

Genesis 18

Genesis 18.1-8

V1 – Abraham was at the door of his tent in the heat of day

-**Who was the chief of the three visitors?** Lord (possibly pre-incarnate Jesus)

-Abraham does not seem to realize this until later (See *Hebrews 13.2*)

V2 – **Abraham’s reaction to three men?** Bowed down to them

-Sign of great hospitality

V3 – **What did he beg them to do?** Stop and accept his hospitality

V 4-5 – **How would Abraham show hospitality?** Wash feet, place to rest under a tree, fresh bread

V 6 – **What did Sarah do?** Begin fixing the bread

V 7-8 – **What else was done?** Calf prepared, curds and milk

-The three strangers ate (custom for host not to eat with the guests, but to serve them)

Genesis 18.9-15

V 9 – **What question did they ask Abraham?** Where is Sarah?

V 10 – **What did one stranger say?** He would come back in one year, and Sarah would have a baby by then (Sarah was listening)

V 11 – Abraham and Sarah were past child-bearing years

V 12 – **Sarah’s comment?** I’m too old

V 13 – The Lord spoke (knew the thoughts of Sarah)

V 14 – **The Lord’s response?** Nothing is too difficult for God – a child will be born next year

V 15 – Sarah argued with the angel

-**Were any other births in the Bible miraculous?** Samuel, Jesus

Genesis 18.16-21

V 16 – The three “men” left

-**Where were they going next?** Sodom

V 17 – Lord: Maybe I should tell Abraham what I am about to do

V 18 – **Why tell Abraham?** Because he is going to be father of a great nation (and should know)

V 19 – God had great confidence in Abraham

-**Why?** He was in charge of his children and household

-A great lesson for Christian men today

-Christian fathers are not to allow children to get away with bad behavior – children won't hate us if we require them to go to school, clean their room, and obey their parents

V 20 – **What about Sodom?** Very wicked

V 21 – God will go to Sodom and find out bad it is

Genesis 18.22-33

V 22 – Two angels leave and head toward Sodom

V 23 – **What did Abraham know about Sodom?** He must have known it was wicked

V 24 – **What is Abraham's 1st request?** Spare the city if 50 righteous people can be found

V 25 – **What motivation did Abraham use on God?** "You don't want to kill the righteous along with the wicked – that's not fair"

V 26 – **God's reply?** He will spare the city if 50 righteous can be found

V 27 – Beautiful verse! Our God can be approached – we can talk to God

V 28 – **Abraham's next request?** Spare the city for 45? **God?** OK

V 29 – **Next request?** 40 – OK

V 30 – 30?

V 31 – 20?

V 32 – 10?

V 33 – Abraham stopped at 10

-**Why did Abraham stop with 10?** He didn't want to tempt (or test) God; didn't want to push it too far

Great lessons:

1. It is great to pray for other people
2. God can be approached with our wishes
3. A few righteous people can save a town or country from destruction

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