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A look at the life of Abraham

A night sky with a starry background. A crescent moon is visible in the upper left quadrant. The stars are of various colors, including white, yellow, and blue. The overall tone is dark blue.

Set Your Sight on Finishing Well

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Remember the reward He has promised

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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.

Hebrews 11:8 CSB

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Seek the city with foundations He has prepared

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By faith he stayed as a foreigner in the land of **promise**, living in tents as did Isaac and Jacob, coheirs of the same **promise**. For he was looking forward to the city **that has foundations**, whose architect and builder is God.

Hebrews 11:9-10 CSB

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Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: Look, God's dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and will be their God.

Revelation 21:1-3 CSB

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By faith even Sarah herself, when she was unable to have children, received power to conceive offspring, even though she was past the age, since she considered that the one who had **promised** was faithful. Therefore, from one man—in fact, from one as good as dead—came offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and as innumerable as the grains of sand along the seashore.

Hebrews 11:11-12 CSB

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These all died in **faith**, although they had not received the things that were **promised**. But they saw them from a distance, greeted them, and confessed that they were foreigners and temporary residents on the earth. Now those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

Hebrews 11:13-14 CSB

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If they were thinking about where they came from, they would have had an opportunity to return. But they now desire a better place—a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Hebrews 11:15-16 CSB

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By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac. He received the **promises** and yet he was offering his one and only son, the one to whom it had been said, Your offspring will be traced through Isaac. He considered God to be able even to raise someone from the dead; therefore, he received him back, figuratively speaking.

Hebrews 11:17-19 CSB

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If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next. The Apostles themselves, who set on foot the conversion of the Roman Empire, the great men who built up the Middle Ages, the English Evangelicals who abolished the Slave Trade, all left their mark on Earth, precisely because their minds were occupied with Heaven. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this. Aim at Heaven and you will get earth 'thrown in': aim at earth and you will get neither.

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

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