

# God is Faithful

How many people do you really trust? I mean *really* trust? We often get burned, then battle cynicism and tend toward self-preservation. And yet, almost paradoxically, people are looking for something they can trust – something they can stake their life on and win. Many try religion, see problems and come away asking, Who do *you* trust? Can you trust the Lord? How do we *know* God has secured our hope? This is the theme of Hebrews 6.13-20. Abraham is a great example. Besides Jesus, there may be no better biblical example of the lengths he went in trusting God.

## I. Abraham Trusted God

- A. Romans 4.3: Abraham **believed** God, and it was credited to him for righteousness.
- B. Romans 4.17: *As it is written: **I have made you the father of many nations...***
  - 1. Romans 4.18: *In hope against hope he believed,...*
  - 2. Romans 4.21: *...being **fully assured** that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.*
  - 3. How James describes the responsive faith of Abraham:
    - a) James 2.26: *For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is **dead**.*
    - b) No works? No faith. No salvation.
      - (1) But if you have faith, works naturally follow. Works flow **from** faith.
      - (2) They do not enhance or add to the status you already enjoy. *They will not make you more saved than you already are.*
- C. Your salvation is totally by grace through faith. Do *you* trust?

## II. Abraham's Early Life

- A. We meet Abraham & his family in Genesis 11.26-32. A pagan idolator, Joshua 24.1-2.
  - 1. Stephen fills in some blanks in Acts 7.2-4.
    - a) 7.3: **Leave your country and relatives, and come to the land that I will show you.**
    - b) 7.4: Response: *Then he left the land of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran.*
    - c) Genesis 12.4: *So Abram went, as the Lord had told him,...*
  - 2. Abraham believed: *By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and set out for a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance. He **went out**, even though he did not know where he was going...*

## III. Hebrews 6.13-19a: How Abraham Could Trust God

- A. 6.13-15: He trusted God's character
  - 1. Hebrews 6.13: *For when God made a promise to Abraham, ...God cannot lie, 6.18.*
    - a) James 1.17: *...the Father of lights, ... **does not change like shifting shadows.***
  - 2. 6.15: *And so, after waiting patiently, Abraham **obtained** the promise.*
- B. 6.14: He trusted in God's promise
  - 1. Hebrews 6.14: *I will indeed bless you, and I will greatly **multiply** you.*
  - 2. How does God guarantee His promise? See Genesis 15.
- C. 6.13b, 16-17: He trusted God's oath
  - 1. Hebrews 6.13b: *...since he had no one greater to swear by, he swore by **himself**. Why?*
  - 2. Hebrews 6.17: *Because God wanted to show his unchangeable purpose even more clearly to the heirs of the promise, he **guaranteed** it with an oath,*

## IV. As We Close...

- A. Hebrews 6.18a: *so that through two **unchangeable** things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, ...*
- B. What are the two unchangeable things?
  - 1. His promise, 6.14 & His oath, 6.17
  - 2. The purpose: 6.18b: *...we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement...*
  - 3. For what...6.18c: *to **seize** the hope set before us.*
- C. Hebrews 6.19a: *We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. What is your anchor?*