Pushing Back the Darkness

Genesis 12:1-3 ESV
1 Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. **2** And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. **3** I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Genesis 15:1-6 ESV
15 After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” **2** But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” **3** And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” **4** And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” **5** And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” **6** **And he believed the Lord**, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Who are we and how do we fit into Gods great big plan?

South	North
Hamas	Hezbollah
Suni	Shia
Saudi Arabia.	Iran (purest)

DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE?

DO WE KNOW WHERE WE CAME FROM?
DO WE UNDERSTAND OUR ROOTS?

“Most Christians are squatters rather than warriors.”

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Let’s talk about where we came from.
Genesis 12:3 ESV
in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

The mystery is…..
Christ is in you!

Who are we and how do we fit into Gods great big plan?

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Stars and galaxies
The Milky Way is 100,000 light years wide.
The nearest galaxy to the Milky Way is Andromeda and is 2.5 million light years apart.
They’re a part of 50 other galaxies 10 million light years Across.

Genesis 15 ESV
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6 **And he believed the Lord**, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Faith:
A. Trust in or reliance on
And

B. Loyalty to or faithfulness.
True faith will prove itself in practical action.
Righteousness means being in right relationship to God and his will.

“This man’s faith and action make him My friend.”

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Who are we and how do we fit into Gods great big plan?

We don’t know that we’re sons!

430 years After **Gods promise**, Moses receives **Gods law**!

Galatians 3:21-29 ESV
21 Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. **22** But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. **23** Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. **24** So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. **25** But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, **26** for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. **27** For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. **28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. **29** And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

A guardian = teacher, educator.

The highest purpose of the law is to reveal sin and to expose our inability to live up to God‘s perfect standard to point us to our need for a savior!

Galatians 4:1-7 ESV
1 the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, **2** but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. **3** In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. **4** But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, **5** to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. **6** And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” **7** So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

We get to <u>receive</u> the blessing that was in Abraham.

But

We also <u>HAVE</u> the same seed in us to <u>BE</u> A BLESSING.

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FAITH MAKES US SONS OF GOD WITH CHRIST

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<u>This is what Abrams Faith looked liked</u>:

BY THIS FAITH
- WE’RE IN RIGHT STANDING
- WE’RE ADOPTED
- WE RECEIVE THE SPIRIT OF SONSHIP
- WE’RE HEIRS OF GOD

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“**<u>IN YOU</u>** ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH WILL BE BLESSED”

The mystery of the gospel is “Christ in you”