



Jesus Christ, Our Passover & Resurrection

God can resurrect what is dead in our lives!

Abraham Passed God's Test

Part 3 – May 1, 2022

Romans 4 ^{11b} So now this qualifies him to become the father of all who believe among the non-Jewish people. And like their “father of faith,” Abraham, God also transfers his righteousness to them by faith. ¹⁷ That’s what the Scripture means when it says: “I have made you the father of many nations.” He is our example and father, for in God’s presence he believed that God can raise the dead and call into being things that don’t even exist yet. ¹⁸ Against all odds, when it looked hopeless, Abraham believed the promise and expected God to fulfill it. He took God at his word, and as a result he became the father of many nations. God’s declaration over him came to pass: “Your descendants will be so many that they will be impossible to count!” ¹⁹ In spite of being nearly one hundred years old when the promise of having a son was made, his faith was so strong that it could not be undermined by the fact that he and Sarah were incapable of conceiving a child. ²⁰⁻²¹ He never stopped believing God’s promise, for he was made strong in his faith *to father a child.* And because he was mighty in faith and convinced that God had all the power needed to fulfill his promises, Abraham glorified God! TPT

Genesis 22 ¹ Some time later, God tested Abraham. He said, “Abraham!” “Yes, I’m here,” Abraham answered. ² God said, “Please take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom *I know* you dearly love, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him up to me as a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I will show you.” ⁴ On the third day, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ “Stay here with the donkey,” Abraham told the young men. “Isaac and I will go up and worship; then we will return to you.” ⁶ So Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on Isaac’s back. Abraham carried the knife and the fire, and the two of them walked up the mountain together. ⁷ “Father?” Isaac broke the silence. “Yes, my son,” Abraham replied. “We have the wood and the fire,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?” ⁸ Abraham answered, “My son, God himself will provide the lamb for an offering.” So they went on together. ⁹ When they arrived at the place *on Mount Moriah* that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar and stacked the wood on it. He tied up his son Isaac and laid him on top of the wood on the altar. ¹⁰ Then Abraham took the knife in his hand to plunge it into his son, ¹¹ but the angel of Yahweh called to him from heaven, saying, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Yes, I’m here,” he answered ¹² “Do not lay a hand on the boy or harm him,” he said, “for now, I know you are fully dedicated to me, since you did not withhold your son, your beloved son, from me.” ¹³ As Abraham looked up, his eyes fell upon a ram caught by its horns in a nearby thicket. Abraham took the ram and sacrificed it on the altar as a burnt offering in Isaac’s place. ¹⁵ Yahweh’s angel spoke a second time from heaven: ¹⁶⁻¹⁷ “ ‘I solemnly promise you, by *the glory* of my own name,’ decrees Yahweh, ‘because you have obeyed my voice and did not withhold from me your son – your beloved son – I will greatly bless you! I will make sure your seed becomes as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand of the seashore. Your offspring will take possession of the city gates of their enemies. ¹⁸ Because you have obeyed me, the entire world will be blessed through your seed.’ ” TPT

Hebrews 11 ¹ Now faith brings our hopes into reality and becomes the foundation needed to acquire the things we long for. It is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen. ² This testimony of faith is what previous generations were commended for. ³ Faith empowers us to see that the universe was created and beautifully coordinated by the power of God’s words! He spoke and the invisible realm gave birth to all that is seen. ⁶ And without faith living within us it would be impossible to please God. For we come to God in faith knowing that he is real and that he rewards the faith of those who passionately seek him. ⁸ Faith motivated Abraham to obey God’s call and leave the familiar to discover the territory he was destined to inherit from God. So he left with only a promise and without even knowing ahead of time where he was going,

Abraham stepped out in faith. ⁹ He lived by faith as an immigrant in his promised land as though it belonged to someone else. He journeyed through the land living in tents with **Isaac and Jacob who were persuaded that they were also co-heirs of the same promise.** ¹⁰ His eyes of faith were set on the city with unshakable foundations, whose architect and builder is God himself. ¹¹ **Sarah's faith embraced God's miracle power to conceive even though she was barren and was past the age of childbearing, for the authority of her faith rested in the One who made the promise, and she tapped into his faithfulness.** ¹² In fact, so many children were subsequently fathered by this aged man of faith—one who was as good as dead, that he now has offspring as innumerable as the sand on the seashore and as the stars in the sky! ¹⁷ Faith operated powerfully in Abraham for **when he was put to the test he offered up Isaac.** Even though he received God's promises of descendants, he was willing to offer up his only son! ¹⁸ For God had promised, "Through your son Isaac your lineage will carry on your name." ¹⁹ **Abraham's faith made it logical to him that God could raise Isaac from the dead, and symbolically, that's exactly what happened.** TPT

Galatians 3 ⁶ Abraham, *our father of faith*, believed God, and the substance of his faith released God's righteousness to him. ⁹ **And so the blessing of Abraham's faith is now our blessing too!** ¹¹ It is obvious that no one achieves the righteousness of God by attempting to keep the law, for it is written: "The one who is in a right relationship with God will live by faith!" ¹² **But keeping the law does not require faith, but self-effort.** For the law teaches, "If you practice the principles of law, you must follow all of them." ¹³ Yet, **Christ paid the full price to set us free from the curse of the law. He absorbed the curse completely as he became a curse in our place.** For it is written: "Everyone who is hung upon a tree is cursed." ¹⁴ **Jesus Christ dissolved the curse from our lives, so that in him all the blessings of Abraham can be poured out upon gentiles.** And now through faith we receive the promised Holy Spirit *who lives in us.* ²⁸ And we no longer see each other *in our former state*—Jew or non-Jew, rich or poor, male or female—because we're all one through our union with Jesus Christ. ²⁹ **And if you belong to Christ, then you are now Abraham's "child" and a true heir of all his blessings because of the promise God made to Abraham!** TPT

Ephesians 2 ⁴ But God still loved us with such great love. He is so rich in compassion and mercy. ⁵ Even when we were dead and doomed in our many sins, he united us into the very life of Christ and saved us by his wonderful grace! ⁶ **He raised us up with Christ the exalted One, and we ascended with him into the glorious perfection and authority of the heavenly realm, for we are now co-seated as one with Christ!** ⁷ Throughout the coming ages we will be the visible display of the infinite riches of his grace and kindness, which was showered upon us in Jesus Christ. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved by faith. Nothing you did could ever earn this salvation, for it was the love gift from God that brought us to Christ! ⁹ So no one will ever be able to boast, for salvation is never a reward for good works or human striving. ¹⁰ We have become his poetry, a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. **Even before we were born, God planned in advance our destiny and the good works we would do to fulfill it!** TPT

Colossians 3 ¹ **Christ's resurrection is your resurrection too.** TPT

1 John 4 ¹⁵ Those who give thanks that Jesus is the Son of God live in God, and God lives in them. ¹⁶ We have come into an intimate experience with God's love, and we trust in the love he has for us. **God is love!** Those who are living in love are living in God, and God lives through them. ¹⁷ By *living in God*, love has been brought to its full expression in us so that we may fearlessly face the day of judgment, **because all that Jesus now is, so are we in this world.** TPT - ¹⁷ Here is how love has been brought to maturity with us: **as the Messiah is, so are we in the world.** This gives us confidence for the Day of Judgment. CJB