

Hebrews 11:8-10

F.A.I.T.H. (Forsaking All I Trust Him)

vs.8- "by faith"- when it comes to living by faith, the story of Abraham jumps out at you

(This man left everything he knew for a God that was new to him)

-Abraham was born in a place called Ur (or Ur of the Chaldees)

-Ur was in southern Mesopotamia (Iraq) on the Euphrates River near the Persian Gulf

- in Gen.11:31-32, it says that Abraham moved with his father, wife, and nephew to a place called Haran after the death of his brother (Lot's father)

(Haran was nearly 600 miles from Ur)

\*Lot's father was also named Haran but its not linked to the town of Haran

(Lot's father's name means "mountaineer" and the town's name means "crossroads")

- it is actually in Haran where Abraham receives word from God to journey on

-Ur was approx. 140 SE from Babylonia and was the metropolis city of its day

- Abraham was 75 years old when God told him to leave and go to a different place

Truth- just like Abraham, we too are often called to perform duties that appear unreasonable to an unbelieving world

(thus, the principle of command and promise relate to faith and holiness)

\*holiness is more than just a separation from evil, its obedience that defies all logic- I Pet.1:15-16

(And this comes from having genuine Biblical faith- Biblical faith is dumb to discouragement, deaf to doubt, and blind to impossibility)

- we see by Abraham, obedience meant he had to forsake all he ever knew

- "should after receive"- Abraham trusted God and left everything for a promise

(he was most likely an upper-class citizen of Ur and lived among pagans who worshiped the

Sumerian moon god Nanna (the name for Nanna in Akkadian is Sin)

\*notice he was first "called" (kaleo- an invitation or calling out by name)

\* in the New Testament, kaleo is a reference to salvation (God took the 1<sup>st</sup> step)

Truth- there must be a response to the "call" before one can be obedient

- "obeyed"- this implies the submission to another's will

- this is the main verb or action of the verse (all other verbs are subordinated to the main verb)

Truth- there is no true belief without obedience

- "not knowing"- even though he had never seen this land, he trusted what God told him (faith)

vs.9- "sojourned"- (paroikeo) to migrate, to dwell as a stranger

- "land of promise"- Abraham only lived in the Promised Land as a nomad

- he would never live to see the day when his seed would multiply as "the sands of the sea"-vs.12

(But it would happen- we can look back and see that Abraham didn't believe in vain)

- "tabernacles"- (skene) a tent or temporal dwelling

- "Isaac and Jacob"- he did see God's promise of a son

(And he was able to pass on that faith to Isaac and then Jacob)

vs.10- he would never get to see the earthly city but his faith was counted to him for righteousness (and he gets to live eternally in the Heavenly City built by God)

- "foundations"- this implies permanence (he dwelt in the temporary and looked for the permanent)

\*in John 8:56, Jesus told the Jews in the Temple that Abraham saw His day and was glad

- by Christ's statement, Abraham knew he was a part of a bigger plan and was glad to be used by God to accomplish it

\*this is true Biblical obedience- one who is glad to forsake all for the will of God- Luke 14:33