

All You Need To Know About: **ABRAHAM**

Who was Abraham?

- ⇒ Abraham is mentioned prominently as a man of faith
- ⇒ Son of Terah and Brother of Nahor and Haran. [Genesis 11:27](#)
- ⇒ **Abram's** wife was Sarai [Genesis 11:29](#)
- ⇒ Moved from Ur to Haran. [Genesis 11:31](#)
 - * Initially he was set to move to Canaan but when Abram and his family reached Haran they settled there.
- ⇒ He was called on by the Father to: Leave his country, his people and his father's household to go to the land that the Father will show him.
- ⇒ The Father goes on to say: I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. [Genesis 12:1-3](#)
- ⇒ Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran [Genesis 12:4](#)
- ⇒ The Covenant: In Chapter 15 God had made important promises to Abraham regarding his descendants. The problem was, Abraham didn't yet have any descendants. Sarah was barren, and she and Abraham were well past the age they could expect to have children. Instead of waiting in faith, Abraham and Sarah took matters into their own hands (Genesis 16:1-4). Their impatience produced much unhappiness for Abraham. Sarah and her maid, Hagar
- ⇒ When Abram was **ninety-nine** years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty walk before me and be blameless. I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers. As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. [Genesis 17:1-4](#)
- ⇒ God also gave Abram and Sarai new names, Abraham and Sarah, to mark their entry into this new covenant
- ⇒ He also promises to bring them a son, In which Abraham laughs [Genesis 17:16](#)

When was he first mentioned in the Bible?

He was first mentioned in the Bible in [Genesis 11:26](#) as Abram...and later to be changed to Abraham in [Genesis 17:5](#)

How does he fit into the history of redemption?

Abraham fits into the history of redemption with the following testament: God said to him, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about." [Genesis 22:2](#)

Abraham did not hesitate. He took Isaac and set out for the land of Moriah. He gathered firewood. He built an altar and placed the wood on it. He tied up Isaac and placed him on the altar. He took his knife and lifted it up to kill his son as a sacrifice to God. Only to be stopped by an Angel of God saying "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son." [Genesis 22:12](#)

What did he do right?

The greatest action he did right was to Sacrifice his only Son by Sarah to GOD...He also gave up the fruitful land to his Nephew Lot....along with many other great deeds in the book of Genesis

What did he do wrong and how did God deal with it?

His wrongs include....Having a baby with their servant Hagar and not listening to Gods promise that he would bring Him and Sarah a son. The punishment of this was great strife between Hagar and Sarah...causing Sarah to chase her and her son out of town

What did God do when Abraham succeeded in faith?

When Abraham followed Gods commands in faith, God made countless promises to him...for example when Abraham following his command to sacrifice his son only to be stopped by him...God gave his the following promise:

"...I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

[Genesis 22:16-18](#)

In Conclusion:

A life spent learning to obey God is like a journey, with a starting point, a route and a destination. For Abraham that journey began when he left his home to travel wherever God would lead him. He could not always know what route the journey to trust in God to direct his steps.

Eventually, every human being will make this journey. Perhaps, even now, you are taking your first steps along the route that will lead you toward eternal life in the kingdom of God. Your journey may not be as eventful as Abraham's but you can be sure there will be tests and trials, ups and downs, successes and failures along the way. We can all be encouraged by these examples from the life of the father of the faithful.

One does not learn to live by faith all at once. It doesn't come naturally. You must learn, and, as you learn, you make mistakes. But those mistakes need not cut you off from God. He is a patient, compassionate and merciful teacher. Like all good teachers, he does not expect his students to fail. He will work with you, encourage you, and, yes, sometimes allow you to be tried and tested, "that your faith...may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed" (1 Peter 1:7). Indeed God says, "My righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him" (Hebrews 10:38).

But for those who do follow God in faith, there is the absolute promise

from Jesus Christ: "**Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you**" (Hebrews 13:5).

Something I thought was pretty interesting:

The [near sacrifice of Isaac](#) is one of the most challenging, and perhaps [ethically](#) troublesome, parts of the Bible. According to Josephus, Isaac was 25 years old at the time of the sacrifice or *Akedah*, while the [Talmudic](#) sages teach that Isaac was 37. In either case, Isaac was a fully grown man, old enough to prevent the elderly Abraham (who was 125 or 137 years old) from tying him up had he wanted to resist. The narrative now turns to Isaac. To his "only son" (22:2, 12) Abraham gave all he had, and dismissed his other sons, as Abraham himself had been dismissed by Terah after Terah had given his territory to Nahor.

In Christian theology this event is sometimes interpreted as a foreshadowing of the crucifixion of Jesus, where Abraham is represented as God, and [Isaac](#) as [Jesus Christ](#). Key elements from the stories given as symbols of this foreshadowing include: Both of their births were believed to be miraculous (Isaac to a woman who was far too old to have children, Jesus to a virgin). According to scripture Abraham was told by God that he would be the father of many nations, and in the Christian faith God is seen as the father of all people. In both stories Jesus and Isaac had the wood laid upon their backs and were forced to carry it up to the hills where they were to be sacrificed. Although according to scripture Abraham had fathered a son previously, namely Ishmael with Hagar, Isaac was the only son of Abraham through [Sarah](#), as Jesus was the "only begotten son" of God (see John 3:16)(Isaac is also referred to as "his [Abraham's] only begotten son" in Hebrews 11:17). They both made their way up hills to be sacrificed (Isaac up Moriah, and Jesus to [Golgotha](#), which may be located on the same hill, but with Golgotha on the North end). The exact location referred to is currently a matter of some debate. They both were laid on the wood alive, and it was allegedly voluntary on both their parts (this theory would explain why Isaac, possibly a full grown man at the time would not have resisted when his father tied him down). The difference in the stories comes when Abraham was stopped from sacrificing his son, and God provided an alternative to Isaac. For Jesus, there was no "ram caught in the thicket" (Gen. 22:13) and the "sacrifice" was carried out to completion

