

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

CAN I TRUST GOD?

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PART 6: 40 YEAR FAITH JOURNEY

TYPICAL MAN

It took a long time for Abraham to trust God. Abraham was chosen by Jesus to start a family that would be used to usher in the Messiah. God knew that Abraham was flawed. He operated in great fear but was courageous at the same time. Jesus is in the business of shaping men and women to become godly vessels and He was patient with the man He selected. **Romans 8:26-31**

Abraham did not know what God was doing. His focus had been on Sarah, his bastard son, Lot, the people he employed, and the flocks of camels, cattle, sheep and other domestic animals. Abraham was a typical man who believed in God, but at the same time had no idea what God was doing; he was unaware if God had great plans. Abraham was an "everyday Joe" that wasn't spiritually minded. **Romans 8:5-9**

GETTING A VISIT FROM JESUS

Abraham was in possession of Enoch's writings, who knew there was God the Father and the Son of Man which we know as Jesus. Enoch had inherited Adam's written account of the creation and knew there was also a Spirit of God that we know as the Holy Spirit. **Genesis 1:1-2; 26-27**

Enoch wrote about how he had walked with the Son of Man on earth and was taken up to heaven. This is similar to what happened to the apostle John in the Book of Revelation.

When Jesus and two angels walked into his camp one day, Abraham knew right away that the three men were not humans. Abraham knew this was the Son of Man, who was part of the triune God. **Genesis 18:1-2**

Jesus was dealing with Abraham on his level of understanding, and when Abraham invited him to dinner, Jesus agreed, knowing that it would take a couple of hours to kill a calf, prepare, and cook it over a fire. **verses 3-5**

Abraham and his people lived in tents. The best accommodation he could offer Jesus was the shade of a tree while the meal was prepared. **verses 6-7**

JESUS HAD AN AGENDA

While eating the food, Jesus asked Abraham about Sarah. The custom was for the husband to have his own tent while the wife lived in another. Abraham told Jesus that Sarah was in her tent. **verse 9**

Jesus stated that Sarah was going to have a baby in the next nine months. Sarah was close enough to hear Jesus speaking and laughed to herself. Sarah was just as religious as Abraham and lied when Jesus pressed her about the laughter. She failed to understand that she was lying to the Creator. **verses 10-15**



ADVOCATE FOR THE INNOCENT

Jesus did not have to consult with Abraham about judging Sodom and Gomorrah. But Jesus wanted to involve Abraham and teach him, that Jesus did not look lightly on sin. It is important to note that Abraham addressed Jesus as the Judge of earth.

Abraham had a sense of justice and did not want good people to be killed with the bad. It was a bold move for Abraham to act like an attorney on behalf of the people in Sodom and Gomorrah. **verses 16-33**

ABRAHAM STILL DID NOT TRUST GOD

Abraham saw the smoke rising from Sodom and Gomorrah the next day and realized that Jesus had not found ten righteous men in the two cities. Abraham broke camp and started to travel south. He must have stopped close enough to visit Lot and his daughters, who told him what had happened when the angels came to Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham would have looked upon the plain, seen the destruction of rocks that had melted, and how there was no trace of buildings or people. He would have realized just how much power Jesus had. **Genesis 20:1**

Abraham arrived at the kingdom of Abimelech. He still did not trust God to protect him and lied again that Sarah was his sister. **verse 2**

Jesus shielded Abraham and Sarah again when He came in a dream to Abimelech and warned him not to touch Sarah. **verses 3-7**

Abimelech confronted God's deceitful prophet the next morning and strongly scolded him. **verses 8-10**

Abraham confessed he was scared since Abimelech and people worshiped idols. He felt they would have no qualms about killing him for his beautiful wife. Abraham knew that Jesus had power, but he did not believe that Jesus cared for him as a person. **verses 11-13**

Even though he was an idol worshiper, Abimelech had more faith in Jesus than Abraham. He provided gifts to Abraham, who in turn prayed for the king and his people, and Jesus healed them all. **verses 14-18**

ABRAHAM'S LIBIDO

Even though Sarah was 89 years old, Abimelech thought she was so beautiful that he took her to the palace for sex.

I believe that Abraham and Sarah made love regularly after the birth of Isaac until her death 37 years later given the fact that Abraham remarried and had other women in his life. **Genesis 23:1-2**

Abraham was at least 137 years old when he married Keturah, who provided him with six boys. **Genesis 25:1-2**

Abraham must have had a strong libido because he also impregnated his female slaves. **verse 6**

ISAAC FINALLY ARRIVES

A year after Jesus and the two angels had dinner with Abraham, Sarah gave birth to Isaac, whose name means “laughter.” **Genesis 21:1-8**

The birth of Isaac created a huge conflict between Sarah and Hagar. Sarah wanted Hagar and Ishmael driven into the wilderness to die. **verses 9-14**

SUMMARY

It took 40 years for Jesus to bring Abraham to the place that he implicitly trusted God. What about you? How much do you trust in the Lord? **Proverbs 3:5-8**

Seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all things will be added unto you. **Matthew 6:33-34; 1 John 1:9**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?