

Children of Abraham By Faith

Promise: By faith we inherit the kingdom promised to Abraham's offspring

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-8, 13-27; John 3:1-17
(Second Sunday in Lent, 3/8/20)

Now the LORD said to Abram, ... in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed. – v. 1a, 3c

Lead In – If I told you I knew where some buried treasure is, would you be interested? Would you be able to keep it a secret? What if I told you the spot of the hidden treasure is well marked and in plain view? I know not only where the treasure is hidden, but where it is also unearthed, revealed, and taken hold of. But what if I also told you that even though I could point you to these locations, they might as well be hidden and secret, because even though they are in plain view many are not able to see it...

I. One Way to Think of The Old and New Testaments

- A. The OT is the NT concealed, and NT is the OT...
- B. So if the NT reveals the OT, why do we need?...
- C. Care is taken to set appropriate table for a feast...

II. The LORD Sets Elaborate Table for Our Salvation

- A. Our father, Adam, soiled the human race...
- B. God's plan to redeem starts with a call...
- C. Abram is not sinless, but called he believes...

III. The Treasure Buried in Genesis 12 And 17

- A. That Abraham's seed would get it done...
- B. The inheritance belongs to the seed of Abe...
- C. Abram's chosen race, Abraham's children...

Parting Shot – The treasure is nothing less than the inheritance of God's Kingdom, the consummation of a new heaven and earth. It is buried all over the OT! It is hidden in the Seed of the Woman, the seed of Abraham, the future king of the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the ideal kingly son of David, and the glorious Son of Man figure of Daniel – to mention a few. But it is unearthed, revealed, and taken hold of in God's sending of his only Son, that whoever...

Rom 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—

Gen 3:24 He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

Gen 4:8 Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.

Gen 6:11 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence.

Gen 11:8 So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city.

Genesis 12:1-3, 7a ESV

The Call of Abram

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ... ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land."

Genesis 17:1-5, 8 ESV

God's Promise to Abraham

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, ²that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." ³Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴"Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ... ⁸And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God."

Gen 15:6 And [Abram] believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness. (cf Ro 4:2-3)

But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and kept me in true faith. - Luther

Gal 3:16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ.

Rom 4:13 For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

Abram – exalted father. Abraham – father of a multitude.

Gal 3:7 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.

Gal 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

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