

BIBLE SERMON: GENESIS CHAPTER 18

[2] The title of the sermon: "GENESIS CHAPTER 18."

God Changes Abram And Sarai's Names

- Before we get into Genesis Chapter 18, let's go over a quick summary of Genesis Chapter 17.
- In Genesis Chapter 17, we see God change Abram and Sarai's names to Abraham and Sarah.
- We see God make a covenant with Abraham to multiply his seed exceedingly.
- God promises to make Abraham a father of many nations.

[3] Genesis 17:4-6 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. 5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. 6 And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

- We see that God establishes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and his seed.
- He will be a God unto all those who believe in Him.
- God gives all the land of Canaan to Abraham and all his seed after him.
- We know this is talking about the spiritual seed of Abraham because the Book of Romans tells us this.

Then we see the token of circumcision which is a picture of removing the flesh from the equation for salvation.

- Our bodies or flesh will not save us in any way, shape, or form.
- And circumcision is a picture to show us this. Salvation is not of works which are done through our flesh.

[4] Genesis 17:10-11 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. 11 And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.

- They were to circumcise every male baby at the age of 8 days old.
- God wanted the new born babies of the children of Israel circumcised.
- God also wanted anyone that was with the children of Israel to be circumcised as well.
- We learned that Abraham was 99 years old in Genesis Chapter 17.
- Abraham and Sarah had been waiting for a child for many years and had none of their own at this time.

We see God promise Abraham and Sarah a child once again. Do you remember what happened?

- Abraham fell upon his face and laughed. We see God has a great sense of humor.
- Abraham wants Ishmael to be his heir and God says, "No."
- But God blesses Ishmael because of Abraham's prayer. The covenant, though, will be with Isaac.

[5] Genesis 17:20-21 And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. 21 But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

- We see that Abraham immediately takes all of the males and circumcises them just as God commanded.
- Abraham didn't put this off as Moses does later on. He does this immediately and fulfills God's command.
- Now, with that quick summary of Genesis Chapter 17, let's start in Genesis Chapter 18.

[6] Genesis 18:1 And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

- I absolutely love this chapter of the Bible because the Lord appears to Abraham in this chapter.
- The Bible says, "And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre."
- The Bible is saying that the Lord appeared to Abraham face to face.
- Abraham was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. He lived in a tent.
- The Lord actually appeared to Abraham last chapter too.
- The Lord appeared to Abraham in Genesis Chapter 12. Who would this be appearing to Abraham?

[7] Genesis 26:1-2 And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar. 2 And the LORD appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:

[8] Genesis 26:3-4 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father; 4 And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;

- The Lord Appeared to Isaac. "ALL THE NATIONS" of the earth will be blessed through Isaac.
- Why is that? Isaac is the child of faith. If you have faith, you are one of these children.
- But notice that the Lord has appeared to Abraham and Isaac so far with the same promise.
- So, who do you think the Lord appears to next? Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. So it must be Jacob.

[9] Genesis 48:3-4 And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me, 4 And said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession.

- The Lord appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- The Lord talked with Moses face to face. The Lord appeared to Solomon.
- Many people have seen the Lord face to face in the Old Testament.

[10] Genesis 32:30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

[11] Exodus 33:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

[12] Deuteronomy 34:10 And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,

- We know for sure that Jacob and Moses saw the Lord face to face.

[13] Ezekiel 20:35-36 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face. 36 Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD.

- God says HIMSELF over and over again that He has spoken with people face to face.

No Man Hath Seen God Nor Can See Him

[14] 1 Timothy 6:16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

[15] 1 John 4:12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

[16] John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

- If no man hath seen God at any time, how did the Lord appear to Abraham that day in Genesis 18?
- The answer is very simple and easy. Jesus Christ is the Lord, and He appeared to Abraham.
- He appeared to Isaac, Jacob, and Moses. Jesus was obviously seen by many when He came to earth.
- Jesus shows up again and again within the Old Testament and this shouldn't be a surprise.

[17] Hebrews 7:3 Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.

- Jesus Christ is God. He was there in the Old Testament over and over again.
- Jesus doesn't have a beginning of days nor end of life. He is eternal.
- No man hath seen God the Father, but obviously man has seen Jesus Christ. He is the Lord of all.

[18] Colossians 1:12-14 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

[19] Colossians 1:15-17 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

- Now, please pay attention to what this Scripture says. This is clearly speaking of Jesus Christ.
- We have redemption through His blood. Jesus, the Son of God, is the one who died for us.
- "For by Him were all things created. ALL THINGS WERE CREATED BY HIM, AND FOR HIM."
- "And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist."

- Obviously, Jesus MUST be God if ALL THINGS were created by Him. This means Jesus was not a creation.
- ALL THINGS were created by Him. Again, this clearly means that Jesus is not a creation.
- And, if Jesus isn't a creation, this means He must be God. Everything else that isn't God is a creation.

[20] John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

- Jesus is THE LORD who we see showing up face to face to people in the Old Testament.
- Jesus Christ is THE ONE who shows up to Abraham in Genesis Chapter 18. Let's continue.
- In verse 1, we saw Abraham sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. The Lord shows up.

[21] Genesis 18:2-3 And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground, 3 And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

- Abraham looks up and sees three men standing by him. He RAN to meet them. Notice this.
- Abraham was a powerful man. He was a very rich man. The Bible tells us this.
- But notice that Abraham RUNS to meet these three men and bows himself toward the ground.
- Abraham is VERY HAPPY to see these three men. He's very happy to see the Lord.

He says, "MY LORD, if now I have found favour in thy sight."

- This means Abraham lived his life trying to find favor in the sight of the Lord. He tried to please the Lord.
- He says, "I PRAY THEE. PASS NOT AWAY FROM THY SERVANT." Abraham is the Lord's servant.
- Make sure you see this. Abraham doesn't want Jesus to go away. PLEASE STAY WITH ME.
- Abraham didn't want to crucify Jesus Christ as his physical family did later at His first coming.

[22] John 8:52-53 Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death. 53 Art thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom makest thou thyself?

[23] John 8:54-55 Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God: 55 Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.

- The Jews, who are physically from Abraham, accuse Jesus Christ of having a devil.
- Did Abraham accuse Jesus Christ of anything like this? No, Abraham bowed himself to the Lord.
- Abraham was very happy to see Jesus Christ and didn't want Him to leave.
- But the Pharisees hated Jesus Christ. They were nothing like Abraham. He loved Jesus Christ.

[24] John 8:56-59 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. 57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? 58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. 59 Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

- Abraham saw Jesus. He was glad. He rejoiced to see Jesus Christ. And Jesus appeared to him many times.

- "Before Abraham was, I am." Jesus says, "I AM." Jesus is clearly telling them that HE IS GOD.
- God tells Moses in Exodus Chapter 3 that He is "I AM."

Jesus Is The I Am And God Says, "I AM" = Jesus Is God

[25] Exodus 3:13-14 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? 14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

- Once Jesus says that He is "I AM" in John Chapter 8, they take up stones to cast at Him.
- Going back to Genesis Chapter 18. Abraham bows himself to these 3 men and one of them is Jesus Christ.
- Jesus Christ is "THE" angel of the Lord or the messenger of His Father. He brings the messages of God.
- He is God. He is the Son of God. Jesus is equal with His Father but He submits to His Father.
- Jesus is bringing a message to Abraham along with two other angels.
- These two other angels are the same angels who will be going to see Lot soon in Sodom.
- If you study angels in human form within the Bible, they always appear as men.

[26] Genesis 18:4-5 Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree: 5 And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

- Abraham wants them to stay so he offers them water, feet washing, and rest under the tree.
- He's going to get them a morsel of bread and comfort their hearts. Abraham knows who this is.
- If someone visits your home and you want them to stay badly, what would you do?
- You would invite them in, offer them a drink, offer them some food, and ask them to stay a while.
- "Hey, why don't you have a seat and we'll get you a drink and make you a nice meal."
- "Then, you can go on your way." They say to Abraham, "So do as thou hast said."
- In other words, they are going to accept his offer of rest, water, feet cleaning, and some food.

[27] Genesis 18:6 And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.

- Abraham rushes into the tent and finds Sarah there. Notice that Sarah is inside the home.
- She wasn't out somewhere else. She was inside the home. Abraham tells her to start making a meal.
- "Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth."
- Do you think Sarah obeyed Abraham? She didn't have to obey Abraham. She could have told him no.
- Women have free will the same as men have free will. You get to make your own decisions.

[28] 1 Peter 3:1-3 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2 While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. 3 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;

[29] 1 Peter 3:4-5 *But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:*

[30] 1 Peter 3:6 *Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.*

- Sarah obeyed her husband Abraham. The Bible calls her a holy woman that trusted in God.
- God commands wives to be in subjection to their own husbands.
- God wants women to have a meek and quiet spirit. Not the wearing of gold or fancy apparel.
- Women adorn themselves within by trusting in God and following His words.

It's not the outward appearance that matters the most. The outward appearance is important to God.

- But it's nothing like the inward spirit. As a woman, what is your spirit like? Is it loud and bossy?
- If so, God doesn't like it. You need to change that.
- Is it meek and quiet? Is it mild, soft, gentle, and yielding? Are you humble and submissive?
- Or, are you loud and proud? Do you yell loudly at your husband or other people?
- Please, as a woman, be what God asks you to be. Practice if you need practice.
- You might say: "Well, the outward appearance isn't important at all." And you would be wrong.

For example, God doesn't want women to dress up to draw attention to themselves.

- So the outward appearance is important to God. God doesn't want you to dress like a harlot or a whore.
- You are not to draw the attention of men to you purposely by clothing and outward appearance.
- Don't be dirty and nasty spiritually. Don't be dirty physically either.
- Being clean and tidy is important to God. Abraham offered the three men here water to wash their feet.
- You don't see them denying the water because their feet were dirty. Wash yourself. Wash your feet.
- Be clean. The Bible teaches cleanliness over and over again, and it's not just talking about spiritually.
- The Bible also talks about being physically clean.

[31] Deuteronomy 23:10-11 *If there be among you any man, that is not clean by reason of uncleanness that chanceth him by night, then shall he go abroad out of the camp, he shall not come within the camp: 11 But it shall be, when evening cometh on, he shall wash himself with water: and when the sun is down, he shall come into the camp again.*

- If you were physically unclean, you couldn't enter into the camp. Let's keep reading so you see this.

[32] Deuteronomy 23:13-14 *And thou shalt have a paddle upon thy weapon; and it shall be, when thou wilt ease thyself abroad, thou shalt dig therewith, and shalt turn back and cover that which cometh from thee: 14 For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.*

- "When thou wilt ease thyself." The Bible is talking about relieving yourself of piss and dung.
- And yes, piss and dung are Biblical words so don't get offended.
- They were to do their business outside of the camp. God wants his camp and his people to be holy.
- God said to cover it up. For example, cats do things Biblically. They cover it up. Cats are cleaner than dogs.
- God doesn't want you to be dirty. He wants you to be clean.

God Wants Us To Be Clean

Now, have you ever heard that in church? Probably not. But we need to know these things.

- God wants you physically clean and spiritually clean. Make sure you understand this.
- Spiritually clean is far greater but physical cleanliness is still very important to God.
- CLEARLY, God is talking about being physically clean right here. Right? That's the physical.
- Why does God want you to be clean physically and spiritually? Make sure you see this.

[33] Deuteronomy 23:14 For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.

- God was walking in that camp, and obviously, He doesn't want to see unclean things.
- He doesn't want to smell your dung and piss. He doesn't want to see ANY unclean thing in you.
- There's the warning right there at the end of the verse: "AND TURN AWAY FROM THEE."
- In other words, if you're physically dirty, God may turn away from you.

[34] Genesis 35:2 Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments:

[35] Leviticus 13:6 And the priest shall look on him again the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague be somewhat dark, and the plague spread not in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him clean: it is but a scab: and he shall wash his clothes, and be clean.

[36] Leviticus 14:8 And he that is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, and shave off all his hair, and wash himself in water, that he may be clean: and after that he shall come into the camp, and shall tarry abroad out of his tent seven days.

- There are many Scriptures in the Bible that are similar to these.
- Clean yourself just as Abraham offered those three men water to clean their feet.
- Obviously, being physically clean was important to Abraham and those three men.
- And one of those men was the Lord Jesus Christ. And Jesus washed the feet of his disciples too.
- I know you remember that. Cleanliness both physically and spiritually is very important to God.
- So, Sarah obeyed Abraham and is now making food for these three men.

[37] Genesis 18:7-8 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it. 8 And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

- So, no matter what you say or think, these three men were definitely angels or messengers from God.
- Some people will argue that Jesus Christ was not one of these three men.
- But the beginning of the chapter says, "And the LORD appeared unto Abram." Three men stood by him.
- One of those three men was THE LORD. Jesus Christ was there physically with Abraham.
- With that said, make sure you don't miss this Scripture right here.

- Seventh Day Adventists, especially, make sure you don't miss this Scripture right here.

Abraham was still hurrying. He ran unto the herd and gets a calf tender and good to eat.

- Abraham chooses a good calf to eat. He gives it to a young man to dress it and that man hurries too.
- When Jesus Christ shows up, you would be in a hurry to get him a good meal too.
- Wouldn't it be amazing to prepare a meal for your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? It would be.
- What would you make? I would make what Abraham is making right here. And what is that?
- BEEF. Jesus Christ likes to eat beef and He has no sin.
- Beef, bread, butter, and milk. Do you see cauliflower listed there? No, you don't. Just kidding.
- Cauliflower is very good for you. You should eat it, but Abraham didn't have any in this meal.

But I want you to see that these angels or messengers from God here at beef. Look at the end of verse 8.

- "And they did eat." Again, they ate meat. They ate an animal right there.
- So, why in the world do so-called "Christians" teach that you can't eat meat or animals?
- Why is that? Because they can't understand the words of the Bible.
- Jesus Christ had no sin and He ate calf or meat.

[38] 1 Timothy 4:1-2 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

[39] 1 Timothy 4:3-5 Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. 4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: 5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

- This is the New Testament. Same thing.
- Seducing spirits and doctrines of devils will teach you to abstain from meats.
- But the Bible says, "For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused."
- "If it be received with thanksgiving. For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer."
- So, if anyone teaches you that you shouldn't eat meat, I would get away from them.
- They are being deceived by a seducing spirit or a devil. The Scriptures are very clear.

[40] Genesis 18:9 And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.

- Jesus knew where Sarah was, but He asks the question for us. This verse stands on its own.
- "Where is Sarah thy wife?" BEHOLD, SHE IS IN THE TENT. In other words, she's inside our home.
- If you don't think there's great meaning to this Scripture, you don't understand God's words.
- What if God asked me: "Hey Josh, where is your Pam your wife?"
- Would I say, "Oh, she's out building her career at Google?"
- "She's out building her career as a nursing manager for the evil LGBTQ+ supporting Norton's in Louisville."

Where Is Your Wife? At Home?

Do you think God would be happy with that? Let me be clear. He wouldn't.

- I would say, "Oh, she's here at church with me learning the word of God."
- "She's at home teaching our children just as you instructed us, Lord."
- "She's doing what I asked her to do, Lord." THAT will make God happy.
- THIS verse made God happy. Abraham says, "She's inside the home." And guess what?
- This command for women to be keepers at home has not changed with our "modern" times.

[41] Titus 2:5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

- That's the New Testament. That's the 56th out of 66 books of the Bible. That's towards the end.
- This is what Sarah was doing here, and that's why she's called a holy woman of God.
- She trusted God's way. Husbands, will you trust God's way and allow your wife to do the right thing?
- Don't stop your wife from following God's commandments. I did that at one point in my life. NO MORE.

Do we want to lead to the word of God being blasphemed? Read the end of that verse for yourself.

- "THAT THE WORD OF GOD BE NOT BLASPHEMED." Our women should be discrete, chaste, good.
- They should be obedient to their own husbands and keepers at home.
- "Hey, where's your wife today? Oh, she's out at the bar with her friends." Not a good answer.
- Sarah was inside the house, and she was available to do what Abraham needed her to do.

Abraham and Sarah both trusted God's way. We do not trust the ways of this world.

- When women left the home and left their children on their own, this country started going to hell.
- Why is that? Because this is a direct violation of God's laws. It's a great sin that won't turn out well.
- Sarah is in the tent and Jesus Christ is speaking with Abraham. Listen closely to this.

[42] Genesis 18:10 And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.

- This is Jesus Christ speaking with Abraham. Sarah is listening behind him in the tent door.
- We know this is God because of what He says here.
- "I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son."
- Jesus is prophesying here about future events that will happen.

[43] Genesis 18:11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

- This is saying that Sarah was well past her age to have children. Abraham and Sarah were both old.
- But Jesus just told Abraham that Sarah would have a child at the time He says.

[44] Genesis 18:12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?

- Notice that Sarah laughed within herself. She didn't laugh out loud. This was only her thoughts.
- But notice exactly what her thoughts happen to be. "After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure."
- "MY LORD BEING OLD ALSO." Again, Sarah obeyed Abraham calling him lord.
- When she first hears she will have a child, you can see that she's already given up on that.

- She laughs within herself.

[45] Genesis 18:13 *And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?*

- Jesus Christ is there with Abraham. We know this is Jesus because He heard Sarah's thoughts.
- No one else but God can hear your thoughts. He knows every thought that you have. That's scary.
- For example, if your husband or wife knew every thought you had, there would be many more arguments.
- Jesus Christ, in the New Testament, at His first coming, shows us that He knows the thoughts of people.
- This proves He is God. Jesus Christ knows you. He knew your thoughts before you were born.

God Knows Your Thoughts

[46] 1 Kings 8:39 *Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;)*

[47] Psalm 11:4 *The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.*

[48] John 2:25 *And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.*

[49] Acts 1:24 *And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,*

[50] Hebrews 4:12 *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

- The word of God is a discernor or judge of our thoughts and intents.
- God already knows what you're thinking right now, and what you will think in a second from now.

[51] Job 42:2 *I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.*

- In Genesis Chapter 18, we see this with Sarah's thoughts. Let's see what happens next.

[52] Genesis 18:14 *Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.*

- Jesus Christ, THE LORD, says He will return at the time of life and Sarah shall have a son.
- Is anything too hard for the Lord? Think of anything. Is it too hard for the Lord God Almighty?
- For example, let's say you have about 1800 feet of water line to install in the ground.
- The Lord God Almighty could take His finger and just wipe the dirt out quickly. It's not that hard for Him.
- But for us, it's not so easy. It takes days and days to complete. And that's easy.
- Let's say you had to relocate Mount Everest to Kentucky. How would you do it? Impossible, right?

- God can do it easily. Nothing is too hard for Him.

[53] Numbers 11:23 And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD'S hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.

- God says the same thing to you. Just wait and see if His words come to pass or not.
- Just wait and see if He throws all the people who won't believe on Jesus Christ into hell or not.
- Just wait and see if there's a resurrection after the tribulation of those days.
- Just wait and see if Jesus comes back on the Day of the Lord.
- Just wait and see if there's a new heaven and a new earth in the future. His hand is STRONG.
- His words are truth and life. Now, do you think God can cause Sarah, who is old, to have a baby?
- Of course. That's a very simple task for the Lord. Nothing is too hard for God.

[54] Genesis 18:15 Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

- Sarah lied to Jesus Christ right here because she was afraid of the Lord. Jesus doesn't lie.
- He says, "YOU DID LAUGH, SARAH." It's good to be afraid of the Lord but don't lie to Him.
- He already knows if you're lying. He knew Sarah would say that 1 billion years before she said it.
- Please remember ALWAYS that God hates lies. He's not okay with lies.

[55] Colossians 3:9-10 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; 10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

- We should NEVER lie to one another. Tell the truth always. Don't try to get out of things by lying.
- "Oh, well, it wasn't a big lie. It was just a small lie. It's not going to hurt anyone." WRONG.

[56] Leviticus 19:11 Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another.

[57] Isaiah 63:8-9 For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour. 9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.

- Children that will not lie. NO MORE LYING. God hates lying. Here's what we should never be like.

[58] Jeremiah 9:3 And they bend their tongues like their bow for lies: but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not me, saith the LORD.

- Do you know the Lord or not? If you do, you should stop lying. Tell the truth. Sarah lied there.
- She was afraid. Not matter if you're afraid or not, you should never lie under any circumstance.

[59] Revelation 22:14-15 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. 15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

- If you love to tell lies, you'll tell more of them. And look at the company you will have with you.

- What's there in that Scripture? Dogs, which are sodomites or homosexuals, sorcerers, whoremongers.
- Murderers and idolaters. Not a good list. God hates lies and liars.
- Remember that when you want to tell someone a lie again.

The Men Look Toward Sodom

[60] Genesis 18:16 And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

- The men rise up and look toward Sodom. Abraham goes with them to bring them on the way.

[61] Genesis 18:17-18 And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; 18 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

- If you know Genesis Chapter 19, the next chapter, you'll know that God is preparing to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah.
- God says, "Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do?" He's not going to hide this from Abraham.
- God is talking about raining fire and brimstone on Sodom. Do you remember who is living in Sodom?
- Lot, Abraham's nephew, is living there in Sodom.

Before we get to that, though, notice what verse 18 says exactly.

- "Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation."
- "AND ALL THE NATIONS of the earth shall be blessed in him."
- It's not just the Israelites or the Jews. It's all the nations of the earth.
- What does that mean? Is Abraham the Savior of the world?
- How will all nations be blessed through Abraham?
- The answer to that is very simple. Abraham believed and was counted to him for righteousness.

[62] Romans 4:16-17 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, 17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

- If you believe in Jesus Christ, you're exactly like Abraham. How are you blessed in Abraham?

[63] Matthew 1:1 The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

- Jesus Christ is the Son of Abraham and we are all blessed through Jesus Christ which is through Abraham.
- Abraham is not the Savior but Jesus Christ is "THE" SAVIOR. We are blessed through Jesus Christ.
- And Jesus is the Son of Abraham. Jesus is not going to hide the destruction of Sodom from Abraham.
- And why is He not going to hide this from Abraham? Well, let's see why in the next verse.

[64] Genesis 18:19 *For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.*

- God doesn't hide this from Abraham because Abraham commands his household to do what?
- TO KEEP THE WAY OF THE LORD. Not the new modern and progressive ways. The WAYS OF THE LORD.
- Abraham does justice and judgement. He follows the ways that God gave Him.
- God has all types of "secrets" within His words in this Bible.
- He will reveal secrets to you IF you're like Abraham.

If you keep the ways of the Lord, He will show you more and reveal more things to you.

- For example, some of you might be listening right now and trying very hard to understand this teaching.
- Some of you might care less right now. Do you think God will reveal anything to you if you care less?
- Do you think God would have showed Abraham His plan to destroy Sodom if Abraham didn't care He showed up that day?
- Do you think God is going to help you when you need it when you care less about His words?
- Think about that. If you work hard and do your best to follow His ways, God will be there for you.

I love this Scripture right here. "FOR I KNOW HIM, that he will command his children and his household."

- Men, this is exactly what you need to be like. You must step up and be the leader if you aren't already.
- Your family needs you to step up and be the leader. What does a leader do? He leads by example.
- For example, when the Bible needs to be read, you need to step up and take the lead. Set the example.
- COMMAND YOUR HOUSEHOLD IN THE RIGHT WAYS. For example, we will serve the Lord in my house.
- We will not allow lying, disobedience, stealing, alcohol, drugs, or anything against God's words.
- God knows you. He chose Abraham because He knew Abraham would follow His words.
- God will choose you for great things "IF" you do the same.

[65] 2 Timothy 2:19 *Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.*

- The Lord knows those who are His.
- When I talk about Jesus Christ up here, I see smiles from many of you at times.
- I know that you love Jesus Christ because I can see it in your eyes and in your smile.
- You are at peace no matter what happens because you know Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ Can Protect You And Knows Them Who Are His

You know that He can protect you and save you from anything. "The Lord knoweth them that are His."

- Now that you know Him, it's time to take this to another level.
- We need to step it up and follow His words in every way possible.
- Coming to church, praying, singing to God, and studying the Bible here is a great first step.

[66] Genesis 18:20 *And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;*

- Sodom and Gomorrah's sin is VERY GRIEVOUS. We all know what this is talking about.
- It's talking about sodomites or homosexuals.

[67] Genesis 13:13 But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.

[68] Ezekiel 16:49-50 Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. 50 And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.

- PRIDE. Does that sound like anything familiar in our world today? PRIDE MONTH.
- Gays, queers, fags, homosexuals. They are proud of their VERY GRIEVOUS SINS.
- Some queer loving churches attempt to use Ezekiel Chapter 16 to say Sodom and Gomorrah was not destroyed over homosexuality.
- They say, "It was just they didn't help the poor and needy."
- They say, "The homosexuals in our church help the poor and the needy so they are good people."
- WRONG. Any church that supports homosexuals, transgenders, and queers is not a Christian church.

[69] Jude 7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

- There's the reason Sodom and Gomorrha was destroyed. The Bible tells you. This is the New Testament.
- They gave themselves over to fornication and went after STRANGE FLESH.
- This means men with men and women with women. So God is planning to destroy them due to this very grievous sin.
- There are sins, and then there are very grievous sins. Homosexuality is a very grievous sin to God.
- He says so. I didn't make this up. It's in the Bible, and I will preach it. And I don't care what you think.

[70] Genesis 18:21-22 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know. 22 And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.

- 2 of the men or angels go toward Sodom, but Abraham stands there before the Lord Jesus Christ.
- How do we know that 2 of them went to Sodom and Jesus stayed there with Abraham?
- We simply look to the next chapter.

[71] Genesis 19:1 And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

- 2 of the men there were not the Lord Jesus Christ. These 2 angels go to Sodom.
- Next, let's see what the conversation is between Jesus and Abraham in Genesis Chapter 18.

[72] Genesis 18:23-25 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? 24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? 25 That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

- The Lord shares His plan to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah with Abraham.
- Abraham knows Lot is living in Sodom. Abraham doesn't want God to destroy the righteous.
- So Abraham and Jesus start this dialogue between themselves.
- Abraham asks Jesus to not destroy the place if there are 50 righteous people found there.
- What does Jesus say back to this request? And notice that Abraham makes a request to the Lord.
- He doesn't command Him to do something. He knows His place. God is in charge.
- We don't command God likes the false TV preachers.

[73] Genesis 18:26 *And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.*

- Jesus promises to not destroy Sodom if there are 50 righteous people found there.
- Righteous people are those who believe in and on God Almighty. They have faith.
- Before we go any further, was Sodom destroyed by God? YES. We all know the story.
- So, obviously, God didn't find 50 righteous people in the entire city. But, let's keep reading.

How Many Righteous People Were Found In Sodom?

[74] Genesis 18:27 *And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes:*

- Abraham decides to try another request. Abraham knows he is but dust and ashes.
- He humbles himself before the Lord. The homosexuals do the opposite. They raise themselves up.
- God's people will lower themselves and humble themselves before the Lord.
- We are but dust and ashes. THAT'S IT. Without God, we are nothing. He is our everything.
- What's Abraham's next request? Let's see.

[75] Genesis 18:28 *Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it.*

- Now we are at 45 righteous people. Jesus will not destroy the place if 45 righteous are found.

[76] Genesis 18:29-30 *And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake. 30 And he said unto him, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.*

- So, we've seen the number go from 50, 45, 40, and now Abraham makes a bigger jump to 30.
- "Don't be angry with me, Lord? Can you make the number of righteous people 30, please?"

[77] Genesis 18:31-32 *And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake. 32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.*

- Now, we're all the way down to the threshold of 10 righteous people for God to not destroy the place.
- Just 10 people in the entire city.
- For example, "Lord, please don't destroy San Francisco if you find 10 righteous people there."
- Would God find 10 people who trust in the Lord Jesus Christ in the entire city of San Francisco?
- Only God knows. I sure hope so. I would guess He would find 10, but I'm not sure.

[78] Genesis 18:33 And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

- Jesus went on His way after He was finished communing or talking with Abraham.
- Abraham returns to his place. Now, you would think God would find 10 righteous in an entire city.
- But we all know that Sodom was destroyed. So, there weren't 10 righteous people found there.
- 10 people in an entire city didn't have faith in the one true God.
- 10 people didn't have faith in their Creator who created all things in heaven and in earth.

That's sad. God rained fire and brimstone on Sodom because 10 people with faith were not found there.

- Do you know what? We are a very small church, and I know we have more than 10 here right now.
- Isn't that very sad that an entire city didn't have more than what we have here right now?
- That ends our Bible study verse by verse of Genesis Chapter 18.
- I hope you learned a lot in this sermon today.

Let's pray.