

Book of Life

Abraham- The Patriarch of Grace

***This documents the life of Abraham and his mistakes and how the grace of God covered and blessed him every step!**

I. Abraham

- A. Abram- exalted father; Sarai- contention
- B. Joshua 24:2- His fathers were moon worshippers
- C. Gen. 12:1-3- Terah and his family moved from Ur to Haran
- D. God had called Abraham out of his own country and away from his relatives- however Lot came- He caused him a lot of headaches!
- E. The calling of Abraham was a calling of grace- God promised to bless Abraham and make his name great by God's doing and not Abraham's
- F. Tower of Babel- they said we shall make a name for ourselves. God said he would make Abraham's name- We do not have to make a name for ourselves. God will make our name known by His grace
- G. God did not command Abram to keep any rules to be blessed. He just promised! This was filled with I will's- 7 blessings
- H. When we are blessed by God's grace then we truly become blessings. We freely give what freely has come to us. We give love, forgiveness, and blessings away because that is how they came to us.
- I. God chose Abraham in order to bring his redemptive plan of grace about to the whole world.
- J. Offspring would be as the stars of heaven and the sand of sea- Gen. 22:17
 - 1. First Abram was chosen to be the forefather of the Messiah –Jesus-and a spiritual race

2. Second Abram was chosen to start of chosen natural race in which God would display to the rest of the world
 3. Scientists say that there are about an equal amount of sand on the sea shore than stars in the universe!
 4. The Law and covenants were given to Abram and to the Jews
 5. The covenant to Abram was a covenant of grace, the covenant to the Jews was a covenant of Law
 6. God saved Abram as a gentile- Gen. 15-he later received the covenant of circumcision which pre-figured the law. Gen. 17
 7. God gave the law to the Jews as a test case that would speak to the entire world- Romans 3:19- The law was given to the Jews so that it would show them to be sinners. If God's special A team was shown guilty and sinners than how much more the rest of the world.
 8. God picked a group of people to exalt to show the world their guilt but his amazing grace.
 9. This amazing grace was shown to make the Jews jealous so that they could be saved also.
- K. Gen. 12:6-7-Abram came into Canaan unto Shechem-shoulder- which represents strength and carrying of burdens. This spot was in between Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerazim with means cursing and blessing. It is whether God bears the burdens of satisfying His holiness or ours determines which mountain we will partake of. Our own works will call forth the curses of Ebal.
- L. Unto the oak- represents death; Moreh- teach- He came to the teacher of death which represented the death of Christ. The Law was a teacher that Christ would bear our burdens to satisfy God by His sorrow and death.

- M. He built an altar to burn sacrifices to God which represent Christ- Abram was a man of the altar. This was the basis for the blessings in His life.
- N. Gen. 12:8-Abram came to a place between Bethel and Ai- House of God and place of ruin- Heaven and hell
- O. He built an altar that represented the work of Christ that saves us from hell and takes us to heaven.
- P. Gen. 12:10-There was a famine in the south country and Abram does not pray but just goes into Egypt- which means trouble, double pressure- This is a type of the world- in the world you will have tribulations- pressures- The world promises relief but just piles on pressures. Here Abram will face pressure and trouble and a person named Hagar that will bring him trouble for some time to come!
- Q. Abram gave away his wife to protect his own hide! Abram lies to Pharaoh and God judges Egypt and not Abram! He is sent away richer than before. This is grace! Pharaoh rebukes Abram for not doing right. God blessed him with wealth and possessions.
- R. Gen. 13:3-Abraham returns to Bethel- to the house of God. He returns to faith in God. He returns to the altar.
- S. Gen. 13:5-6-Abram disobeyed God in bringing Lot with him to the Promise Land and Lot got into lot of trouble and Abram came and rescued him. Notice God blessed him even though his performance was not perfect! But God blessed him even though Lot should have not been there. He had to separate from Lot. He was a hindrance to the plan of God. He let Lot choose. Lot chose for himself. God gave all to Him- all is yours.
- T. Gen. 13:14- After Lot departs and picks for himself God says he has given all to Abram.

II. Abraham is alone with God

- A. Gen. 13:18-Abram moved to the oak of Mamre- Union with God.

- B. Gen. 14- Abram had to rescue him by battle. was able to tithe to Melchisedek
- C. Gen. 14:17-24-Abram lived under the covenant of grace- Melchisedek blessed Abram freely and then Abram gave to Him the tithes. He represented Christ. He gave bread and wine. He blesses us first and then we give back from that blessing.
- D. Gen. 15:1-God appeared to him and told him that He was his shield and that his reward or compensation would be very great. We get all that he has by grace. It is very great.
- E. Gen. 15:6-Abram believed in his heir that would come that would bless the whole world and his faith was counted for righteousness- just as he ought to be. Count the stars- the word count also means to recount a story. There is the gospel in the stars. This is not astrology. The stars declare the glory of the Lord. Ps. 19:1-2
- F. Gen. 15:8- Abraham goes from faith to doubt! How will I know I will inherit it? Luke 1:18- Zacharias- did this and was judged! Abram was not!
- G. Gen. 15:9-17-God cut a covenant with Abram's seed- Furnace- Judgment of God, torch- is the light of salvation and righteousness of Christ- He is the light of the world.
- H. Five sacrifices- 5-grace- sacrifices represent Christ's complete sacrifice of grace- one side is for our sin, the other side is His perfections given to God on our behalf
- I. Abram was put to sleep so that he could not do anything to aid in the covenant. This was between God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We participate by faith. We cannot mess this covenant up by our works.
- J. The new covenant of the cross is the surety we will inherit heaven

III. Abraham tries to help God

- A. Gen. 16:1-5- Abram got something from His trip to Egypt. Our flesh journeys has consequences. He got wealthy but he also got Hagar.
- B. Sarah got impatient and decided to help God out. Have you ever done that? Abram went along with it! Good idea!
- C. Ishmael was born. An Ishmael will always be a thorn in your heart.
- D. Gen. 17- God has made a spiritual covenant of grace with Abram in Gen. 15 but makes a natural covenant of circumcision and blessing on the natural nations of Israel and Arab nations.
- E. Gen 15 covenant is the root of the new covenant, and Gen 17 is a pre-cursor and a type of the Law. God tells Abram to walk before Him and be blameless. The Law commands our walk to be blameless and then he will bless.
- F. Gen 17:15-21-God's spiritual covenant is greater than the natural. The covenant of grace was through Isaac and not Ishmael. It was by promise and not works.
- G. Gen. 18- God would not pour out his judgment on the righteous. Lot was considered righteous. 2 Peter 2:7-Not because of his behavior but His faith. Abraham was righteous not because he did everything right but because of His faith. God will not judge the righteous for their sins. Now the righteous can put themselves outside of God's protection and they can be attacked by the devil. Lot had been taken captive earlier!
- H. Gen 19-Lot was willing to give his two daughters to be abused by wicked men! Lot lost his testimony in Sodom. His family did not believe him! God would not judge the city until Lot left.
- I. Lot allowed his daughters to get him drunk two nights in a row and they slept with him and they had children by him. Lot was called righteous in the N.T. 2 Peter 2:7-8
- J. Gen. 20- Abraham does it again- round two- He gives away his wife to protect his own hide. This is righteous

Abraham! He got into fear! God comes to Abimelech and says he was a dead man. God judges the household of Abimelech and not Abraham! Abimelech rebukes him for not acting righteously. Abraham got blessed out of the deal! God's goodness leads to repentance.

- K. Gen 21- God tells Abraham to cast out the bondwoman. Galatians 4:22-31-He sends off Hagar and the kid with bread and water. God said to send them off but not on foot with only one skin of water and some bread! Abraham is a deadbeat dad! God was in it because they represent the Law. You have to make it on your own under the Law. It does not provide for you!
- L. Genesis 22- Type of the sacrifice of Christ. This ties into James 2- His righteousness was seen.