

L6 THE PROMISE OF A SON

Gen.12:1-5, 15:1-6,17:15-19, 21:1-7, 22:1-18

Overview

From among Noah's three sons, Shem had a family line that would eventually lead to the birth of the Savior of the world. Abram had waited for many years to have a child. He finally had Isaac when he was 100 years old. It was a miracle! The story of Abraham teaches us about faith. We need to believe God and endure the process of waiting upon His promises even when situations seem hopeless.

The Genealogy of Shem

From among Noah's three sons, Shem had a family line that would eventually lead to the birth of the Savior of the world.

1. **Shem** had a son named Arphaxad.
2. **Arphaxad** had a son called Selah.
3. **Selah** had a son named Eber.
4. **Eber** had a son named Peleg.
5. **Peleg** had a son named Reu.
6. **Reu** had a son named Serug.
7. **Serug** had a son named Nahor.
8. **Nahor** had a son named Terah.
9. **Terah** had a son named Abram.

Abram could not have a child. He prayed to God to give him a child but many years passed without seeing the answer to his prayer. He grew up to be an old man and his wife Sarah was old too but they still believed that God would one day give them a son. One day Abram heard the voice of God. The voice said, "*I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward*" (Gen.15:1). Abram took this opportunity to ask God why he could not have a child. "*Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless..?...Behold, to me thou hast given no seed*" (v.2-3). God answered Abram saying, "*Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be*" (v.5).

Abram believed God. Yes, he was old and his wife was old too but they believed that God was all-powerful and he could do a miracle for them. The promise of God took long to get fulfilled but Abram did not doubt God. God was pleased with Abram's faith. God changed the name of Abram to *Abraham*, which means "Father of many nations". God also changed the name of his wife from Sarai to Sarah, meaning "Princess" or "Noble woman".

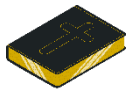
A Son for Abram is Born

Genesis 21:1-7

At last the miracle happened! Abram was 100 years old and his wife was 90 years old when their child was born. They called his name Isaac. The name Isaac means "laughter"; when Abram was a hundred years old and Isaac was not yet born, he had once laughed at how it would be possible for a hundred year old man to have a child.

When Isaac grew up he married Rebecca. Isaac and Rebecca had two children, Esau and Jacob. The favour of God was upon Jacob. God blessed Jacob and changed his name to Israel.

Memory Verse



Genesis 15:6

"And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness".

Activity

1. From among the three sons of Noah who was the ancestor of Shem?
2. What was God's promise to Abraham for which he waited for a longtime?
3. How old was Abram when Isaac was born?
4. Why was God pleased with Abraham?
5. What does the name Abraham mean?

Reflection

The story of Abraham is a story of faith. Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as "*the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen*". What do you learn from the story of Abraham and how can you apply it to experiences in your life?

Song (Db)

There are two roads you may take
One by sight, one by faith
Take the Word of God or what you see,
What you believe is what will be.

*Set your wings to the winds of faith
You can fly in a higher place.
Do not struggle, it's by grace.
Set your wings to the winds of faith*

What's your need, what's your cry,
What's your mountain much too high.
Speak the Word of God, and by and by,
It will move or you will fly.
Watch the eagle in the sky,
He does not struggle, he does not strive.
For the power that makes him rise,
is already in the sky.