

Abraham

The Way of Faith

Abraham is known as “the father of faith.” He achieved great things simply because he believed what God had said to him. God was pleased with Abraham because he had faith. And God blessed Abraham and his descendants. By faith in Jesus we have also become Abraham’s descendants and are participants in the promise. The promise belongs to us!

God’s Promise

Genesis 12:1-4 (NIV)

- (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.
- (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.
- (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.”
- (4)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.

Make a list of the things God promises to Abraham.

Galatians 3:6-9 (NIV)

- (6)So also Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”
- (7)Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham.
- (8)Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.”
- (9)So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Galatians 3:6 (NIV)

- (6)So also Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

Why was Abraham considered righteous?

Galatians 3:7 (NIV)

- (7)Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham.

Who are the real children of Abraham?

Galatians 3:8 (NIV)

- (8)Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.”

Who would be blessed through Abraham?

Galatians 3:9 (NIV)

- (9)So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Who can share in Abraham’s blessing or promise?

Abraham’s Relationship With God & How it Affects Us

Romans 4:13, 16-24

Romans 4:13 (NIV)

(13)It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.

Romans 4:16-24 (NIV)

(16)Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.

(17)As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

(18)Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring

be.”
(19)Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead.
(20)Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God,
(21)being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.
(22)This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.”
(23)The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone,
(24)but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

Romans 4:13 (NIV)

(13)It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.

What was Abraham’s relationship with God based on?

Romans 4:16-17 (NIV)

(16)Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.
(17)As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

What is Abraham the father of?

Romans 4:17-21 (NIV)

(17)As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.
(18)Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”
(19)Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead.
(20)Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God,
(21)being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

How would you describe Abraham’s faith in God’s promise?

Romans 4:22-24 (NIV)

(22)This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.”
(23)The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone,
(24)but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

What does Abraham’s faith in God mean for us?

All of God’s Promises Fulfilled

Genesis 18:19 (NIV)

(19)For 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.”

Describe how God’s promise was fulfilled and is being fulfilled.

Hebrews 11:8-12 (NIV)

(8)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.

Describe how God’s promise was fulfilled.

Galatians 3:29 (NIV)

(29)If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Who do the promises belong to?

Ask

In what way does Abraham's faith inspire you?

Application

What promises has God given you?

In what areas could you increase your faith?

Prayer

Lord, I pray that my faith will increase. I want to hold onto your promises confidently knowing that you will make it happen.

Key Verse

Galatians 3:29 NLT

And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.