

ABRAHAM

Introduction

Craig Smith • June 3, 2018

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (Rom. 15:4)

Abraham – born into idolatry...

“Long ago your forefathers, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the River and worshiped other gods.” (Joshua 24:2b)

Abraham – became the father of faith...

“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn; look to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who gave you birth. When I called him he was but one, and I blessed him and made him many.” (Isaiah 51:1-2)

“Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness”...So then, he is the father of all who believe... (Rom. 4:3b, 11b)

- **The risk of faith** – *“By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.” (Heb. 11:8)*

- **The power of faith** – *“Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations...Yet he did not waver...” (Rom. 4:18, 20)*
- **The perseverance of faith** – *“All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance.” (Heb. 11:13a)*
- **The reward of faith** – *“Instead, they were longing for a better country – a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.” (Heb. 11:16)*

And the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God’s friend. (James 2:23)

Abraham – the promised fulfilled in Jesus...

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus...If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise. (Gal. 3:26, 29)