SCRIPTURE REFERENCE NOTES WOMEN IN THE WORD Fellowship Bible Church

The Grace of God Revealed

Lesson 5 God's Grace Revealed to Abraham March 12, 2024

As we think of Abraham, we usually think of him as a <u>great man of faith</u> who always trusted God and believed God.

Just like us Abraham's walk with God was a growth process. He had times of faith and times of failure!!

But let's see what <u>God</u> is doing. Let's see what <u>God's</u> heart is like. Let's see what God is doing to set the stage for the coming Redeemer, Deliverer, The Promised One!

Journey to Canaan

Genesis 11:31-12:6. God uses Abram's father Terah to take Abram & Sarai from Ur to Haran.

Then Abram leaves Haran to go to Canaan

Promise of offspring

Genesis 12:7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

Abram's efforts to save himself from Pharaoh

Genesis 12:10-20 - Because of a famine in the land, They went to Egypt. Abram gives His wife away. God inflicts Pharaoh with great plagues. And Pharaoh lets them go. The intervention of God!!

God's covenant with Abram

Genesis 15:1-6 Abram's doubt and God's promise. God confirms again the promise with more detail, and Abram believes again.

Sarai's dumb idea

Genesis 16:1-6 Hagar is with child. The trouble begins before the child is even born!

Abram's name change and covenant

Genesis 17:1-8 The father of many nations and be exceedingly fruitful. God reconfirms the promise again.

Genesis 17:9-14 Circumcision as a sign of the covenant.

Sarai's name change and Isaac's birth promised one year away

Genesis 17:15-21 Your son will be from Sarah and his name will be Isaac. Again promised in Gen 18:10

Abraham's doubt vs God's plan

Genesis 20:1-18 - He took matters into his own hands.

Genesis 20:3 - God intervened

Genesis 20:6 - God intervened

Genesis 20:11 - Abraham's reasoning - Human reasoning does not include God's plan

God's statement about mankind <u>Genesis 8:21</u> "Every thought and intent of man's heart is only evil from childhood." This did not take God by surprise!!

Finally Isaac is born - God is faithful

Genesis 21:1-7 Abraham was 100 and Sarah 90 but this makes no difference to God. It was not hard for God.

Abraham commanded to sacrifice Isaac.

Genesis 22:1-2 Isaac was a young man - Hebrew word for son or lad is the same as used in the next verse "young men"

Genesis 22:6 Carried the wood for the burnt offering, so he was not small. -

Josephus the Jewish historian says he thinks he was 27 years old.

We often see this story as God testing Abraham to see if his love for God was greater than love for his son. <u>God did not need to test Abraham's love for Him</u>!!!

God's eternal plan of redemption was on His heart from before the foundation of the world. God was making it absolutely clear that He will fulfill His plan. Abraham's faith was the result of God showing Himself faithful over and over and increasing His faith.

Hebrews 11:17-19 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." <u>He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead,</u> from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Genesis 22:3-8 "...and come again to you." — "...God will provide..."

This is about God!! God provided the sacrifice!

Genesis 22:9-14 - The place is called "The Lord will Provide"

This story is also a physical picture of the Promised One to come.

The way that God provided a ram at just the right time to take the place of Isaac, so God, at just the right time provided Christ to be the sacrificial lamb of the world.

Jesus is the lamb. John 1:29 John says "behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

A picture of the Provision of a deliverer for all the people of the earth. Jesus the only son of the Father - the one who carried the wooden cross up the hill of Moriah.

Stage 2 - God's plan of redemption is playing out as He designed it. He is setting the stage. He is faithful to put the pieces in place and to also work individually in the lives of those who believe Him.

Today, God has a big plan for the world, a plan for redemption, for eternity with His children, but He also has YOU in mind individually. He wants a relationship with YOU. He loves you and offers you entrance into His presence for communion and fellowship.

It's all about the GRACE of God!!

He <u>predetermined</u> the plan, He <u>set the stage</u> for the plan. His plan will not fail even when we do. God is patient with us as we learn to trust Him. He will always be faithful to His Word!