

Some Thoughts on Abraham

1. God called Abram *alone* out of Ur. **GEN 12:1; ISA 51:2.**
 - A. Prior to his calling, Abram was an idolater as were his family. **JOS 24:2, 14-15.**
 - B. His father, Terah, took the family out of Ur because of what God *had said* to Abram. **GEN 12:1 c/w GEN 11:31 c/w ACT 7:2-3.**
 - C. Blessed is that man whose calling from God motivates those around him in spite of their natural opposition. c/w **MAT 13:55-57.**
 - D. Mind that God called Abram, not the other family members. Over time, Terah died (**GEN 11:32**), and Lot separated from him, at which time God increased His work with Abram. **GEN 13:14-16.**
2. God promised to bless Abram and make his name great. **GEN 12:2.**
 - A. Abraham is honored by Christians, Jews and Muslims.
 - B. About 32.4% of the world is Christian, 17.1% Muslim, 0.4% Jewish (1996 world census).
 - C. Almost half (49.9%) of the world's population consider Abraham great. God is indeed faithful.
3. God also promised to make Abram a blessing. **GEN 12:2.**
 - A. As the Biblical record and history show, his life and example bless believers to this day.
 - B. From his natural posterity, the Jews, came the Bible, the church, and the Christ, the chief blessings of mankind. **JOH 4:22; ROM 9:3-5.**
4. God also promised to bless all the families of the earth in him. **GEN 12:3.**
 - A. (**GAL 3:8**) And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.
 - B. This promise to Abram is the gospel.
 - C. The blessing is justification through the faith of Jesus Christ. **GAL 2:16.**
 - D. If one is a believer, he IS BLESSED, that is, he is justified by the faith of Christ. **GAL 3:13-14 c/w ACT 13:39; ROM 3:21-22.**
 - E. This blessing that would be extended to the heathen was promised to Abram while he was a heathen!
5. Abraham is our father if we walk in the steps of his faith. **ROM 4:11-12.**
6. Abraham's faith is recorded for our sakes that righteousness might be *imputed* to us if we believe God. **ROM 4:22-24.**
7. If we believe "even as" Abraham, then we are his children and blessed with him. **GAL 3:5-7, 9.**
8. If we do the works of Abraham, then we are the children of Abraham. **JOH 8:39.**
9. Since Jesus Christ represented the seed of Abraham, it is of utmost importance that we be Abraham's children. **HEB 2:16.**
10. Abraham is so much the archetype of a child of God that heaven is called "Abraham's bosom" (**LUK 16:22**).
 - A. He was chosen (**NEH 9:7-8**). Mind that God's election is mentioned BEFORE Abram's faith. c/w **2TH 2:13.**
 - B. He was redeemed. **ISA 29:22.**
 - C. He was called. **ISA 51:2.**
 - D. He was justified. **ROM 4:2-5.**
 - E. Thus, he is the archetype of a child of God.

11. We are commanded to follow those who through faith and patience inherit the promises, Abraham being an example of such. **HEB 6:10-15.**
12. Those who seek the Lord are called upon to look to Abraham for comfort. **ISA 51:1-3.**
13. Abraham's faith is essentially N.T. faith in God, His Christ, His promises and heavenly things.
 - A. He believed the declarations of the Word as being those of Jehovah.
GEN 15:1-6 c/w JOH 1:1, 14; 14:1.
 - B. What God preached to Abraham, and what Abraham believed, was the gospel.
GAL 3:8.
 - C. He believed that God would justify men through faith. **GAL 3:8.**
 - D. He knew that circumcision was an inferior evidence of righteousness compared to faith.
ROM 4:3, 9-11.
 - E. He therefore also knew that circumcision availed nothing to make one righteous.
GAL 6:15.
 - F. He rejoiced in Christ and had no confidence in the flesh. **JOH 8:56 c/w PHIL 3:3.**
 - G. Like us, he was called to forsake family, friends and lands for Christ, and he did so.
MAR 10:29-30.
 - H. Abraham obediently left Ur by faith (**HEB 11:8**) without sight of the land that God would show him (**GEN 12:1-3**). This is our calling also. **2CO 5:7.**
 - I. He reckoned his inheritance to be by virtue of God's power and promise, not by the law. **GAL 3:17-18.**
 - J. He understood God's promised inheritance to be heavenly, not earthly.
ACT 7:5 c/w HEB 11:9-10, 15-16.
 - K. His hope was in the power of God to resurrect the dead.
HEB 11:17-19 c/w ACT 24:14-15; 26:6-8.
 - L. He did not rely on his monotheism but also proved his faith and showed himself just with works. **JAM 2:19-22.**
 - M. His obedience of faith identified him as God's friend. **JAM 2:23 c/w JOH 14:1; 15:14.**
 - N. In other words, the religion/faith of Abraham was Christianity!
 - O. Those who have THAT kind of faith show themselves to be just and are blessed with faithful Abraham, their faith likewise being *counted for* righteousness.
GAL 3:9 c/w ROM 4:23-25.