The Gospel Preached to Abraham
Lesson 4
Genesis 12:1-9; 15:1-21; Galatians 3:8

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
June 23, 2019
The Gospel Preached to Abraham

- **The Gospel:**
  - Good news of the salvation of God through Jesus Christ
  - The power of God for salvation (Romans 1:16)
  - The duty and privilege of the believer to proclaim

- **Salvation:**
  - The work of God in the individual to bring them eternal life (Philippians 1:6)
  - New Birth - Faith - Justification - Sanctification - Resurrection - Glorification

- **The Message of the Gospel**
  - Sin and the wrath of God (Genesis 6:5; 8:21)
  - Jesus Christ, the Son of God and only Savior (John 20:30-31)
  - Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:31)
The Gospel in the Old Testament

- The good news for Adam and Eve’s children
  - Sin, unbelief, disobedience
  - God exists - omnipotent, omniscient, angry
  - God is good - wrath deferred, protevangelium, clothing from animal skins
  - The Tree of Life remains
  - Call upon the Name of the LORD

- The good news for Noah’s grandchildren
  - Sin – the evil intent of the heart - destined for wrath
  - God exists - omnipotent, omniscient, righteous, angry with the unrighteous
  - God is good - gracious, protevangelium, longsuffering
  - God is the Savior - the ark and the Everlasting Covenant
  - Call upon the Name of the LORD
The Gospel in the Old Testament

- Five Biblical Covenants
  - Covenant with Noah (Genesis 9)
  - Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12, 15)
  - Covenant with Israel through Moses (Exodus 19, 24)
  - Covenant with David (2 Samuel 7; 1 Chronicles 17)
  - New Covenant (Jeremiah 31)

- The blood of the Everlasting Covenant (Hebrews 13:20-21)
- The Mosaic Covenant is temporary and conditional (Galatians 3:17, 24)
- The 4 Divine Covenants are Promises re: salvation (Galatians 3:15-17)
God’s Covenant With Abraham
Genesis 12:1-3

- Go forth from your country, and from your relatives, and from your father’s house, to a land which I will show you.
  - I will make you a great nation.
  - I will bless you and make your name great.
- Be a blessing.
  - I will bless those who bless you.
  - I will curse those who curse you.
- All families of the earth will be blessed in you.
God’s Covenant With Abraham

➢ Go forth from your country, and from your relatives, and from your father’s house, to a land which I will show you.
   ▶ I will make you a great nation.
   ▶ I will bless you and make your name great.

➢ Be a blessing.
   ▶ I will bless those who bless you.
   ▶ I will curse those who curse you.

➢ All families of the earth will be blessed in you.

➢ To your descendants (literally - seed) I will give this land (12:7)
   ▶ Plural - descendants (15:5)
   ▶ Singular - Descendant (3:15; Galatians 3:16)
The Just Shall Live By Faith

Genesis 15

- Hebrews 11:8-19 – Abraham, a life of faith from his call to his death
- Genesis 15 shows the life of faith from justification to death
- Heb 11:1 defines faith: assurance/confidence in things hoped for but unseen
- Heb 11:2 states that approval with God requires faith
- Heb 11:6 how saving faith operates: belief that God is and He rewards seekers
- Ephesians 2:8-10 says that saving faith is a gift from God – by the new birth
Abraham’s Faith - Genesis 15:1-6

- “After these things . . .” (Genesis 12:10-14:24)
- The word of the LORD came to Abraham (15:1, 4)
  - Faith come by hearing the Word of the LORD (Romans 10:17)
  - Do not fear
  - I am a shield to you
  - Your reward shall be very great
- Abraham asks about the reward – the promise – the seed
- The LORD responds with an picture – “Count the stars”
Abraham’s Faith - Genesis 15:1-6

» Abraham believed in the LORD and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.
» What did Abraham believe?
» The Word of God – the Promise for himself as well as the nations
» What did Abraham receive by faith?
» The blessing is righteousness (15:6; Psalm 24:5-6)
» His faith in the Word of God was evidenced by his faith in the ways of God
Abraham’s Faith - Genesis 15:7-21

- The land promise re-affirmed by the LORD (15:7)
- Abraham asks how he will know this will happen
- The LORD answers by a strange ritual
- In context, this is not a “covenant ritual” but an answer to Abraham
- It is a lesson on the life of faith
Abraham’s Faith - Genesis 15:7-21

- 5 dead animals brought to the LORD – no altar
- 3 large animals cut in half and laid side by side with the 2 birds
- Abraham protected the carcasses from the birds of prey
- Abraham slept in the terror of a great darkness
- God proclaimed the future of Abraham’s descendants in the land
  - Enslaved and oppressed 400 years out of the land
  - Deliverance by judgment with many possessions
- The death of Abraham
- Return to the land after the fulness of the sin of the Amorites
- Darkness
- The smoking oven and flaming torched passed between the pieces
Abraham’s Faith - Genesis 15:7-21

- A concluding restatement of the great nation part of the Covenant
- The land described by the current inhabitants – 10 nations
- This Covenant revealed to be “everlasting” in Genesis 17
The Gospel Preached to Abraham

- Galatians 3:8 – all nations to be blessed through Abraham
- The Everlasting Covenant secured by Christ
- The just shall live by faith