

The MESSAGE “Abraham”

ABRAHAM

-10 more generations from Noah to Adam

-So now we are 20 generations and 2000 years into humanity!

BACK TO THE HALL OF FAITH:

Hebrews 11:8-16 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.⁹ By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

¹¹ And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹² And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

Hebrews 11:17-19 By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, ¹⁸ even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” ¹⁹ Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

“3 TIME HALL OF FAMER”

- 1) Moving out of his comfort zone to a new land
- 2) Had a baby at 100 years old (Gen 21:5)
- 3) He was willing to sacrifice his son

MOVED OUT OF HIS COMFORT ZONE

Genesis 12:1 The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

Genesis 12:2 “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.”

Genesis 12:3 “I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

Genesis 12:4-5 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. ⁵He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

“Opportunity of a lifetime must be seized in the lifetime of the opportunity”

Genesis 12:6-7 Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷The Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.”

-Abraham lived in faith! The promised land was not his.....

“To your offspring I will give this land”

Hebrews 11:8-16 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.⁹ By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

Like going to Mississippi River park and living in a tent...in Faith your kids will own it!

Genesis 12:7 So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

-Often- God doesn't show you the whole picture.....JUST THE NEXT STEP!

-If we got the whole picture we would probably mess it all up!

What is God asking you to do???

Luke 16:10 “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

-Feeding programs.....change the world.....STARTS WITH ONE!!!

HELD ON TO THE PROMISE

-ABRAHAM TRUSTED WHEN IT MADE NO NATURAL SENSE!

Genesis 15:2-3 But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

Genesis 15:4-5 Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” ⁵ He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

AT AGE 75-GOD HAD MADE HIM A PROMISE:

Genesis 12:2 “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.”

NOW IN GENESIS 15, ABRAHAM IS 90 YEARS OLD

Genesis 15:6 Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

FAITH is just believing it can still happen!!!

-Abraham 75 when he was promised he would be a great nation!

-Abraham was 90 when God promised him a son

-Abraham was 100 when he had his son! Sarah was 91!!!

-25 YEARS!!!!

FAITH is just believing it can still happen!!!

Hebrews 11:11-12 And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹² And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

FIRST: STEPPED OUT IN OBEDIENCE

SECOND: HELD ON TO THE PROMISE

DIDN'T LET THE GIFT BECOME MORE IMPORTANT THAT THE GIVER

Genesis 22:1-12 Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied. ² Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”

³ Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey.

He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

⁵ He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together,⁷ Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?”

“Yes, my son?” Abraham replied.

“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

⁸ Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

⁹ When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.

¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

¹² “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

THIS STORY IS CRAZY TOWN!!!!

DEEPER PRICIPAL TO SEE THE HEART OF GOD:

-All other PAGAN religions practiced child sacrifice!

-GOD WAS SHOWING FROM THE START HE WAS DIFFERENT!

-ALSO.....foreshadowing to him sacrificing HIS ONLY SON!

WHAT ELSE WAS “POSSIBLY” GOING ON HERE:

Could it be that Abraham had allowed Isaac to become an IDOL??

-Maybe the GIFT had become more important than the GIVER??

-God was asking Abraham to SURRENDER what he held MOST dear!

*25 years of waiting! This was his baby!

ISAAC WAS THE ANSWER TO ALL OF ABRAHAM'S DREAMS!!!

Genesis 22:2 Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering.

-Could it be that there was an OWNERSHIP struggle between Abraham and God??

I struggle with that with The Waters!

-SOMETIMES I HOLD ON TOO TIGHT!

-“Is it MY church? Or is it “HIS” church?

-Are they MY kids? Or have I dedicated them to HIM?

-Is it MY money? Or am I living as it is HIS?

-THESE ARE ALL ISSUES OF THE HEART!

-Live in BALANCE of RESPONSIBILITY & TRUST!!

THE SAFEST PLACE FOR OUR GOD DREAMS IS IN HIS HANDS!!

