

## **Abraham: Living By Faith – Part II**

Hebrews 11:8

Here is the amazing thing about Abraham – James 2:23 - *And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God.* Who called Abraham the friend of God? The answer is in Isaiah 41:8 - *But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the descendants of Abraham My friend.*

### **I God's Call Was (And Is) To Go Out – Hebrews 11:8.**

A. F.B. Meyer summarized God's working in Abraham's heart and life this way:

“Each step of real advance in the Divine life will involve an altar on which some dear fragment of the self-life has been offered, or a pile of stones beneath which some cherished idol has been buried.”

### **II God's Call Was (And Is) To Flee Idolatry.**

A. Ur and Haran were both idolatrous cities.

B. Remember what Joshua said about Abraham's ancestors. *And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Your fathers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other gods.*

C. Remember an idol is anything or anyone that is more important to you than God. *Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.*

### **III God's Call Was (And Is) To Flee Sexual Immorality.**

A. These societies were generally immoral.

B. We are to flee sexual immorality – I Corinthians 6:18 - *Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.*

#### **IV God's Call Was (And Is) To Flee Covetousness.**

A. There were great opportunities in Ur and Haran.

B. God tells us to flee a “me-first” attitude – I Timothy 6:11 - *But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.*

#### **V God's Call Was (And Is) To Flee Youthful Lusts.**

A. Abraham was fairly young when he was called.

B. Why does God call us to flee “youthful” lusts. II Timothy 2:22 - *Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*

C. We can divide these into 3 general categories:

1. Pleasure –

2. Power –

3. Possessions –

## **VI God's Call Was (And Is) A Lonely Call – Isaiah 51:2.**

A. Isaiah 51:2 - *Look to Abraham your father, and to Sarah who bore you; for I called him alone, and blessed him and increased him.*

B. God's call is often lonely.

1. The Apostle Paul knew all about this loneliness – II Timothy 4:16.

C. Yet we are not truly alone.

1. Note the next verse in II Timothy 4:17a.

2. Our call to be separate from the world is accompanied by one of the great promises of the Scripture – II Corinthians 6:17-18.

## **VII God's Call Was (And Is) A Call To Do Things God's Way Not The World's Way.**

A. Every time Abraham did things the world's way, he got in trouble.

B. God wants us to do things His way.

Note Hebrews 11:13-16: