

# ABRAHAM'S DEMONSTRATION OF HIS SAVING FAITH

▪ *Scripture Reading:*

▪ James 2:14-26



# INTRODUCTION AND REVIEW

- Last week we examined the unconditional covenant that God made with Abraham based on his willing obedience to God's instruction to provide his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice.
- God has blessed all nations through the promised singular Seed of Abraham: Christ (Gen 22:18, Gal 3:16)
  - by "...taking out of the nations a people for His name"
  - - Acts 15:14 - Through faith in the gospel, and has counted them to be seated in the risen and ascended Christ – Gal 3:26-29



# INTRODUCTION AND REVIEW

- This morning, we want to examine how God used the obedience of Abraham in the willingness to sacrifice his son to demonstrate the reality of his unseen faith for salvation back in Gen 15:6.



# HOW GOD SEES FAITH IN A MAN

God looks on the heart - I Sam 16:6-7

Only God knows the heart - Acts 1:24, 15:8

God saw Abraham's faith (in his heart) – Gen 15:6

God saw Cornelius and his household's faith (in their hearts) - Acts 10:43-14

# HOW MAN SEES FAITH IN ANOTHER MAN (JAMES 2:14-26)

The need for a man to visually see another man's faith by what that faith produces - vs 14 ("a man", lit anyone)

- Vs 18 – a “man” (lit. “someone”)
- Vs 18 – the challenge to make faith visible - “show me”, “show you”
- Vs 20 - “Oh vain man” (lit. “man of empty content”, i.e., faith with nothing to demonstrate that faith)
- Vs 22 - “You see” (visually)
- Vs 24 - “You see” (to mentally comprehend)



# HOW MAN SEES FAITH IN ANOTHER MAN

JAMES 2:14-26 (CONTINUED)

- To a man, faith without the visual evidence of works is dead – vs 17, 20, 26
- A man must visually see another man's faith in order to know the other man is saved – vs 14, cf Rom 1:17



# ABRAHAM'S DEMONSTRATION OF HIS SAVING FAITH

## JAMES 2:21-24

Vs 21 - Abraham was declared righteous by works (before men) by offering Isaac (cf Rom 4:1-5)

Vs 22 – “out of works, his faith was made complete”

- True faith should produce good works
- Works follow faith
- Works do not precede or accompany faith!

Vs 23 – imputed righteousness is God-designed to produce works of righteousness

Vs 24 – out of works, a man I declared righteous before men, not only be a pronouncement of faith



## CONCLUSION

Abraham demonstrated (before men) the reality of his faith for salvation by offering his son in obedience to God

Remember Rom 1:17, “we are saved out of a moment of faith” (for past-tense salvation)

Therefore, let us conduct our daily lives by faith in God’s promises to us as NT believers

- II Cor 5:7 – “for we walk by faith and not by sight”