

# Abraham

## The Father of faith



### From Zero to Hero

This ebook demonstrates how God used the [Tabernacle of Moses](#) as His blueprint for the life of Abraham. In the same way you can also find your purpose in life and fulfil your destiny.

**Father God had great plans for Abraham.**

**He designed Abraham and gave him life with a specific purpose in mind. Abraham was part of His strategic plan for the future.**

**The devil also had plans for his life.**

**He wanted to steal and destroy everything that God had for him.**

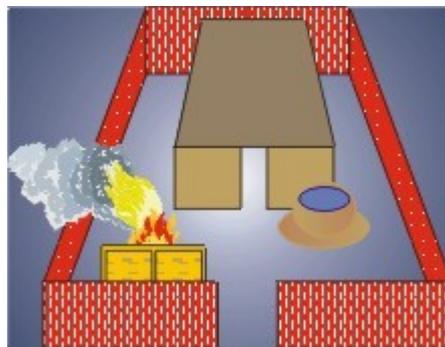
**Whose plans would prevail?**

**Remember . . .**  
**all the promises of God must be received**  
**in Christ and through Christ.**

"It is he who is the "Yes" to all of God's promises.  
This is why through Jesus Christ our "Amen" is said to the glory of God."  
[2Co 1:20 GNB]



He gives the promises and He brings them to fulfilment in our lives.  
To make God's promises to you come true you must activate them by  
entering into Christ. This is depicted by the Tabernacle of Moses



Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life;  
no one goes to the Father except by me." [Joh 14:6]

The entrances of the temple were respectively called the way, the truth and the life by the people of Israel. **The way** was the gate into the outer court, **the truth** was the gate to the holy place and **the life** was the gate to the holy of holies.

**The tabernacle on earth was just a shadow of the real tabernacle in heaven.**

The work they do as priests is really only a **copy and a shadow** of what is in heaven. It is the same as it was with Moses. When he was about to build the **Sacred Tent**, God told him, Be sure to make everything **according to the pattern** you were shown on the mountain. [Heb 8:5]

He (Jesus) serves as high priest in the Most Holy Place, that is, in the **real tent** which was put up by the Lord, not by human hands. [Heb 8:1]

This heavenly tabernacle depicts Jesus. In it lies the attainment of the promise. We have to go deep into this heavenly tabernacle to have our promise come to fulfilment. Every step we take, is a step deeper into Jesus and we get changed more into the likeness of His image in glory.

All of us, then, reflect the glory of the Lord with uncovered faces; and that same glory, coming from the Lord, who is the Spirit, **transforms us into his likeness** in an ever greater degree of glory. [2Co 3:18]

The tabernacle is therefore a shadow of Jesus Himself. Only in and through Jesus can we get to the Father and **only at the Father** can we obtain the fulfilment of God's promises.

**God's promises can only be fulfilled in Christ.**

I am the vine, and you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me. [Joh 15:5]

Anything that you trust the Lord for, whether it is a house or a car, a husband or a wife, a career or a ministry, everything must be received by means of the same process.

God is working in you on more than one promise or purpose simultaneously. Some of these will only take a few days, others might even take decades.

**It takes faith, patience and perseverance!**

We do not want you to become lazy, but to be like those who believe and are patient, and so receive what God has promised. [Heb 6:12]

As you proceed deeper into the tabernacle (Christ),  
He will correspondingly clothe you with the Armor of God.

(The armor is also a picture of Jesus)

**You must persevere!**

"Keep on working with fear and trembling to complete your salvation, because God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey his own purpose." [Phi 2:12-13 GNB]

Abraham, as father of our faith, also had to receive his promise in Christ.

"I am telling you the truth", Jesus replied. "**Before Abraham was born, I Am.**"  
[Joh 8:58]

Abraham is our example of how any person can fulfill his life's purpose by believing God and acting on His word.

## **It is a walk of faith.**

This walk into the promise is depicted by a walk into the tabernacle. This journey will equip you with the full armour of God and bring you into the fullness of God's promises for your life.

Abraham is no exception. He also had to achieve God's plans for his life by entering into Jesus as depicted by the tabernacle.

## **Now, if you are ready, let us follow Abraham into the Tabernacle and see God's plan in action...**

### **Abram's Calling**

The LORD said to Abram, "Leave your country, your relatives, and your father's home, and go to a land that I am going to show you.

**I will** give you many descendants, and they will become a great nation.

**I will** bless you and make your name famous, so that you will be a blessing.

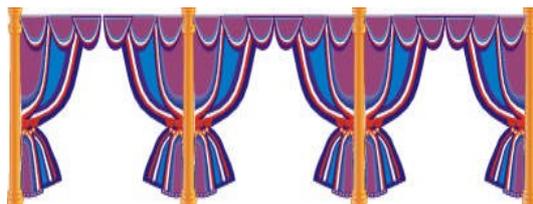
**I will** bless those who bless you,

But **I will** curse those who curse you.

And through you **I will** bless all the nations." [Genesis 12:1-3]

Sometimes God calls young girls like Esther. Other times He calls old men like Abram. Everyone has a place in His plans.

## **The Gate**



To enter through the Gate of the Tabernacle, is to enter into Jesus.

As we enter through the gate of the heavenly tabernacle,  
we enter into Jesus.

Jesus said: "**I am the gate**. Those who come in by me will be saved; they will come in and go out and find pasture." [ John 10:9] ,

... and to enter into Jesus is to enter into the promise.

When Abram was seventy-five years old, he **started out** from Haran, as the LORD had told him to do. [Genesis 12:4]

You are never too old to start on the journey of faith! Just don't look back!

"Anyone who starts to plow and then keeps looking back is of no use for the Kingdom of God." [Luk 9:62]

Abram finally arrived at the promised land and entered it.

"They arrived in Canaan." [Gen 12:5]

Jesus is our promised land, when we enter into Him, we confirm our election.

"Even before the world was made, God had already chosen us to be his through our union with Christ." [Eph 1:4]

## The Brazen Altar



The Brazen Altar is the first thing that you encounter when you enter the Tabernacle of Moses. The Hebrew word for the altar is *mizbeah* or '*slaughter place.*' Sacrifices were required by the law, because..

... sins are forgiven only if blood is poured out. [Heb 9:22]

In the Old Testament little lambs were slain here to pay for the sins of men.

Jesus is the Lamb that was slain for us on the cross. He left his throne in heaven to die for us on the cross.

"Worthy is the **Lamb** that was **slain.**" [Rev 5:12]

"For by the blood of Christ we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven.  
How great is the grace of God" [Eph 1:7]

Fortunately for us, He left us His testament, assuring our inheritance.

"Because where there is a testament, there has to be the death of the man who made it. For a testament has effect after death; for what power has it while the man who made it is living?" [Heb 9:16-17 BBE]

Abraham, in his journey to the promise, also had to travel by way of the altar. When he entered the promised land he first built an altar.

The LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "This is the country that I am going to give to your descendants." Then Abram built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. [Gen 12:6-7]

This altar speaks of Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

"God made peace through his Son's blood on the cross and so brought

back to himself all things, both on earth and in heaven." [Col 1:20]

At this point Abram faltered.

But there was a famine in Canaan, and it was so bad that Abram went farther south to Egypt, to live there for a while. [Gen 12:10]

He trusted his eyes and his faith left him. (We call this back-sliding.)

For our life is a matter of faith, not of sight. [2Co 5:7]

Abraham still had to learn not to look at circumstances.

We are not people who turn back and are lost. Instead, we have faith and are saved. [Heb 10:39]

To continue his journey, Abram had to return to the altar again.

*(This corresponds with the helmet of faith.)*

He reached the place between Bethel and Ai where he had camped before and had built an altar. There he worshiped the LORD. [Gen 13:3-4]

If you ever lose God's Presence, make sure that you go back to the place where you last had it!

## The Wash Basin



The Wash Basin is the second item that is to be found in the Tabernacle of Moses. It speaks of cleansing and preparation.

The priests had to wash their hands and their feet before they could enter the holy place of the tabernacle itself. The water speaks of separation from the world of sin and separation unto God.

Then Abram said to Lot, "Let's separate. Choose any part of the land you want. You go one way, and I'll go the other." Lot looked around and saw that the whole Jordan Valley, all the way to Zoar, had plenty of water. So Lot chose the whole Jordan Valley for himself and moved away toward the east. That is how the two men parted. [Gen 13:8 -11]

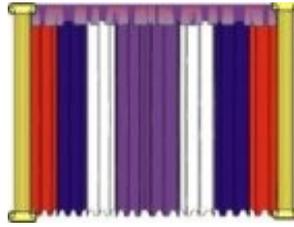
Lot did not part from the worldly ways and was caught. Abram had to defeat the enemy to set him free and also to cleanse the land from their evil.

*(This corresponds with the breastplate of righteousness.)*

Abram, divided his men into groups, attacked the enemy by night, and defeated them. [Gen 14:15]

This fight took place in the valley of Siddim south of the Dead Sea. This area is presently covered by water.

# The Door



The Door of the Tabernacle follows the water. It can only be entered after being tested and approved. Only after passing this test, was it possible to enter the tabernacle. Only priests were allowed inside the holy place.

"Make a bronze basin with a bronze base. Place it between the Tent and the altar, and put water in it. Aaron and his sons are to use the water to wash their hands and feet before they go into the Tent or approach the altar to offer the food offering. Then they will not be killed. They must wash their hands and feet, so that they will not die. "

[Exo 30:18-21]

This test is also referred to as the **desert** test.  
Even the Lord Jesus Himself had to go through this test.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then the Spirit led Jesus into the **desert** to be tempted by the Devil.[Mat 3:16 - 4:1]

This is the test of worldly treasures and securities.

You cannot be a slave of two masters; you will hate one and love the other; you will be loyal to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. [Mat 6:24]

Abram was tempted like this.

The king of Sodom said to Abram, "Keep the loot." [Gen 14:21]

Jesus was similarly tempted.

"All this I will give you," the Devil said, "if you kneel down and worship me." [Mat 4:9]

## The Table of Showbread



The Table of Showbread contained not only the loaves of bread, but also chalices of 'wine' (grape-juice.) The table speaks of refreshment and fellowship and is the first reward for passing the test.

After He overcame the enemy, Jesus was refreshed.

Then the Devil left Jesus; and angels came and helped him. [Mat 4:11]

Abram, after his fight, was similarly refreshed.

And Melchizedek, who was king of Salem and also a **priest** of the Most High God, brought **bread and wine** to Abram, [Gen 14:18]

The showbread contained frankincense. It has a sweet smell, but a bitter taste. This speaks of God's will for us. We are to share in his joy, but also in his sufferings.

"Since Christ **suffered** physically, you too must strengthen yourselves with the same way of thinking that he had; because whoever **suffers** physically is no longer involved with sin. From now on, then, you must live the rest of your earthly lives **controlled by God's will and not by human desires.**" [1Pe 4:1-2]

*(This corresponds with the shoes of willingness from the armor of God. We must not only eat with the **Prince of Peace**, but walk with Him.)*

Bread and wine speaks of God sharing blessings with us.

"You prepare a banquet for me, where all my enemies can see me; you welcome me as an honored guest and fill my cup to the brim." [Psa 23:5]

We have to respond to this.

"My food," Jesus said to them, "is to obey the will of the one who sent me and to finish the work he gave me to do." [Joh 4:34]

Abraham passed with flying colors.

"And Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of all the loot he had recovered." [Gen 14:20]

# The Lamp Stand



Next to the table of showbread stood the golden lampstand that illuminated the holy place. This lampstand provided oil to the seven oil lamps. The priests had to keep the lamps burning cleanly.

Each evening Aaron shall light them and keep them burning until morning, there in the LORD's presence outside the curtain in front of the Covenant Box, which is in the Most Holy Place. [Lev 24:3]

The lampstand is the place of vision.  
Our minds need to be open to God's light.  
(This corresponds with the **girdle of truth**.)

"I ask that your minds may be opened to see his light, so that you will know what is the hope to which he has called you." [Eph 1:18 GNB]

Only after we have received God's light can we shine before others.

"But if we live in the light-just as he is in the light  
-then we have fellowship with one another." [1Jo 1:7]

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your **Father** which is in heaven." [Mat 5:16]

Abram's mind also had to be enlightened by the Lord  
so that He could reveal His divine purpose for Abraham.

The LORD took him outside and said, "Look at the sky and try to count the stars;  
you will have as many descendants as that. [Gen 15:5]

Abram saw the stars and received God's revelation in his heart.  
Abram finally *saw the light*.

# The Altar of Incense



The Altar of Incense speaks of intercessory prayer.

The incense filled the holy place with its sweet smell.

We are to be that sweet smell.

God uses us to make the knowledge about Christ spread everywhere like a sweet fragrance. For we are like a sweet-smelling incense offered by Christ to God.

[2Co 2:14-15]

The incense speaks of prayer.

"The smoke of the burning incense went up with the prayers of God's people from the hands of the angel standing before God." [Rev 8:4]

It is not possible to pray unless you have faith.

"No one can please God without faith, for whoever comes to God must have faith that God exists and rewards those who seek him." [Heb 11:6]

We can even pray for more faith.

"I do have faith, but not enough. Help me have more!" [Mar 9:24]

"Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end." [Heb 12:2]

Jesus is always praying for us.

"But Jesus lives on forever, and his work as priest does not pass on to someone else. And so he is able, now and always, to save those who come to God through him, because he lives forever to plead with God for them." [Heb 7:24-25]

Just as Jesus is continually praying and interceding for us, Abraham also needed to pray and intercede for his son, even before he was born.

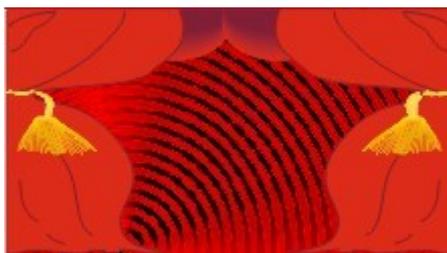
But Abram answered, "Sovereign LORD, what good will your reward do me, since I have no children? My only heir is Eliezer of Damascus. You have given me no children, and one of my slaves will inherit my property." (Gen 15:2-3 GNB)

God answered his prayer and Abraham believed Him.

Then he heard the LORD speaking to him again: "This slave Eliezer will not inherit your property; your own son will be your heir." The LORD took him outside and said, "Look at the sky and try to count the stars; you will have as many descendants as that." Abram put his trust in the LORD, and because of this the LORD was pleased with him and accepted him. (Gen 15:4-6 GNB)

Faith is not a feeling. It is a choice of your will.

# The Veil



Going through the Veil is a life-changing, death-threatening event with an unknown outcome. It requires a demonstration of faith through an act of boldness in spite of fear and inner turmoil.

To enter into the presence of God is a very risky business.

"I will not let you see my face, because no one can see me and stay alive".  
[Exo 33:20 GNB]

The veil separated the holy place from the holy of holies. It had to be **divided** before the high priest could enter and he had to take the **blood** of the sacrifice with him.

"The Jewish high priest brings the **blood** of the animals into the Most Holy Place to offer it as a sacrifice for sins." [Heb 13:11]

"But only the high priest goes into the inner tent, and he does so only **once a year**. He takes with him **blood** which he offers to God on behalf of himself and for the sins which the people have committed without knowing they were sinning." [Heb 9:7]

To experience God's Glory, you must also go through **darkness, clouds of smoke, fire and fear**, for these surround God.

"He made the **dark** his secret place; his tent round him was the **dark** waters and thick **clouds** of the skies. [Psa 18:11]

"All of Mount Sinai was covered with **smoke**, because the LORD had come down on it in fire. The **smoke** went up like the **smoke** of a **furnace**, and all the people **trembled** violently." [Exo 19:18]

"There in the LORD's presence he (the high priest) shall put the incense on the **fire**, and the **smoke** of the incense will hide the lid of the Covenant Box so that he will not see it and die." [Lev 16:13]

Abram also had to go through the veil of the tabernacle in the same way.

## Division

Abram brought the animals to God, cut them in half, and placed the halves opposite each other in two rows. [Ge 15:10]

Even Jesus Himself had to go through the veil like this.

"Jesus again gave a loud cry and breathed his last, then the curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom." [Mat 27:50-51]

## Darkness, fire, smoke and fear

Even Jesus experienced darkness before He entered in through death.  
"Now from the sixth hour it was **dark** over all the land till the ninth hour." [Mat 27:45]

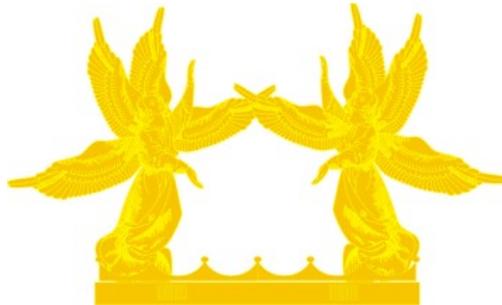
Abram also went in through darkness and fear.

"Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep came on Abram,  
and a **dark** cloud of **fear**." [Gen 15:12]

God then came to him in fire and smoke.

"When the sun had set and it was dark, a **smoking fire** pot and a **flaming torch**  
suddenly appeared and passed between the pieces of the animals. Then and there the  
LORD made a covenant with Abram." [Gen 15:17-18]

## The Mercy Seat



The Lid of the Ark of the Covenant was also called the Mercy Seat.  
This was the place where God met with Man.

The mercy seat was covered by blood.

"He (the high priest) shall take some of the bull's blood and with his finger sprinkle it on  
the front of the lid and then sprinkle some of it seven times in front of the Covenant Box."  
[Lev 16:14]

God manifested his glory on this blood between the cherubim .

"I will meet you there, and from above the lid between the two winged creatures  
I will give you all my laws for the people of Israel. [Exo 25:17-22 GNB]

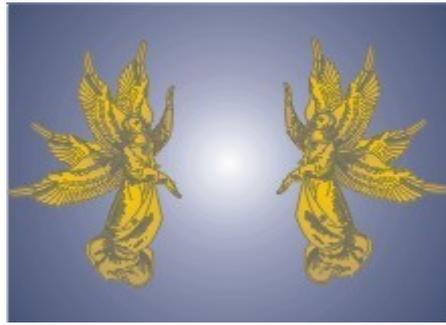
This is the place of mercy and grace.

"Let us have confidence, then, and approach God's throne, where there is grace.  
There we will receive mercy and find grace to help us just when we need it."  
[Heb 4:16 GNB]

Abraham also found mercy and grace in the Throne Room.

Then and there the LORD made a covenant with Abram. He said, "I promise to give your  
descendants all this land from the border of Egypt to the Euphrates River,  
[Gen 15:18 GNB]

## The Cherubim



The mercy seat was beautifully adorned with two cherubim facing one another.  
(Cherubim are special angels and angels speak of servant-hood.)

“What are the angels, then? They are spirits who serve God and are sent by him to help those who are to receive salvation.” [Heb 1:14 GNB]

**Jesus came to us as a servant.**

“Of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like a human being and appeared in human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death.” [Phi 2:6-8]

**Abram also became a servant.**

“Bowing down with his face touching the ground, he said, 'Sirs, please do not pass by my home without stopping; I am here to serve you. Let me bring some water for you to wash your feet; you can rest here beneath this tree. I will also bring a bit of food; it will give you strength to continue your journey. You have honored me by coming to my home, so let me serve you.' ” [Gen 18:3-5]

## The flaming swords



Each of the cherubim had a flaming sword in his hand.  
The swords speak of the word of God and of judgment.

The word of God is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It cuts all the way through, to where soul and spirit meet, to where joints and marrow come together. It judges the desires and thoughts of the heart. [Heb 4:12 GNB]

**At this point of our spiritual walk, we are called upon by God to act as judges.**  
Don't you know that God's people will judge the world? Well, then, if you are to judge the world, aren't you capable of judging small matters? [1Co 6:2 GNB]

Angels are often associated with swords.

"David saw the angel standing in midair, holding his sword in his hand." [1Ch 21:16]

The sword speaks of the spoken word of God

And accept salvation as a helmet, and the word (utterance) of God as the sword which the Spirit gives you. (Eph 6:17 GNB)

It also speaks of judgment.

The word of God is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It cuts all the way through, to where soul and spirit meet, to where joints and marrow come together. It judges the desires and thoughts of the heart. (Heb 4:12 GNB)

Abram, having served his guests, received the following word from God.

"Nine months from now I will come back, and your wife Sarah will have a son."  
[Gen 18:10]

God also pronounced His judgment over Sodom and Gomorrah

Then the LORD said to Abraham, "There are terrible accusations against Sodom and Gomorrah, and their sin is very great." (Gen 18:20 GNB)

## The ark of the covenant



The Ark of the Covenant was a box located in the Most Holy part of the Tabernacle of Moses. Inside and alongside the ark were these three items:

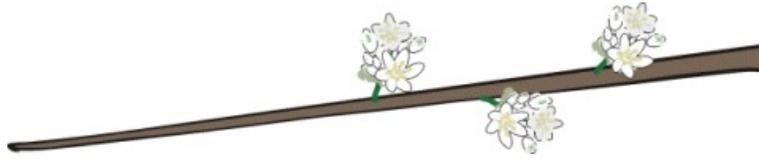


- The staff of Aaron the high priest .
- A bowl of Manna.
- The tablets of the Testimony.

In it were the gold altar for the burning of incense and the Covenant Box all covered with gold and containing the gold jar with the manna in it, Aaron's stick that had sprouted leaves, and the two stone tablets with the commandments written on them.  
(Heb 9:4 GNB)

Each of these holds a special meaning regarding your calling.

## The Rod of Aaron



The Rod of Aaron speaks of the priestly anointing. The priest has the ministry of reconciliation. His task is to be an intercessor or mediator and his function is to maintain the requirements of the covenant between God and man.

Abraham had reached the rod of Aaron, God accordingly appointed him as priest and allocated him his priestly functions and responsibilities.

"You and your descendants must all agree to circumcise every male among you. This will show that there is a covenant between you and me." [Gen 17:10,11]

## The Bowl of Manna



The Bowl of Manna speaks of the Kingly Anointing which gives you the ability and authority to rule.

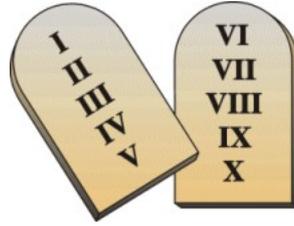
The mana is also associated with a name change.

"If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches! "To those who win the victory I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give each of them a white stone on which is written a new name that no one knows except the one who receives it."  
(Rev 2:17 GNB)

Since Abraham had reached the bowl of manna, God joined His own name to that of Abram, indicating his authority to rule.

"Your name will no longer be Abram, but Abraham, because I am making you the ancestor of many nations. I will give you many descendants, and some of them will be **kings**."  
[Gen 17:5-6]

# The Tablets of the Testimony.



The Tablets of the Testimony speaks of the prophetic anointing. With it comes the responsibility to bring God's word to the people and to exhort them in the way that they should live.

Having reached the tablets of the law, Abraham also received his prophetic authority. God told him to prophecy over his wife.

God said to Abraham, "You must no longer call your wife Sarai; from now on her name is Sarah (*princess*). I will bless her, and I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she will become the mother of nations, and there will be **kings** among her descendants."  
[Gen 17:15-16 GNB]

**Abraham was finally ready to receive the promise.**

"The LORD blessed Sarah, as he had promised, and she became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham when he was old. The boy was born at the time God had said he would be born. Abraham named him Isaac." [Gen 21:1-3]

God still had to see if Abraham was willing to lay down the promise he received. He can only trust us with anything if we realize that it belongs to him in the first place.

"Take your son," God said, "your only son, Isaac, whom you love so much, and go to the land of Moriah. There on a mountain that I will show you, offer him as a sacrifice to me."  
[Gen 22:2 ]

**Abraham obeyed.**

"When they came to the place which God had told him about, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. He tied up his son and placed him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he picked up the knife to kill him." [Gen 22:9-10]

"Abraham reckoned that God was able to raise Isaac from death-and, so to speak, Abraham did receive Isaac back from death." [Heb 11:19]

**He passed the test, so God sealed his promise to him.**

"I will certainly give you my blessing, and your seed will be increased like the stars of heaven and the sand by the seaside; your seed will take the land of those who are against them; And your seed will be a blessing to all the nations of the earth, because you have done what I gave you orders to do." [Gen 22:17-18]

"Abraham was patient, and so he received what God had promised." [Heb 6:15]

Let us all follow this example of Abraham, the father of our faith, and enter in to receive the fulfillment of our promises.

"Now to Abraham were the undertakings given, and to his seed. He says not, And to seeds, as of a great number; but as of one, he says, And to your seed, which is Christ."

[Gal 3:16]

"If you belong to Christ, then you are the descendants of Abraham and will receive what God has promised." [Galatians 3:29]

"Christ did this in order that the blessing which God promised to Abraham might be given to the Gentiles by means of Christ Jesus, so that through faith we might receive the Spirit promised by God." [Gal 3:14]

**Think about it!**

**If it is true that God's purpose for your life can be directly linked to His divine process as depicted by the Tabernacle of Moses. . .**

**1. Should you not be doing your very best to find out more about this process for the sake of your own future?**

**And**

**2. Should you not also be doing your utmost to inform your friends and loved ones as well?**

**You can start right here!**



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