Treasure Hunt

- Ben: Why does the writer devote so much space to the faith of Abraham?
- Nate: How did Abraham's faith show surrender to God?
- Faith: How did it show patience?
- Elijah: When was Sarah's faith fulfilled?
- When was Abraham's faith about many children fulfilled?
- When was his faith about the place fulfilled?
- Michael: How do we know that Abraham was seeking a heavenly country?
- Did godly Israelites stop being pilgrims once they settled in the promised land?
- Caitlin: What is the meaning of "our conversation" in Phil 3:20?
- What should our attitude be toward the land where we live on earth?

Climbing the Ladder of Faith



Those who act "by faith" in Hebrews 11

Evidence	Elder	Works	Fulfillment
God's Response to them	Abel	Offers a sacrifice	God avenges his murder
	Enoch	Walks with God	Translation
Their Response to God	Noah	Builds an ark	The flood comes
	Abraham	Leaves his country	v. 31 Exodus
	Sarah	Conceives seed	Birth of Isaac
	Abraham	Offers Isaac	God spares him
Their Statements to Others	Isaac	Bless their descendants	By v. 31, the people are in the land of promise.
	Jacob		
	Joseph		
Separation from Unbelievers	Moses' Parents	Hide Moses	He survives
	Moses	Suffer with people of God	Successful Exodus
	Rahab	Hides the spies	Does not perish

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Gen. 15:5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. 6 And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

The Obedient Faith of Abraham

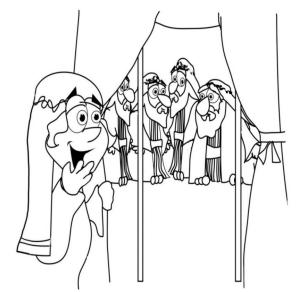
The Promise

Gen 12:1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

2 And I will make of thee a **great nation**, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and be thou a blessing:

3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Paragraph	Subject of Verb	Topic
11:8-10	Abraham obeyed	Place, country, city
11:11-12	Sarah received strength	Seed
11:13-16	These all died in faith	Country, city
11:17-19	Abraham offered up	Seed



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The Obedient Faith of Sarah?

Gen. 18:10 And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. 12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? 13 And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? 14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son. 15 Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

Fulfillment "as the stars of the sky ..."

Deut. 1:10 The LORD your God hath multiplied you, and, behold, ye are this day as the stars of **heaven** for multitude

11:13 Strangers and Pilgrims

The Patriarchs:

Gen. 23:3 And Abraham stood up from before his dead, and spake unto the sons of Heth, saying, 4 I am a stranger (גר H1616) and a sojourner with you: give me a possession of a buryingplace with you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight.

Gen. 47:8 And Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old art thou? 9 And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage (גור H4033, cognate to גר) are an hundred and thirty years: few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.

After the conquest!

1Chr. 29:15 For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding.

Psa. 39:12 Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were.

Psa. 119:19 I am a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me.

The Attitude of a Pilgrim Life

Phil. 3:17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. 18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.) 20 For our conversation [common wealth, state] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

Jer. 29:5 Build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; 6 Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished. 7 And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace. ... 10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. 11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.