

The Faith of Abraham

Abraham was promised by God to be a father of many nations. One of Abraham's children would save the world from their sin. The serpent crusher would come from the line of Abraham. But Abraham had to trust God. Abraham had to believe in God's promises. Abraham, at the age of a 100 years old, was given his first child. The impossible happened. An elderly man with his elderly wife were gifted with a boy. The promise of a savior was still possible.

After giving Abraham the impossible, he asked Abraham to do the impossible. Genesis 22: 1-2 reads, "Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you."

This was the ultimate test. God asked Abraham to bring his son, the chosen one, to Mount Moriah and sacrifice him. Abraham had to trust in the promises of God. God had promised that through Isaac a nation would be born. Therefore, Isaac could not die. Abraham had to believe that God would keep his word.

Abraham brought his son up to the mountain. He prepared the altar and tied his son to it. With a knife in his hand, ready to strike, God called from the heavens and told him to stop. God provided a ram to sacrifice in place of his son.

Genesis 15: 6 reads, "Abram believed the LORD, and he reckoned it to him as righteousness." God is looking for loyalty. He is looking for you to trust him and his promises. Abraham trusted and submitted to the Lord. He put his entire belief on the Lord's promises. Abraham's works did not make him righteous, but it was his belief in the Lord that made him righteous.

Questions:

1. What were some promises that God had given to Abraham?
2. Why could Isaac not die?
3. What does and doesn't makes you righteous before God?
4. Where do you lack in faith? Are there things about God that you struggle to trust?