

- I. Introduction.**
  - A. "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see" (Heb. 11:1).**
  - B. "Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6).**
  - C. Because Abraham was faithful he was richly blessed.**
- II. He Believed He Would Inherit the Earth (v.13-16).**
  - A. Both Jesus and David tell us that the meek will inherit the earth (see Matt. 5:5 and Psalm 37:11).**
    - 1. The person who is meek is willing to be molded.**
    - 2. He/she is willing to trust and obey God.**
  - B. Abraham's inheritance was not received through the law.**
    - 1. It was not based on his perfect obedience to the law.**
    - 2. If the promise would have been based on perfect obedience to the law, it would have brought wrath, not blessing (see Gal. 3:10 and James 2:10).**
    - 3. The law's purpose is to make us aware of our sin and our need of a Savior (Rom. 3:20 and Gal. 3:24).**
  - C. The promised inheritance is guaranteed not just to Abraham, but to all his "offspring" – the faithful of God.**
- III. He Believed He Would Be the Father of Nations (v.17-22).**
  - A. God promised to make Abraham into a great nation (see Gen. 12:2) ...that his offspring would be as numerous as the stars (see Gen. 15:5).**
  - B. God promised that Sarah would give Abraham a son (see Gen. 17:1-6,15,16); this promise defied the odds.**
  - C. God has the power to do what he promises (Mark 10:27).**
    - 1. He can resurrect the physically dead (Jesus).**
    - 2. He can give life to the spiritually dead (believers).**
    - 3. He can take a dead reproductive system and produce life (Abraham and Sarah).**
  - D. Abraham did not waver through unbelief regarding God's promise; in hope he believed God and became the father of many nations; he believed God and was declared righteous.**
- IV. Conclusion (v.23-25).**
  - A. What God did for Abraham God will do for us.**
  - B. We can't be saved by observing the law, but we can and will be saved by believing and trusting in Jesus.**
  - C. God's most important promise is found in John 3:16.**
  - D. Are you standing on this awesome promise?**