



MZBMP

Sunday Morning Service Study Notes
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TITLE:

By Faith Abraham (Part 1)

TEXT:

Hebrews 11:8-19

INTRODUCTION

- Abraham's faith is sure confidence on God's word.
 - God called Abraham to go to Canaan.
 - Genesis 12:1-7
 - The LORD called Abraham to go out from Ur to Canaan.
 - The LORD made a covenant with Abraham. This covenant is a three-fold promise:
 1. The Land Promise ("Unto thy seed will I give this land"),
 2. The Seed Promise ("And I will make of thee a great nation"),
 3. The Blessing Promise ("I will bless thee ... and thou shalt be a blessing").
 - He moves from Ur to Haran. Abraham, with his father, Terah, his nephew Lot, and his wife Sarah, went to live in Haran (Gen. 11:27 - 31). The reason for this movement is given in Acts 7:2-3 by Stephen.
 - He departs from Haran to Canaan after the death of his father.
- Ur, the city of Abraham:
 - Ur has advanced civilization.
 - They worked with metal.
 - They sent ships to other parts of the world.
 - They had large factories.
 - They had irrigation for their large fields of grain.
 - They had a powerful military.
 - They were literate in multiple languages.
 - They had law courts.
 - Ur houses were large (average of 180 sqm.).
 - They were usually 2-storey houses:
 - Ground Floor: consists of servant's room, kitchen, lavatory, guest chamber, lavatory and wash place for visitors
 - Second Floor: consists of rooms for the family
 - The entire house of the average middle-class person had from ten to twenty rooms.

BY FAITH ABRAHAM OBEYED, SOJOURNED IN THE LAND

- By faith, Abraham, when the LORD called him, obeyed by faith (v.8).
 - He went from Ur not knowing whither he went.
 - Obedience is the very best way to show that you believe.
- By faith, he sojourned (to dwell near; to be a stranger) in Canaan as if he were a stranger and sojourner (v.9-10).
 - He dwelt in tents with his family.
 - When Abraham died, Isaac was 75 y/o and Jacob was 15 y/o.
 - Isaac and Jacob were heirs with Abraham of the same promise (cf. Gen. 26:2-6, 24; 28:1-4, 13-15).
 - He sojourned or dwelt as stranger into the land that God already promised to him.
 - Why? Because he looked for or was waiting for a city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.
 - Abraham knows Revelation 21 and 22 and he is looking for the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.
- Abraham, Sara, Isaac and Jacob died in faith not receiving the land and seed promises (v.13).
 - They had seen the promises afar off (Abraham saw and stepped on the land; he and his wife witnessed the miraculous birth of Isaac).
 - They were persuaded by the promises of God.
 - They embraced them or received, welcomed joyfully the promises.
 - They confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.
 - They had a heavenly view after they saw and were persuaded about the earthly promise of God.

- They declare plainly that they seek a country - one's native (own) place (v.14-15).
 - Are they seeking Ur - their country (own native place) before?
 - No. If they had been mindful of that country, they might have had the opportunity to return.
- They sought and desired a better and heavenly country (v.16).
- Wherefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God (v.16).
 - God was willing to speak of Himself as their God and Friend.
 - They acted as if they were His friends, and He was not ashamed of the relationship which He sustained with them.
 - Exodus 3:6 "...I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God."
 - God prepared for them a city - the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.
- By faith in the word of God, Abraham obeyed and sojourned in the land.
- Abraham, Sara, Isaac and Jacob died in faith.
- By faith, Abraham obtained a good report.
- Abraham is one of our so great a cloud of witnesses.

CHALLENGE

- If you are not saved, you have no part of the heavenly city. Your part is the lake of fire:
 - Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.
- Do you have a pilgrim mindset?
 - Why does it seem that you are very content living in this world?
 - Why don't you separate from this world? You are no different from the citizens of this world.
 - Why don't you set your affection on things above, not on things on earth?
 - See Heb. 12:22-24; 13:14