

Father Abraham

Introduction and Review

- We have considered God's redemptive work with humanity from Adam to Abraham.
- The NT speaks encouragingly of many that lived by faith in God: Abel, Enoch, Noah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, etc.
- However Abraham is consistently presented as a model & is the only one that is call the "father of us all" in faith.
- Abraham will provide a bridge for us to link the OT with the NT plan of God's redemptive work as we move from the beginning toward the end.

I. Abraham in the Old Testament

A. Faith in God saved him

God saved Abraham out of an unbelieving & idolatrous culture of people (Neh. 9:7). God's redemptive terminology – "chose". God delivered Abraham out of his sins & will deliver all sinners who believe (Is. 29:22; Col. 1:13-14). The Holy Spirit converted Abraham & gave him the faith to trust God for eternal salvation.

B. Faith in God sustained him

Abraham maintained his faith in the only true God in the midst of a polytheistic culture (Josh. 24:2-3) – "other gods, Canaan". Abraham learned that God was trustworthy because of His unchanging character (Mic. 7:18-20). Abraham learned to trust God for mercy even when he had failed miserably. God is faithful even when we are not...

From his conversion to the last mention of him in the Old Testament, Abraham was a man of faith.

II. Abraham in the New Testament

A. Many descendants

There are many natural & spiritual descendants of Abraham: Israelites or Jews (Ac. 13:16, 26), Levitical priests (Heb. 7:5) & all believers (Rom. 4:16-18; Gal. 3:29). Jesus Christ is also considered a descendant of Abraham (Mt. 1:1).

B. Many blessings

There are many blessings for the spiritual descendants of Abraham in the present time (Gal. 3:5-9). God promises us guidance, wisdom, sp. gifts, grace, mercy, provisions, protection, etc. in Christ. And there are blessings in the eternal future (Mt. 8:11; Lk. 16:19-31). This is a wonderful promise of future blessings to all who die in faith & a severe warning of a future filled with eternal misery for all who die in their sins without Christ.

All of God's children in faith are blessed just as Abraham was blessed by God.

APPL: Father Abraham is presented in the scriptures as a man who trusted God for salvation, throughout life & on into eternal life. He was a man who learned that nothing is impossible for God & no sacrifice for God is too great! He learned that God is faithful & able to fulfill any & every promise that He makes to us without exception.