

“Father Abraham Had Many Sons”
Bible Stories, Pt. 6: Genesis 12:1-3, etc.

I. Abraham the Promised

- A. The Lord promised to make Abraham a great nation.

Genesis 15:5 - And He took him outside and said, “Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”

- B. The Lord promised to bless all nations with salvation through Abraham. (Gen. 12:2; 22:18)
- C. These promises were miraculous due to Abraham’s and Sarah’s advanced ages.
- D. These divine promises took the form of a gracious covenant.

II. Abraham the Imperfect

- A. Abraham fearfully hands his wife over to a foreign ruler, twice!
- B. Abraham and Sarah conspire to manipulate God’s promises.

III. Abraham the Righteous (by faith)

Genesis 15:5–6 - ⁵ And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Romans 4:1–5 - ¹ What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” ⁴ Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵ And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,

- A. Abraham remained imperfect his whole life.
- B. Yet due to his faith in God’s promises, he was counted righteous.

IV. Abraham the Faithful

- A. Abraham’s growing faithfulness is seen in his willingness of offer up Isaac to God.
- B. The Lord had strengthened Abraham’s faith to trust Him even for resurrection.

Hebrews 11:17–19 - ¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ¹⁹ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

V. Abraham the Father of Spiritual Multitude

Galatians 3:5–9 - ⁵ Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith—⁶ just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? ⁷ Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” ⁹ So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

- A. Believers in Jesus are the many children promised to Abraham, regardless of their ethnic descent.
- B. Those who share the faith of Abraham are saved along with him.
- C. All this is because of Abraham’s greatest Son, the Lord Jesus.