**Examining the Faith of Abraham**

Nathan’s recent sermon of one of our heroes, Abraham, triggered some thoughts about Abraham’s faith that I thought I would share with you.

1. His faith is one that predates the OT law by 430 years (**Galatians 3:15-18, Hebrews 7:4-10**)

2. His faith was based on something not seen (**Genesis 12:1-5, Hebrews 11:8-10**).

3. His faith and life was one of sacrifice for the Lord (**Genesis 12:8, 13:18, 18:1, Hebrews 11:9-10**). We can talk about leaving your homeland and being willing to sacrifice your only begotten son. But if we focus on living in tents as a sacrifice for the Lord, we have something we can relate to if you have ever gone camping. No one I know would like to live for three generations in tents. But that is what is indicated here. Do you think Abraham was looking forward to actually living in a city; in a house; with a foundation? This is just one way in which Abraham sacrifices by giving up something important to him in order to obey the Lord.

4. His faith did not earn his salvation (**Romans 4:1-4, Titus 3:4-7, James 2:21-24**). His works justified and were credited (accounted, counted) to him, but did not replace the gift, mercy, and salvation of Jesus.

5. His faith was a Bible faith of works of righteousness (doing what is right); and eager to do those good works (**James 2:21-24, Hebrews 11:17-19, Acts 10:34-35, Titus 2:11-14**).

6. Abraham is the father of all (i.e., Jew and Gentile) the faithful (**Romans 4:9-12**). Because of his faith, we actually received credit (or it was credited to or accounted to us all)! A powerful passage! Notice also **Galatians 3:7-9**.

**Close** - **Galatians 3:26-29**

**Have you put on Jesus in baptism?** If not, you are not of the seed of faithful Abraham and an heir of the promises of Jesus.

**If you are a Christian this morning, are you living a life of faith like Abraham? Realizing each day that God rewards those who diligently seek Him** (**Hebrews 11:6**). This is a faith that is not half-hearted; not just some of the time; but rather a faith of diligently living each day for God! A daily walk with Jesus, being led by the Holy Spirit, and bringing glory to God.

We all need to be living active lives of faith. Not just saying the right things, but actually doing the good deeds to back up those words of truth. It is easy to say the right words, but more difficult to actually walk the talk (**Romans 15:18, Colossians 3:17, 1 John 3:18**)! **There is a difference between going to church and living your life each day for the Lord. I think we know which type of person Abraham would be.**

**How about you this morning?**

If we can help you now, please come forward and make your wishes known while we stand and sing.