

## Life of Abraham – Part 2

### Meadowbrook Church Bible hour

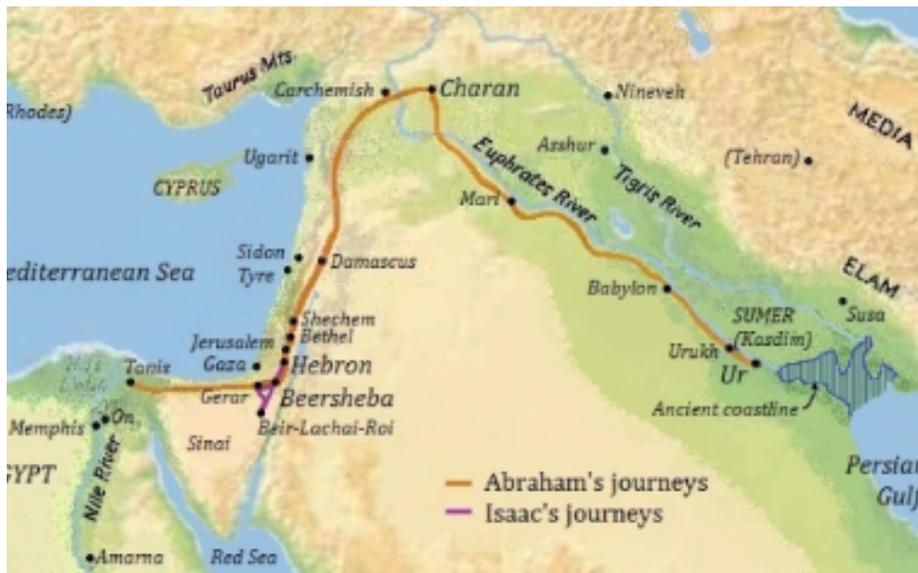
August 17, 2025

- Abraham gets 3 visitors; Sarah laughs Genesis 18:1-15
- Abraham pleads for people of Sodom/Gomorrah Ch 18:16-33
- Sodom/Gomorrah are destroyed, and Lot and his daughters escape Ch 19
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- Abraham sends servant to find a wife for Isaac; Abraham's death Chs 24 – 25 part

### 2. Abraham's Character

Abraham was a righteous man. He is known as the Father of faith!  
Gen 15:6 "Abram believed the Lord, and He credited it to him as righteousness"  
Abraham recognized by other bible authors as faithful:  
Paul in Gal 3:6 and Romans 4:3  
James in James 2:23  
Author of Hebrews 11  
The Lord, 2Tim 3:16 "all scripture is God breathed"  
Being faithful, like Abraham, is an over-arching theme of this 2-week lesson.

### 3. A quick review of Abraham's Story covered last week – Chpts 11-17



We

left off with God's  
Circumcision  
Covenant with

Abram in Genesis 17

### 4. Abraham gets 3 visitors - Genesis 18:1-15

<sup>1</sup>The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup>Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. <sup>3</sup>He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, a do not pass your servant by. <sup>4</sup>Let a little water be brought, and then you may wash your feet and rest under this tree. <sup>5</sup>Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant."

“Very well,” they answered, “do as you say.” 6So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. “Quick,” he said, “get three measures of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread.”

7Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. 8He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

**Comments:** Where is Mamre again?

Who were these visitors and did Abraham recognize them?

The Lord and angels (verses 1,17+). Yes, he did, declares himself a servant. Offers respect and hospitality to them in humility. He gladly greets and bows low to them. Some think this visit is only 3 days after circumcision covenant.



## 5. Abraham gets 3 visitors; Sarah laughs Genesis 18:9-15

9“Where is your wife, Sarah?” they asked him.

“There, in the tent,” he said.

10Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.” Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. 11Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. 12So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?”

13Then the Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’ 14Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son.”

15Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, “I did not laugh.” But he said, “Yes, you did laugh.”

**Comments:** Sarah is now 89 yo, Abe 99; so I think it is reasonable for her to feel a bit doubtful at this age. So what is one purpose for the Lord’s visit with Abraham? (to share Sarah would have a child, in ~ 1 yr) This announcement is why only 3 days after covenant. Abe 99 in Ch 17, 100 in Ch 21 as we’ll see. A lot in between. Most importantly, God’s offspring promise, from ~25 years ago, was about to be fulfilled! (Abe 75 when he set out, Ch 12, now 99.). There’s more for visit.

## 6. Abraham pleads for people of Sodom/Gomorrah Gen. 18:16-33

16When the men got up to leave, they looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way. 17Then the Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?”

18Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him. 19For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.”

20Then the Lord said, “The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous 21that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know.”

22The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the Lord.

23Then Abraham approached him and said: “Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? 25Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

**Comments:** Remember they’re on the Hebron hills above Dead Sea Valley.

The LORD’s discourse here shows he is God. Also, He reiterates the coming Messiah and His covenant to Abe.

The angels are heading to Sodom to find out how evil they have become

## 7. Abraham pleads for the people - Cliff Notes [ ] finale

Gen. 18:16-33

<sup>25</sup> ...[Abraham says,] Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

<sup>26</sup>The Lord said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

<sup>27-32</sup>[Then Abraham barter for 45 righteous men, then 30, then 20, and finally 10 righteous men.

Each time the Lord says, if He finds that many, He will not destroy it.]"

<sup>33</sup>When the Lord had finished speaking with Abraham, he left, and Abraham returned home.

**Comments:** Abraham acknowledges that God and God alone is the Judge

He also knows Lot is there and is pleading for his life and that of his family.

He suspects between Lot, his daughters, and their husbands, perhaps there must be 10 righteous men.

## 8. Sodom/Gomorrah are destroyed; Lot and daughters escape Genesis 19:1-13

<sup>1</sup>[The two angels arrived at Sodom that evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. Lot sees them, greets them and offers them hospitality for the night. They initially decline saying they're going to stay in the public square, but Lot insists, so they go with him.

He prepares a meal for them but <sup>4</sup>before they go to bed, EVERY man in the entire city comes to Lot's house and demands sex with them. <sup>6</sup>Lot meets them outside and says, 'No, my friends. Don't do this wicked thing. <sup>8</sup>Look, I have two virgin daughters you can have them to do whatever you want. ' But don't do anything to these men. The wicked men try to get past Lot and break down the door but

**Comments:** Where is Lot now residing?

Likely a city leader now – sitting at gate.

These people are very wicked! Not just some, but EVERY male.

What about Lot?

His response shows he's become just as wicked.

1 Cor 15:33 Bad company corrupts good character. Same with Prov 13:20 and Ps 1:1-2 Instead associate with godly people.

## 9. Sodom/Gomorrah are destroyed; Lot and daughters escape Genesis 19:14-29

14[So Lot goes out and speaks to his sons-in-law, who were pledged to marry his daughters. He says, 'Hurry, because the Lord is about to destroy the city!' But they think he's joking.

15Almost at dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, 'Get out, you and your whole family, or you will be destroyed too.' 16And when he hesitates, the angels grab him, his wife and his daughters and led them out of the city, for the Lord was merciful to them. 17As soon as they were out of town, one angel said, 'Flee for your lives! Don't look back, and don't stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains.'

18But Lot barter with the angel to go to the very small town of Zoar for safety.

23At daybreak, 24the Lord rained down burning sulfur on Sodom & Gomorrah. 25Thus he destroyed the cities of the entire plain, except Zoar. 26But Lot's wife looked back as they were fleeing, and she became a pillar of salt.

27Abraham looks out at Sodom and Gomorrah the next morning and sees that it is destroyed.

29When God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe.

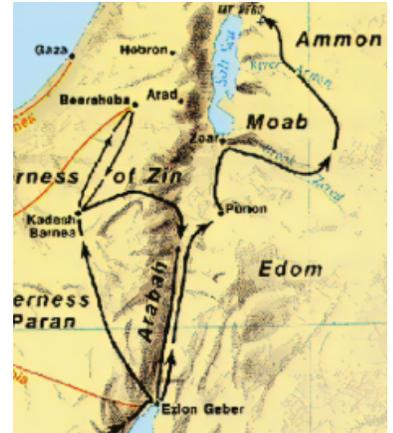
**Comments:** Lot embraced sin and therefore, lost everything. But God was merciful to him in verse 16. The moral is flee from sin and pursue righteousness as stated numerous places in NT (1Tim 6:11, 1Cor 6:18)

Note that God remembered Abraham interceding on Lot's behalf. And God honored his request. He hears our interceding prayers for others too.

## 10. Lot's incestuous daughters lead to more foes for Israel - Genesis 19:30-38, Nothing redeeming here

<sup>30</sup>[Lot and his two daughters left Zoar and settled in a cave in the mountains, for he was afraid to stay in Zoar. <sup>31-35</sup>The daughters hatch and implement a plan to get their father drunk so that they can get pregnant by him for offspring because there are no men around to marry. <sup>36</sup>Their plan works and both daughters become pregnant.] <sup>37</sup>The older daughter had a son, and she named him Moab; he is the father of the Moabites of today. <sup>38</sup>The younger daughter also had a son, and she named him Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the Ammonites of today.

**Comments:** Moabites rejected Israelites travelling through their country during Exodus (Numb 20). Known as morally depraved people. Moabites also fight with Israel in 2Kings 3 and are divinely defeated. Ammonites fight with Israel during reigns of Jephthah (Judges 11), Saul (1Sam 11), and David (2Sam 10-12). They are repeatedly defeated illustrating God's judgement, His fulfillment of promises to Abraham, and His sovereignty in delivering and protecting His chosen people from her enemies.



## 11. Abraham pulls the Egypt trick on Abimelech in Gerar – Gen 20 and Treaty in 21

We covered this story last week but will summarize to answer one question.

<sup>1</sup>Abraham moved to Gerar and tells everyone “Sarah is my sister.” Abimelech Philistine king of Gerar sees Sarah, wants her, and takes her.

<sup>3</sup>But God tells Abimelech in a dream, “You are as good as a dead man because you have taken a married woman.” God also tells him return Sarah to the Abraham and he will pray for you, and you will live. <sup>14</sup>Then Abimelech he returned Sarah to him, showers Abraham with gifts: livestock, slaves, and silver to cover the offense and just making amends.

<sup>17</sup>Then Abraham prayed to God, and the Lord restored fertility to Abimelech's household, <sup>18</sup>for God closed the women's wombs on account of Abraham's wife Sarah. ]

**Comment:** Question last week was “Why did Abraham pray for Abimelech and not for Pharaoh? (nearly identical situations)”

I think the answer is right here is the Scripture. God tells Abimelech Abraham will pray for him ..... and he does. Abi may have asked Abe as well. Nowhere in Chpt 12, when Abraham goes to Egypt, does God tell him to pray for Pharaoh or Egypt.

In Chpt 21:22-32, Abraham signs a treaty/oath about a well with Abimelech.

**Comments:** The important parts of this story are: 1. Abimelech (Philistine) recognizes that the true God is always with Abe. 2. They name the place Beersheba which means well of the oath, and 3. Abraham calls on the LORD, the eternal God, again demonstrating his faith in God



## 12. Isaac is finally born! Genesis 21:1-7

<sup>1</sup>Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised.

<sup>2</sup>Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised

him. <sup>3</sup>[Abraham named him Isaac. <sup>4</sup>When Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him. <sup>5</sup>Abraham was a hundred years old when Isaac was born to him.]

<sup>6</sup>Sarah said, “God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me.” <sup>7</sup>And she added, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”

**Comments:** God fulfills His promise to Abraham and Sarah!

This is divine miracle because Sarah is ~ 90, well passed child-bearing age.

Abe is 100 yrs old, 25 years after God’s initial promise to make him a great nation (He left Haran at 75). Isaac means laughter. Based on her comments, Sarah is filled with abounding joy and knows God gave her a huge personal miracle. He’s a personal God!

### 13. Hagar and Ishmael sent away

### Genesis 21:8-21

<sup>8</sup>[Isaac grew and when weaned, Abraham had a great feast. <sup>9</sup>But Sarah saw that Ishmael was mocking (Isaac). <sup>10</sup>So she tells Abraham, “Get rid of Hagar and Ishmael, for *that boy* will never share in the inheritance with my son.”

<sup>11</sup>The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. <sup>12</sup>But God said to him, “Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. <sup>13</sup>I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring.”

<sup>14</sup>Early the next morning Abraham took some meager provisions and gave them to Hagar. He then sent them off. She wandered in the Desert of Beersheba (seems to be headed south).

<sup>15</sup>When the water was gone; she puts the boy under a shady bush. <sup>16</sup>She then goes a little way away because she can’t watch him die and she just sobs.

<sup>17</sup>God hears Ishmael crying, sends an angel to Hagar, who tells her “don’t be afraid. God has heard him crying. <sup>18</sup>God’s going to make him into a great nation.” <sup>19</sup>Then God showed her a well. So, she goes and fills the skin with water and gives the boy a drink.

<sup>20</sup>God was with Ishmael as he grew up. He lived in the Desert of Paran, became an archer and <sup>21</sup>while there, Hagar got a wife for him from Egypt.]

**Comments:** Weaned about 2+-3 yrs, cultural

Sarah notices Ishmael mocking Isaac. Give him a break, Ishmael is about ~16 now – teenagers can behave poorly.

What is the first thing Abraham does?

He shows faith by taking it to God in prayer. Also, he shows even greater faith in God by just sending off his first-born son! Who could do that? But God told him to do it so acting in faith.

A note for the men here.

God tells Abe to listen to his wife!

God cares for Ishmael and protects him as he had told Abe.

### 14. God tests Abraham with Isaac’s sacrifice; Awesome Symbolism! - Gen 22

<sup>1</sup>[Sometime later God tested Abraham. <sup>2</sup> 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.”

<sup>3</sup>Early the next morning Abraham got up, loaded up supplies, Isaac, 2 servants, and they set out for the place God told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day they arrive near the offering place. <sup>5</sup>He tells his servants, “Stay here, while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

<sup>6</sup>Abraham took the supplies for the offering and the two of them went on together, <sup>7</sup>Isaac spoke up and said “Father, I see the supplies] but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”



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

<sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

**Comments:** Isaac is teenager now.

Where is Mount Moriah?

The Temple Mount in Jerusalem (as identified 2Chr 3:1.

Currently, the wailing wall in West Bank. Dan 9:27

prophecies that the 3<sup>rd</sup> temple will be built there. Muslims

fulfilling Ezekiel 43/44 prophesy)

Who else offered/gave his only son, whom he loves, as a sacrifice?

God, gave His only begotten Son, John 3:16. This test foreshadows another perfect sacrifice, Jesus - God's only Son whom He sacrificed for all of us.

Abraham is immediately obedient and leaves for this most vexing request of the Lord. What else took 3 days?

At this very moment, he is about to sacrifice his son Isaac in obedience to God's command. He knows God's covenant is through Isaac so somehow some way, God's going to provide the offering and they both are going to return (**Heb 11:17+**).



## 15. God tests Abraham with Isaac's sacrifice; Awesome Symbolism! - Gen 22

11Just then 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.”

13Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.”

15The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time 16and said, “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, 18and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

19Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.

**Comments:** Abraham's response, "Here I am," is a statement of his readiness and obedience. It shows his willingness to listen and act according to God's will (e.g., Isaiah 6:8).

Jehovah Jirah = The Lord will Provide. He provided for all of us in this very Mtn location – Calvary (Jerusalem)! This story reflects Abraham's faith. It is testament to Abraham's character and his unwavering trust in God, which is a central theme of Genesis 22. Abraham's willingness to listen and obey is a model of faithfulness for believers.

## 16. Sarah passes/buried in Machpelah (near Hebron)

## Genesis 23

<sup>1</sup>[Sarah lived to be a 127 years old. <sup>2</sup>She died at Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron), and Abraham went to mourn and weep over her.

<sup>3</sup>Then Abraham rose, spoke to the Hittites and requests a burial site where he can bury Sarah.

<sup>5</sup>The Hittites initially reply to Abraham that he can bury Sarah in their choicest of tombs and no one will refuse him a tomb.

<sup>7</sup>Abraham shows them asks about Ephron's tomb, the cave of Machpelah, in his field. <sup>10</sup>Ephron the Hittite heard Abraham and said <sup>11</sup>"I'll give it to you in the field. Bury your dead."

<sup>12</sup>Again Abraham says, look I'll buy it so, I can bury Sarah there.

<sup>14</sup>Ephron says the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver, but what is that between you and me? Bury your dead."

<sup>16</sup>Abraham agreed to Ephron's terms and pays him in presence of people.

<sup>17</sup>So Ephron's field in Machpelah was deeded <sup>18</sup>to Abraham <sup>19</sup>and he buried his wife Sarah in the cave in the field of Machpelah near Mamre (which is at Hebron).]

**Comments:** It's kind of sad that Sarah didn't live until Isaac got married and it appears Abraham was in Beersheba at the time. She only lived for 37 years after he was born.

400 Sekels for this field is EXORBITANT! Jer 32:19 (17 shekels)

This cave becomes significant because it is where several patriarchs are buried. (Machpelah means double, as in cave and field here). There's now the Ibrahimi mosque that houses the cave of patriarchs there.



## 17. The cave at Machpelah (near Hebron) Genesis 23

**Comment:** There is now the Ibrahimi (muslim) mosque that houses the cave of patriarchs there (another site in the West Bank).

## 18. Abraham sends servant to find a wife for Isaac Genesis 24

**Comment:** This is a great long story of faith. Faith of both Abraham and his servant, as well as that of Rebekah. I'm going to leave it for Arin next week since the teaching schedule *recently* got changed and she only has 3 Chapters to cover (Chpts 24 to 26).

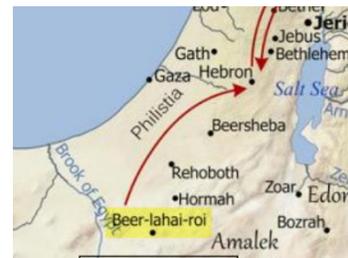
## 19. Abraham's death Genesis 25:1-11

<sup>1</sup>[Abraham took another wife, whose name was Keturah. <sup>2</sup>She bore him 6 more sons. Descendents of only 2 of those sons, Jokshan and Dedan, are mentioned and they became smaller tribes.]

<sup>5</sup>Abraham left everything he owned to Isaac. <sup>6</sup>But while he was still living, he gave gifts to the sons of his concubines and sent them away from his son Isaac to the land of the east.

<sup>7</sup>Abraham lived a 175 years. <sup>8</sup>Then Abraham breathed his last and died at a good old age, an old man, full of years; and he was gathered to his people. <sup>9</sup>His sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in <sup>10</sup>the field Abraham had bought from Ephron.

There Abraham was buried with his wife Sarah. <sup>11</sup>After Abraham's death, God blessed his son Isaac, who then lived near Beer Lahai Roi.



**Comments:** So Abraham also had other unnamed sons by other concubines, not just Keturah, his wife. I suspect that Abraham sent those sons away from Isaac so that they wouldn't compete/fight with him. They weren't of God's promise. Interesting that Isaac lives in the desert. It symbolizes purity.

## Take home Messages (same as last week)

- We are called to emulate Abraham's faith and trust in the Lord.
- Abraham reminds us to trust in God's plans and timing for us. Don't forget to wait on the Lord.
- Abraham reminds us to put our faith into action as he did, not only through prayer, generosity, and worship but in deeds (as led by the Holy Spirit)!

James 2:17 – faith without works/deeds is dead,

Matt 5:16 – let your light shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father!

Luke 10:25 – the Good Samaritan story

- Abraham reminds us that the Lord is our sole Provider and Protector.
- Abraham reminds us that we are God's chosen, His kids, just as Abraham was chosen.