7 May 2023 Abraham

There is so much to say about Abraham, from both the Old Testament and New Testament scriptures, but tonight, I would like to consider what is written of him both in Genesis and by Paul in the book of Romans.

His beginning was no different than any sinner who is called out of darkness into God's marvelous light.

Genesis 12:1-3. What was Abram's life like before God called him? Joshua 24:1-3

After God spoke to Abram, Genesis 12:4 tells us: <u>"So Abram</u> <u>departed, as the LORD had spoken to Him.". Genesis 15:6</u> The Apostle Paul, in earnestly contending for the truth of the gospel of Christ against those that were teaching that you had to keep the law of Moses to be saved, went ALL THE WAY back to BEFORE the nation of Israel, and before Moses and the giving of the law of Moses, using the example of Abraham's faith, believing God...to teach the truth of justification by faith!

Galatians 3:8-9: "And the scripture foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, in thee shall all nations be blessed. So, then they which be of

<u>faith (in Christ) are blessed with faithful Abraham."</u> Abraham's faith in Christ was NO DIFFERENT than your faith in Christ today.

> Genesis 15:6: "Abram was believed God and he counted it to him for righteousness". For all who believe on Christ today: Romans 4:5: "But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith in counted for righteousness."

Abram believed God, and it was he was counted righteous by God... he was declared, accounted, reckoned righteous because of Christ's perfect obedience and sinless sacrifice on the cross. Abram believed God! And all who believe in Christ, (like Abram) are declared, reckoned, made righteous by an act of God's free grace! Justification is Christ's righteousness imputed to the believing sinner through faith....

Romans 1:16-17: The gospel of Christ reveals the righteousness which God gives and approves of, because it is from Jesus Christ!

Paul, in Romans 3-4 used Abraham as his primary example to convince the Jews that the only way to be justified in the sight of God was through the gospel of Jesus Christ, which Abram believed! Romans 3:10-4:26

Romans 8:33-34