

ABRAHAM: Growing Strong in Faith

Passing the Baton

Genesis 25:1-11

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Dr. Paul White, Senior Pastor

ABRAHAM'S OBITUARY

These are the days of the years of Abraham's life, 175 years.

Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people. (vv. 7-8)

...in a good old age...

...an old man and full of years...

...and was gathered to his people.

ABRAHAM'S WILL

Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, east of Mamre, the field that Abraham purchased from the Hittites. There Abraham was buried, with Sarah his wife. After the death of Abraham, God blessed Isaac his son. And Isaac settled at Beer-lahai-roi. (vv. 9-11)

Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise... (Galatians 4:28)

1. He showed us how to have a _____ with God.

For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness... (Romans 4:3-5)

“Abraham is our father,” they answered. “If you were Abraham’s children,” said Jesus, “then you would do what Abraham did.” (John 8:39)

2. He received the promises of God’s _____ and passed those down to us.

Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward. (Genesis 15:1)

Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise...It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. (Galatians 4:28, 5:1)

3. He was the father of God's _____ people.

Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed – the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not. (Romans 4:16-17)

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham... (Matthew 1:1)

4. He opened the way for us to participate in _____ in the world.

And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, "Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed." (Acts 3:25)

PASSING THE BATON OF FAITH

But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?” (Genesis 15:8)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Legend:

1. He showed us how to have a right relationship with God.
2. He received the promises of God’s covenant and passed those down to us.
3. He was the father of God’s chosen people.
4. He opened the way for us to participate in God’s work in the world.

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