

ABRAHAM – THE FRIEND OF GOD

Introduction

- 1) It is wonderful to have good friends, and to be a good friend (Prov. 18:24)
- 2) The Bible declares that Abraham was a “**friend of God**”
 - a) 2 Chronicles 20:7; Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23
- 3) Very unique statement made about someone
 - a) The relationship between God and Noah/Moses was similar (Gen. 6:9; Ex. 33:11)
- 4) Would you like to be known as a “friend of God”?
 - a) Not just anyone can be God’s friend – how can we achieve this wonderful relationship?

I) **Being a Friend**

- A) A true friend is one who shows close loyalty and devotion (Prov. 17:17; 18:24)
 - 1) Consider the loyalty and devotion of a dog – “man’s best friend”
- B) Being loving and kind is a part of true friendship (Gal. 5:22; Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:12; 2 Pet. 1:7)
 - 1) “Friend” (Gk. *philos*) – loved, dear, or friendly (Vine)

II) **Abraham was NOT a Friend of God because He was Sinless**

- A) Heeded the voice of Sarah concerning Hagar (Gen. 16:1-2)
- B) Laughed at God’s promise of a son by Sarah (Gen. 17:15-19)
- C) Withheld the whole truth because of his fear of man (Gen. 20:1-5, 11-12)

III) **Abraham was a Friend of God because He...**

- A) Listened to God
 - B) Believed God
 - C) Obeyed God
- “*And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness*” (Gen. 15:6); this includes his listening and obedience (Jas. 2:20-24)
- * God accounts our hearing, believing, and obeying as being righteous in His sight!

IV) **Scriptures Illustrating Abraham’s Friendship with God**

- A) Genesis 12:1-4
15:1-6
22: 1-18
- B) Romans 4:16-22
- C) Hebrews 11:8-16
- D) James 2:21-24

Conclusion

Are you a **friend of God** or a **friend of the world?** – you *cannot be both!* (Jas. 4:4; Matt. 6:24)

Your goal in life should be to be a friend of Jesus – read John 15:9-15

We are the friends of God when we listen to Him, believe His words, and obey His commandments.

If we live to please ourselves, our family members, our earthly friends and associates, Jesus will not confess us as His friend...

...and if we haven’t listened to him and spent time with Him as a friend would, Jesus will not confess us as His friend (Matt. 7:23)!

Can You Be Called a Friend of God?