

Daily devotions for 2019



Day 8
Abraham, part 3

Abraham in Egypt

Genesis 12:1-20

Abraham's faith wilted in the face of famine in Canaan. He decided to go into Egypt.

He was fearful and forgot to trust in God, so he told Sarah to say he was her brother. Abraham wanted to protect himself. Poor Sarah. I wonder how she felt about it. (In today's world, it would probably lead to divorce!)

Through this subterfuge, Abraham acquired wealth and possessions. God had to intervene. He set diseases on Pharaoh's household. How Pharaoh found that Sarah was Abraham's wife, we don't know. So Pharaoh sent Abraham and Sarah, and all that Abraham owned, away.

God intervened because Abraham could have jeopardised God's plan.

Do we use half truths when challenged about our faith? I have heard good-hearted Christians say they are not worthy. None of us are worthy. We are fragile, vulnerable human beings. God knows this. It's why he sent his Son. If humans could be perfect, Jesus would not have had to suffer the cross. If we truly believe in the crucifixion and praise our Father for it and pray forgiveness for our shortcomings, then joy, hope and eternity with the Lord we love is ours.

Remember all the biblical characters God forgave and who then fulfilled his purpose; and this was before the cross!

Prayer

Holy Spirit be with me. Intercede on my behalf when I struggle in my weak times.

Father forgive me when I am weak – fill me with your strength. I praise you for your love and faithfulness and the way you rescue me and always watch over me. I would truly be lost without you. Use me to fulfil your purpose in my life.

Praise be to the Holy Spirit, to Jesus our saviour, and to my heavenly Father. Amen.