

The Lord appears to Abraham; The First Intercessory Prayer!

March 23rd 2014

REVIEW

- CREATION, CORRUPTION, CATASTROPHE, CONFUSION-FIRST 11 CHAPTERS OF GENESIS
- CHRIST, CROSS, CONSUMATION -GENESIS-REVELATION
- ABRAM AND GOD'S PROMISE – GENESIS 12:2-3, 7
- ABRAM AND THE COVENANT- ALL ABOUT GOD
- LAST WEEK-ABRAM AND SARAI TAKE PLANS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS.

God visits Abraham with 2 angels (Gen 19:1 and 18:1)

Makes the promise more specific- “this time next year” (Gen. 18:10)

Sarah laughs (Isaac means “he laughs”) Genesis 18:12

The First Intercessory Prayer

Abraham's concern

The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³ Then Abraham approached him and said: “Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?” Gen 18:22-25

Who and what is our concern for?

Who are you praying for? Family, coworkers, church, salvations

"Prayerlessness is a sure sign of a self-reliant heart." Curtis Cook

To have concern is one thing; to do something about it is another...do you have a concern? Before you do anything else, pray!

Abraham's continuous inquiry

Abraham inquired of God 6 different times?

Abraham would not let up!

He had concern for people there, mainly the righteous! Why? Remember Lot and his family were there! (Gen. 13:12-13) His concern was for his family!!! What does my prayer life look like in regards to my family?

Be found righteous? “Righteous people (10) Lot and wife, 2 sons (19:2), 2 married daughters and their husbands (19:14), and 2 unmarried daughters (19:8) a total of 10”. Henry Morris. Abraham assumed they were all righteous!

Why do we keep praying? Why do we keep asking? Why do we often bring same requests to God? Only He can do anything about it and it reminds us of our dependency on Him!

Today I am asking you, will you be a person of prayer?

Abraham's correct view of himself and the Lord

Gen. 18:27- He realized he was nothing

Gen. 18:30- He realized he was talking to the God of the Universe

Gen 18:31- Boldly- In him and through faith in Him, we may approach God with freedom and confidence. Ephesians 3:12

“Did it ever dawn on you that nothing ever dawned on God?” Tom Elliff

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, ^[1] Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Hebrews 4:14-16

Prayer involves two things, speaking and listening. But most often listening! Abraham listened! James 5:16 says, “The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.”

Will you be a person of prayer? Will you up your prayer life?

