

A Promise to Abraham

What comes to mind when you recall Abraham? Is it the binding of Isaac or his journey to the unknown land? Typically, people think of the sacrifice of Isaac first. This event led many to believe that Abraham was a giant of faith from the beginning. His unwavering faith earned him a promise from God that he would become the father of nations. Does this resonate with you?

However, the Bible presents a different perspective. Abraham was an idol worshipper when God first revealed Himself to him. This revelation occurred in Ur of the Chaldeans, Mesopotamia, a region where the father worshipped other deities. Interestingly, Abraham himself worshipped idols. This revelation contradicts our simple assumptions and is clearly stated in Joshua 24:1-3: "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah, the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshipped other gods.'"

He was an idol worshipper, but then God appeared to him and called him to embark on a long and blessed faith journey. It was a divine grace, a one-sided blessing to an idol worshipper. This fact gives us great comfort because Abraham was just like us – a person who was flawed and imperfect. It reveals who God is and the way God blesses us. When we are frustrated about our faith, we can find comfort in the life of Abraham.

Let us delve deeper into Abraham's story. In Genesis 12:2-3, God blesses Abraham with the famous blessings: "I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on Earth will be blessed through you."

It was a blessing simply poured upon Abraham. Usually, we think in the cause and effect, worldly logic. When a person is blessed, there should be a reason for the blessing. But in the case of Abraham, it was not based on his faith, it was simply given, we call it grace. What is different from the blessing through belief in Jesus? "If you believe in Jesus, you will be children of God; all the blessings of Heaven and Earth will be yours."

We are under the same grace as mine. When I was a child, I went to the church by the bell sound of the church on the hill. The Spirit took me. God pulled me out of my family who didn't know God at all. All was done by the Lord. Eventually, all my family is saved.

After God chose Abraham, God let him start his glorious journey of Faith. The most crucial incident in the relationship with God was when he went down to Egypt. He saw how God protected Abraham, and experienced God who was greater than the pharaoh in Egypt, who was

like god. He learned to know that God can handle all the situations. After his experience in Egypt, he built an altar calling on the name Jehovah. He became bold enough to fight many kings to save his nephew Lot with 318 servants who trained at home. It is a really crazy and amazing story. It is not a thing that a simple person can do at all. From an idol worshipper, God shaped and persuaded his faith toward the Almighty God. Abraham became a man of faith through his life's journey. And it took a long time. Faith is God's persuading process toward God. Faith is a wooing process for the heart of his people. Faith is a gift from God. Faith is a journey toward God's fiery passion for love for us. God comes first. God shapes us.

Abraham received a great blessing in chapter 12. At the age of 75, he received a blessing that he would become the father of many nations. It was a time when he didn't have any children at all. God's promise was not one child. Descendants like the dust of the earth, like the stars in the sky! The promise is gigantic, God-size prophetic vision.

All started from God. God appeared to Abraham. And Abraham transformed from an idol worshipper to the father of many nations. Imagine Abraham praying to God; "God, you don't give me a child. Let my servant inherit all I have." How desperate is Abraham to have one son? Please! He is thinking, "Just give me one kid." And the Lord is saying, "I want to give you millions."

It is fascinating to me that most prophecies seem to come into our lives when we don't know what to expect. We don't know where we are. We don't know who we are. But it is the Lord saying, "I see the real you." So, I think God loves to give you such a big picture that you cannot handle right now. You cannot understand what it means at all. It is that big.

He loves to give us this vision of ourselves that we can't even connect with because we have a poverty mindset about ourselves. It is not about economics. It is about living with meager possibilities. It is about saying, "Well, this is who I am." You imagine yourself as a small box. You think 'this is who I am.'

God brings a far greater picture than we cannot imagine. God knows and sees the real us because He created us. God is saying, "I see you as being much bigger." God lives in the gap between our present and our future. And Jesus, as intercessor, stands in the gap between our present identity and our future destiny. And He prays into that space. The Bible says that Jesus is praying constantly for you. What is He praying? It is that you will get God's dream for you. "I am praying that you will partner with the Holy Spirit because He is the Spirit of disclosure."

The Holy Spirit guides and reveals your future destiny. Jesus is praying right now into the gap between who you think you are right now and who God knows you are in the future. We are created far greater than we think about ourselves.

God speaks to us prophetically about our future and then relates to us in the present through our future destiny. If you receive the vision of God, what is going to change in you if you do accept that?

When God called me with a name of a great musician, he continued to talk to me as a great musician from that point on. He will not talk to you in any other way. God has declared that I am a great musician. However, currently, I am nothing! It is like Abraham had no baby at all. Much work should be done to be a great musician. He will never talk to you less than that. How old am I? Very old, like you. Once God spoke to me as a great musician, I am a great musician to God.

There are no such things in the world; everything is incremental. But in the kingdom, it is the opposite. God gives you everything now and teaches you how to use it and how to fulfill it. You have already been given everything from God. You start to learn how to use the great talents given. What would you do if you were me? You should enter the music school again in that direction. And see how God works in my effort to take the destiny given to me?

Why don't you live from fullness, not toward it? He wants to move as fast as you want. He gives everything up front, so that you have got everything to work with rather than nothing. Our problem is, and many of us try to live the best life possible in Egypt. We see ourselves with a poverty mindset. In God, the world is completely different. The rules are completely different. It is like the rule of different sports. It is like a baseball and football game.

The world is entirely logical, and God is full of wisdom. However, don't expect God to be logical, reasonable, or rational. Instead, expect Him to be prophetic and wise, and you won't be disappointed. A quick look through the Bible reveals that God is unreasonable. He gave his son to save sinners and made our scarlet sin appear as white snow. It's not logical at all.

We need to cultivate a mindset that aligns with God's character by changing our language and perspective on life. As we evolve, we are walking into the future with our identity, while God walks from the future with our destiny, approaching us. And we are walking towards Him, and He is walking towards us.

He initiated the conversation, and you responded. Then, He responded to your response, and you responded to His response. You are always responding to what He is doing. He is always responding to what you are allowing and opening up. God wants us to fulfill our life as quickly as possible. The kingdom is always a green light until God turns it red.

It is your responsibility to keep going. Because everything is yes and amen in Christ. You might think, "I am in the advanced age." Still, there is time for 20, 30, or 40 years. God wants us to be like Caleb, who took a mountain in the age of 80. God wants us to be who we are created to be.