### Introduction

- 1. Abraham has been referred to as, "the father of faith," or "the father of the faithful"
  - a. His name (Abram; Abraham) appears over 300 times in the Bible
  - b. He, like Noah and Job, lived in the time of the patriarchs
    - i. He was a descendent of Noah's son, Shem (Gen. 11:10-26)
  - c. Jesus Christ is his descendant (Mt. 1:1)
    - i. Jesus spoke highly of Abraham (Jn. 8:31-58)
  - d. Abraham was a man of faith, but also a man of reverence
- 2. Abraham will serve as our next example of reverence
  - a. Abraham's commitment
  - b. Abraham's challenge
  - c. Abraham's confession

### Abraham's Commitment

- 1. Abraham came from an idolatrous family (Jos. 24:1-2)
- 2. Abraham obeyed God when told to leave his country and family (Gen. 12:1-4)
  - a. What would cause a man to do such a thing? (Heb. 11:8)
- 3. Abraham built an altar to the LORD (Gen. 12:5-8)
  - a. Abraham understood the need to call on the name of the LORD (Gen. 12:8)
  - b. Like Noah before, Abraham sacrificed to the LORD (Gen. 8:20)
  - c. We cannot sacrifice to God and to demons [idols] (<u>1 Cor. 10:14-22</u>)
- 4. Regardless of my upbringing, I can still commit to serve the God of Heaven

## Abraham's Challenge

- 1. God tested Abraham's faith by requiring him to sacrifice his promised son, Isaac (<u>Gen. 22:1-10</u>)
  - a. Isaac was the son of promise (Gen. 21:12)
  - b. Abraham's faith did not waver (Rm. 4:16-22)
- 2. Abraham's reverence toward God was on full display (Gen. 22:11-12)
  - a. So was Abraham's faith (Heb. 11:17-19)
- 3. God provides for the reverent (Gen. 22:13-14)
  - a. Abraham was greatly blessed and so are we! (Gen. 22:15-18; Gal. 3:26-29)

### Abraham's Confession

- 1. Abraham understood that he was a stranger [foreigner] and pilgrim [sojourner] on the earth (<u>Heb. 11:13</u>)
  - a. So are we! (<u>1 Pt. 1:1-3</u>, <u>2:11</u>)
- 2. Abraham was seeking a heavenly home (Heb. 11:14-16)
  - a. So are we! (<u>1 Pt. 1:4-9</u>; cf. <u>Col. 1:3-5</u>)
- 3. The reverent understand where they are going and will do what is necessary to get there

# Conclusion

- 1. Abraham is a great man of faith and reverence
  - a. He left behind his family and country to pursue a better country showing his commitment to God (<u>Heb. 11:16</u>)
  - b. When challenged, Abraham showed his obedience and reverence toward God (<u>Gen. 22:12</u>)
  - c. His confession is the confession of all those who fear the LORD (<u>Heb.</u> <u>11:13</u>)
- 2. Make Heaven your home tonight!