better country, that is a heavenly country. He had faith in one God (**Genesis 14:22; 24:3**). Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them (**Hebrews 11:16**). Abraham, contrary to hope, in hope believed God, so that he became the father of many nations (**Romans 4:18-22**). This was written not for Abraham's sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us (**Romans 4:23-25**).

Paul describes our having faith in God (**Galatians 3:1-29**). The need is for us to obey the truth. God works by the hearing of faith. Abraham believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness. That was a faith that did what God asked without hesitating or questioning.

We are told that once a covenant has been confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it (**Galatians 3:15-16**). We are sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. We who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. If we are Christ's, then we are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise (**Galatians 3:26-29**).

We are to be willing to absolutely take God at His word. We are not asking for it to be explained to us before we follow God. We are willing to trust God in what may seem contradictory. If God

said do it, do it. God will do what He said He will do.

Something to think about!

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