

GOD MAKES BIG PROMISES TO ABRAHAM (review)**Genesis 11:29-12:7 & 13:16**

11:29 Abraham's wife was named Sarah. 30 But Sarah was childless – she could not have children.

12:1 Creator God said to Abraham, “Leave your country – leave your people – leave your close relatives. Go to another land that I will show you. 2 I will make you into a great nation of people. And I will bless you. I will make your name great. And you will be a blessing – 3 through you, I will bless all the peoples in the world.”

4 So Abraham left his country, people, and close relatives – Abraham obeyed God. Abraham was 75 years old when he left (and Sarah was 65). 5 And Abraham went to Canaan. 13:14 Creator God said to Abraham, 15 “I give Canaan to you – and I give Canaan to your descendants. 16 I will make your descendants like the dust on the ground. No one can count the dust – so no one will be able to count your descendants.”

ABRAHAM BELIEVES GOD – SO GOD SAYS: ABRAHAM IS GOOD**Genesis 15:2-6**

15:2 But Abraham said to God, “What can you give me? I have no children – I have no heir. So my servant will inherit everything I have – my servant will get everything you give me. 3 You have given me no children. So my servant will be my heir.”

4 Then God said to Abraham, “Your servant will not be your heir. You will have a son – and your son will be your heir.” 5 God took Abraham outside (at night) – and God said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars – if you can count them! Your descendants will be as many as the stars.”

6 Abraham believed God. So God decided: Abraham's faith is goodness – God looked at Abraham's faith, and God gave Abraham goodness.

Option #2 = Believe God & God Makes You Good (and You Live Forever)

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ABRAHAM'S DESCENDANTS?**Genesis 15:7, 13-18**

7 Creator God said to Abraham, “I brought you to Canaan – and I give Canaan to you.

13 “(But first) your descendants will go to another country – they will be strangers in that country. For 400 years that country will treat your descendants badly – and your descendants will become slaves. 14 But I will punish that country. And your descendants will come out of that country – and your descendants will be very rich.

16 “Then your descendants will come back to Canaan – and I will give Canaan to your descendants. But you cannot have Canaan now – because the Canaanites are not bad enough yet. The Canaanites must sin much more – then I will give Canaan to your descendants.

18 God made this promise to Abraham, “I give Canaan to your descendants – I give them the land from the Euphrates River to the Wadi of Egypt.”

CONTENT QUESTIONS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was Sarah's **problem**? (Genesis 11:30)

Sarah & Abraham could not have children. How do you think they felt about it?

- How old were Abraham and Sarah? (Genesis 12:4)

Do you think they **still** had **hope**? Did they think: We can have children?

- What did God promise Abraham about Abraham's descendants? (Genesis 13:16)

- But what did Abraham say to God? (Genesis 15:2)

- When Abraham **dies**, who will inherit everything? (verses 2-3)

- So what did God promise Abraham? (verse 4)

- What did God show Abraham? (verse 5)

Have you **seen** the **Milky Way**?

Can you count the stars?

How do you think Abraham felt when he saw the Milky Way?

- What did Abraham do? (verse 6)

- So what did God do? (verse 6)

Why is this one of the most important verses in the Bible?

Is this Option #1?

Always do good – and you will live forever?

Or is this Option #2?

Believe God – and God will make you good – and you will live forever?

1What did Abraham learn about Option #1 and Option #2? 3The Bible says, “Abraham believed God. So God decided: Abraham’s faith is goodness – (this goodness is a **gift” – this is Option #2). 4But when a man **works** at a company, his **salary** is not a gift. The company must **pay** the man his salary – (this is Option #1). 5But (in Option #2) a man does not work – he does not work **hard** to be good – the man **just trusts** God. The man believes God who says to sinners: You are **clean**. And God looks at the man’s faith – and God gives the man goodness.**

Romans 4:1-5

Option #2 = Believe God (have faith in God) —> God makes you good

For example, it is like your bank account:

- You have no money – you have no job – and you are very sick.
And you owe 1 million dollars to the bank!
You are in big trouble.
- But you believe that the bank owner is a very kind person.
So you say to him, “Please help me.”
And the bank owner answers, “Because you asked me, I will give you
1 billion dollars – your request is worth 1 billion dollars.”
- So the bank owner cancels your 1-million-dollar debt –
and the bank owner puts 1 billion dollars into your account.
- Then the bank owner counts your money – and you have 1 billion dollars!

God counts our faith and says: You are good!

Where does our goodness come from?

It is not our goodness! We are not good!

8 You cannot save yourself. God’s wonderful love saves you – it is God’s gift to you. And you receive God’s gift by faith – by believing in Jesus.

9 You cannot make yourself good – you cannot work to be saved. So no one can boast – no one can say to God: I am good. Ephesians 2:8-9

Why?

Jesus Christ is our goodness.

1 Corinthians 1:30

- When will God give Canaan to Abraham’s descendants? (Genesis 15:13-16)
- Why will Abraham’s descendants have to wait more than 400 years (about 600 years total)?
(verse 16)

Was God kind to the Canaanites?

How quickly should God punish bad things that people do?

Do you think that 600 years is too long or too short?

Do you want God to punish very bad people quickly?

Do you want God to punish you quickly?!

Sometimes we must wait a long time to receive God’s promises:

Abraham’s descendants waited 600 years to receive God’s promise.

We have been waiting 2000 years for Jesus to come back to earth.

Why do you think God sometimes waits a long time to punish people?

Why does God sometimes wait a long time to keep his promises?

Some people think that God is slow to keep his promises. But God is not slow to keep his promises. No. God is patient with you. God does not want anyone to die forever. God wants everyone to repent.

2 Peter 3:9

Do you understand? – God's kindness leads you to repent.

Romans 2:4

make - made - made	造る、作る、させる
promise	約束する、約束
Abraham	アブラハム（イスラエルの父・信仰の父）（元の名前はアブラム）
Sarah	サラ（アブラハムの妻）
childless	子供がいない
can - could	できる
leave - left - left	離れる、去る、出かける、出ていく、出る、残す、残る
country	国
people (1 person / 2 people)	人々
close / closer / closest	近い・より近い・最も近い、親しい（関係）
relative	親戚
another	別の、他の、もう一人、もう一つ
land	地、土地、陸地
show - showed - shown	見せる、表す、示す
great / greater / greatest	偉大・より偉大・最も偉大、素晴らしい・より素晴らしい・最も素晴らしい
nation	民族、国
bless	祝福する
blessing	祝福
through	を通して
peoples	氏族、民族
world	世、世界
so	だから、それで、それに従って、そのためには、そんなに
obey	従う
when	その時、という時に、いつ
Canaan	カナン（地方）、（現代イスラエル辺り）
give - gave - given	上げる、下さる、与える、差し上げる
descendant	子孫
like	のように、に似てる、似る

dust	塵
ground	地面、地、土
no one	誰も
can	できる
count	数える、みなす、計算する
no one will be able to	誰もできない（未来形）
say - said - said	言う、話す
good - better - best	良い・より良い・最も良い、正しい
but	しかし
what	何、何と
heir	跡継ぎ
servant	しもべ、召し使い、従者、僕
inherit	(跡を) 継ぐ、受け継ぐ
everything	すべて、全部
get - got - gotten	受ける、もらう、得る、になる
then	そして、その場合、その時、そしたら
outside	外
night	夜
look	見よ、(わざと) 見る
sky	空
star	星
if	もし
as many as	それほどの数
believe	信じる
decide	決める、決定する
faith (faith = believing, believing in God, believing in Jesus)	信仰 （信仰＝信じること、神様を信じること、キリストを信じること）
goodness	良さ、正しさ
option	選択、オプション
live forever	永遠に生きる
happen	起こる

bring - brought - brought	連れてくる、持ってくる、もたらす
first	第一、一番目、最初、まず、初めに、最初の
another	別の、他の、もう一人、もう一つ
country	国
stranger	よそ者、他国者、他人
treat	取り扱う、扱う
badly	酷く、悪く
become - became - became	になる、なる
slave	奴隷
punish	罰する
come out - came out - come out	出る、出て来る
come back - came back - come back	戻ってくる
cannot	できない
now	今、もう、さて、それで
because	～のため、～のせい、なぜなら
Canaanites	カナン人
bad / worse / worst	悪い・より悪い・最も悪い
enough	十分
yet	まだ、それなのに
must (must not)	しなければならない（してはいけない）
sin	悪い考え、態度、言葉、行い - 神様に従わないこと - 罪、罪を犯す
much	大いに
more	もっと、～より
from	から
Euphrates River	ユーフラテス川
Wadi of Egypt	エジプトの涸れ川、ワディ（カナンとエジプトの間にある）

problem	問題
how	どう、どのくらい
think - thought - thought	思う、考える
feel - felt - felt	感じる
about	について、約
still	まだ、今でも

hope	希望、望み
die	死ぬ
see - saw - seen	見る
Milky Way	天の川
why	なぜ、どうして
most	最も、一番
important	大切、重要な、大事な、重大、優れる、えらい（人）
or	または、あるいは
learn	学ぶ、習う、ならう、知る
gift	贈り物、賜物
work	仕事、働き、仕事する、働く
salary	給料
pay	払う
hard / harder / hardest	一生懸命
just	ちょうど、ぴったり、ただ、だけ
trust	信頼する、に頼る
sinner	悪い思いを思い、言葉を言い、行いをする人。罪人
clean	清い
example	例話、例
bank account	銀行口座
money	お金
job	仕事、職、役割
sick	病気、いやになる、気持ち悪い
owe	返すべき借金
million	1、000、000 100万
dollar	ドル \$
bank	銀行
trouble	問題、悩み、困難、患い、困る
owner	持ち主、オーナー
kind	親切、親切にする
help	助け
answer	答える
request	頼み

worth	価値、値打ち
billion	1、000、000、000 10億
cancel	帳消しにする、取り消す、破棄する
debt	借金
count	数える、みなす、計算する
come from - came from - come from	～から発する、から来る
save	救う
yourself	あなた自身
wonderful	素晴らしい
receive	受ける、得る、受け取る
by	によって
boast	自慢する
have to - had to - had to	しなければいけない、しなければならない
wait	待つ
total	合計、全部で
quickly	急いで、早く、すぐに
should	すべき、起こるべき
thing	物、もの、こと
too	～すぎる、あまりに、も
long / longer / longest	長い・より長い・最も長い
short	短い
sometime	時々、ある時
time	時間
keep (a promise)	保つ、持つ、(約束や戒めを) 守る、取っておく
some	ある分、何人か
slow	遅い
patient	辛抱強い、忍耐強い
want	欲しい、欲しがる、望む、求める、やりたい
anyone	誰でも、誰か、一人でも
forever	永久に、永遠に
repent	悔い改める
undertand - understood - understood	分かる、理解する
kindness	親切心、親切、親切さ
lead - led - led	導く、指導する、連れていく