



GALILEE KIDS

ABRAHAM–THE BEGINNINGS OF A RACE– LESSON 1

Verse to be memorized: “Abraham believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” (Romans 4:3)

Introduction

Let us see how God made his covenant with Abraham, how He tested him and the way Abraham responded.

Reading Passage

In olden days people lived long! Jahweh revealed Himself to Abraham when the latter was ninety-nine years old. Do you remember Abraham’s wife? Her name was Sarah. Jahweh made a covenant with Abraham. He made several promises to Abraham. Abraham would be abundantly blessed if he sincerely kept the commandments of God. Here is a list of such promises.

1. Abraham would become Father of several nations.
2. A son would be born to him.
3. He would get the fertile Canaan as his share of land.
4. A new race would originate from Abraham.
5. Several kings would rise from Abraham’s clan.

What more does a faithful need? God is along faithful in His promises Jahweh prescribed certain conditions to Abraham.

1. Abraham’s posterity should obey the Jahweh’s covenant.
2. All male children should be circumcised on the eighth day.
3. They should accept Jahweh as their God for ever.

From that day the practice of circumcising all male children of the Jews started. Abraham and his son Ishmael born of Hagar, get circumcised on the same day. Abraham was ninety-nine years old and Ishmael was thirteen years old at that time.

What do you think is the meaning of the Law of circumcision? It was the physical sign of the covenant between God and Man. Humans had to feel it. Let us also learn another incident in the life of Abraham. He loved to play the host and serve food to his guests. He prepared a delicious dinner to three men of God in the Oak grove at Mamre. There a son was promised to Abraham through Sarah, his wife. Sarah bore a son to Abraham. Abraham named him Isaac. As



Isaac was born out of God's promise he is also called 'the Promised Son'. On the eighth day the child was circumcised. That family lived together happily.

Jahweh decided to test Abraham's faith and obedience. He commanded Abraham to offer his only begotten son Isaac as a sacrifice! What a painful command! But Abraham obeyed Jahweh faithfully. He decided to offer the sacrifice as commanded to God. He took his son to the top of mount Moriah. He tied Isaac's limbs and laid him on the altar over the wood. When Abraham lifted his knife to slay his son, Jahweh's angel stopped him. Abraham heard the voice "Abraham, lay down the knife; don't hurt the boy." The angel said Abraham proved to be fully obedient to God because he did not hesitate to sacrifice his only son to Jahweh. Abraham was to look around, he noticed a ram caught by its horns in a bush. He sacrificed it to Jahweh instead of his son. What did Abraham do? He surrendered to God and got blessed.

Abraham fully trusted Jahweh. Therefore, Jahweh gave him all the blessings on this earth. He was raised as a large nation. A new race (the Israelites) originated from Isaac. Abraham's life of obedient to, and trust in God is a beautiful example of unflinching faith in God.

1. How old was Abraham when Jahweh appeared before him?

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2. What was law given to Jewish boys on the eighth day of their birth?

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3. Where did the three men of God visit Abraham?

4. What is the name of the promised son born of Abraham and Sarah?

5. Who do you think the three men were?

PRAYER:

*Oh! God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob help us to trust in You completely
and live in total obedience to God.*

OUR DECISION:

We will rely fully on God and trust in him in all our life situations.