

## Do You Have the Faith of Abraham?

**Intro:** God's blessings belong to those who have the "faith of Abraham".  
*For this reason it is by faith, that it might be in accordance with grace, in order that the promise may be certain to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all...*  
(Romans 4:16)

### Observations about Abraham's faith.

*He believed that God would give him a land that he had never seen.*

By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. (Hebrews 11:8)

Think about what great faith that was. Abraham looked through God's eyes! He did not know exactly where his destination was or what it was like. He just knew that God was good and that what He would provide would be worth the journey!

*He believed he could not merit righteous by works.*

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about; but not before God. (Romans 4:1-2)

What Paul makes clear is that Abraham had no reason to boast about his righteousness. He recognized that he was a sinner. The Bible records some of Abraham's sins to show us that he was not righteous by works (lying, taking Sarah's handmaid and having a child by her, a second time being dishonest with the king of Philistia)

*He believed he needed the forgiveness of God.*

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

Abraham did this repeatedly. One of the primary purposes of an altar was to seek God's forgiveness through sacrifice. By shedding blood faith was expressed in the need for atonement.

*He believed in God's promise to provide a redeemer.*

When God gave the promise to Abraham, he was preaching the gospel to him!

And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "All the nations shall be blessed in you." (Galatians 3:8)

Abraham believed God's promise to make a great nation of him and "bless" all nations through him.

Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness. (Genesis 15:6)

*He believed in God's power to give life to the dead in order to fulfill his promise.*

Years went by and the promised child was not born. Abraham was about 99 years old and still no child! And then God came and said,

**This time next year you will have a child. Abraham believed God's word. Paul describes Abraham's faith: In hope against hope he believed, in order that he might become a father of many nations, according to that which had been spoken, "So shall your descendants be." And without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully assured that what He had promised, He was able also to perform. (Romans 4:18-21) The child of promise was born and Abraham loved him and had such great hopes for him. And then God tested Abraham's faith by calling for the death of His only son! How could God fulfill his promises if the child through whom they were to be fulfilled was to be killed?**

*Not through another child, for God has made the promise through Isaac (Gen. 21:12).*

*God will raise him up again!*

*By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac; and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; it was he to whom it was said, "In Isaac your descendants shall be called." He considered that God is able to raise men even from the dead; from which he also received him back as a type. (Hebrews 11:17-19)*

***What great faith Abraham had! But consider this: Abraham is called the "father of all who believe". Have you ever considered why? It is because God calls upon us to do the same thing that Abraham did!***

***But God never asked me to leave my home to go to another country. God never appeared to me with a message. God never asked me to kill a child. How can I have Abraham's faith?***

### **How God wants us to show our faith!**

***We must believe that there is a place prepared for us by God that we haven't seen!***

**He invites us on a journey of faith that leads into His eternal dwelling. He asks us to believe that there is an inheritance awaiting us in the new Jerusalem.**

**For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come. (Hebrews 13:14)**

**Do you have Abraham's faith?**

***We must believe that we cannot be righteous by works.***

**We must acknowledge that we have sinned.**

**for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23)**

**We must recognize that we are under God's wrath as sinners.**

**For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, (Romans 1:18)**

**Do you have Abraham's faith?**

*We must acknowledge that we need the forgiveness of God.*

**Our righteous deeds cannot erase our sins. Only hope we have is forgiveness by God's grace.**

**For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works lest anyman should boast (Ephesians 2:8-9)**

**Do you have Abraham's faith?**

*We must believe in God's promise to provide a redeemer.*

**We must understand that Jesus died for us. We must have faith in the sufficiency of His sacrifice.**

**being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; (Romans 3:24-25)**

**Do you have Abraham's faith?**

*We must believe in God's power to raise the dead.*

**We must believe that Jesus arose from the dead. Paul shows us that this faith was comparable to what Abraham had shown.**

**Now not for his sake only was it written, that it was reckoned to him, but for our sake also, to whom it will be reckoned, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, He who was delivered up because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification. (Romans 4:23-25)**

**We declare that faith in our confession.**

**that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. (Romans 10:9-10)**

**We declare that faith in our baptism.**

**Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:3-4)**

*When we obey the gospel we prove that we have Abraham's faith and are Abraham's true children!*

*And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. (Galatians 3:29)*

**Conclusion: Do you have Abraham's faith?**