

## Sermon Notes – December 3, 2023

### God's Promise Remembered

- ⇒ **Genesis 50:24** *"God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham."* Joseph, remembering God's promise to Abraham, placed strong confidence in it.
- ⇒ **Exodus 2:23–25** *"And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham."* God does not \_\_\_\_\_ his words and his promises. He saw the plight of Abraham's descendants and acted. God's faithfulness kept the promise of land, descendants and blessing alive.
- ⇒ **Exodus 3:15** *"The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations."* God wants us to remember him by his actions towards Abraham and his descendants. Therefore, the story of Abraham is essential to knowing God.
- ⇒ **Matthew 1:1** *"The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham."* Matthew begins the New Testament by presenting Abraham as the father of Jesus by many generations of God's faithfulness. It is in Jesus that \_\_\_\_\_ the families of the world are blessed.

### God's Promise Does Not Change

- ⇒ Paul recalls God's promise of blessing to Abraham and his descendants and declares this to be the gospel or "good news" (Galatians 3:8). The book of Galatians is a defense of the true gospel. Paul is not messing around. God's reputation and promise to Abraham is the message Paul is proclaiming.
- ⇒ God's promise to Abraham is not replaced or undone by the Law or by failure of mankind to keep the Law. Paul's point is that the Law came \_\_\_\_\_ the promise to Abraham. Therefore, it is God's promise to Abraham that is foundational to our relationship with God.

### Responding to God's Word

- ⇒ God is a promise-keeping God. He made a promise and fulfilled it by preserving and preparing his chosen people for 4000 years. God's word can be trusted. When God chooses to work with mankind, he is unstoppable.

**Worship Next Sunday: December 10, 2023**

**Advent #2: "God's Promises Stretch Our Faith"**

(Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-6) Pastor Jay Mosser

Answer Key: • afraid • forget • all • after

### Welcome to the Season of Advent:

- ⇒ Advent is the time when we celebrate the coming of Jesus. Traditionally this takes place on the four Sundays before Christmas. Each week focuses on a different part of the story of Jesus's birth.
- ⇒ Here at Sunset Bible church we take the season of Advent to reflect on the story of God's interaction with man. Over the course of seven years we look at seven different mountaintops of God's work among us. These are Abraham, Ruth, David, the Exile, the Birth of Christ, the Church Age, and Heaven.
- ⇒ This year we begin the story again with Abraham. God's intervention in the history of mankind after creation, the fall, and the flood takes a personal and relational turn. God chooses an unlikely man and makes him a promise that will bless the whole world.

### Today's Text: Genesis 12:1-3

A promise kept is something to celebrate. Men and women who keep their promises at work and at home gain a reputation that cannot be purchased. Yet the world is full of broken promises. We all wish certainty and trust could be purchased. Some people say that Christians cope with this by turning to God as a crutch. But the testimony of the Bible is that we can turn to God because he is a rock, a trustworthy foundation for hope. **God Keeps ALL His Promises.**

### God's Promise to Abraham

- ⇒ Abraham comes from a family that worships idols. His brother marries his niece. Abraham himself is not the most upstanding man. Yet God makes a promise to him. God is not \_\_\_\_\_ of working in your life either.
- ⇒ **Land.** God will give Abraham and his descendants a land.
- ⇒ **Descendants.** God will make his family grow into a great nation.
- ⇒ **Blessing.** God will bless Abraham in such a way that the whole earth is blessed.

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