

# THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the  
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

## Genesis 15

6 Abram believed the LORD, and it was credited to him as righteousness.

## Romans 4

**23** Now the words “it was credited to him” were written not only for Abraham,  
**24** but also for us, to whom righteousness will be credited—for us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God

Habakkuk 2:4...but the righteous will live by his faith —

## Isaiah 51

**1 Listen to Me, you who pursue righteousness,  
you who seek the LORD:**

**Look to the rock from which you were cut,  
and to the quarry from which you were hewn.**

**2 Look to Abraham your father,  
and to Sarah who bore you.**

**When I called him, he was but one;  
then I blessed him and multiplied him.**

# Characteristics of Abraham's Faith That made it Visible

**Abraham believed God's commands**

## Hebrews 11

8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, without knowing where he was going.

## James 2

**20 O foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is worthless?**

**21 Was not our father Abraham justified by what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?**

**22 You see that his faith was working with his actions, and his faith was perfected by what he did.**

**23 And the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called a friend of God.**



# Characteristics of Abraham's Faith That made it Visible

**Abraham believed God's commands**

**Abraham was called out of Babylon**



**Asia Minor**

**Armenia**

**Syria**

**Mesopotamia**

**Assyria**

**Media**

**Egypt**

Arabian Desert

**Elam**

**Persia**

**The Old Testament World**



• Haran

Paddan Aram

• Nineveh

• Sidon  
• Tyre

• Damascus

• Jerusalem

• Babylon

• Ur

• Susa

• Memphis

MT Sinai

Caucasus Mountains  
Ararat Mountains  
Mt Ararat

Taurus Mountains

Lebanon Mountains

Araxes R.

Caspian Sea

Caspian Mountains

Euphrates R.

Tigris R.

Chaldea

Zagros Mountains

Persian Gulf

Mediterranean Sea

Red Sea

## Joshua 24

2 And Joshua said to all the people, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Long ago your fathers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates and worshiped other gods.

3 But I took your father Abraham from beyond the Euphrates and led him through all the land of Canaan, and I multiplied his descendants.

# Characteristics of Abraham's Faith That made it Visible

**Abraham believed God's commands**

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**Abraham was willing to trade this life for the next**

Hebrews 11:13 All these people died in faith, without having received the things they were promised.

However, they saw them and welcomed them from afar. And they acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

14 Now those who say such things show that they are seeking a country of their own.

15 If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.

16 Instead, they were longing for a better country, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

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**Abraham trusted in God's providence**

## Genesis 13

8 So Abram said to Lot, “Please let there be no contention between you and me, or between your herdsmen and my herdsmen. After all, we are brothers.

9 Is not the whole land before you?

Now separate yourself from me.

If you go to the left, I will go to the right; if you go to the right, I will go to the left.”

## Genesis 13

10 And Lot looked out and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan, all the way to Zoar, was well watered like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt.

11 So Lot chose the whole plain of the Jordan for himself and set out toward the east. And Abram and Lot parted company.



## Genesis 13

12 Abram lived in the land of Canaan, but Lot settled in the cities of the plain and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

13 But the men of Sodom were wicked, sinning greatly against the LORD.

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**Abraham fearlessly carried out God's purposes**

## Genesis 14

11 The four kings seized all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food, and they went on their way.

12 They also carried off Abram's nephew Lot and his possessions, since he was living in Sodom.

13 Then an escapee came and reported this to Abram the Hebrew.

## Genesis 14

14 And when Abram heard that his relative had been captured, he mobilized the 318 trained men born in his household, and they set out in pursuit as far as Dan.

15 During the night, Abram divided his forces and routed Chedorlaomer's army, pursuing them as far as Hobah, north of Damascus.

16 He retrieved all the goods, as well as his relative Lot and his possessions, together with the women and the rest of the people.

**Hebrews 10:35** So do not throw away your confidence; it holds a great reward.

**36** You need to persevere, so that after you have done God's will, you will receive what He has promised.

**37** For, "In just a little while, He who is coming will come and will not delay.

**38** But My righteous one will live by faith; and if he shrinks back, I will take no pleasure in him."

**39** But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

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**Abraham lived open-handedly before God**

## Genesis 14

18 Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine—since he was priest of God Most High—

19 and he blessed Abram and said:

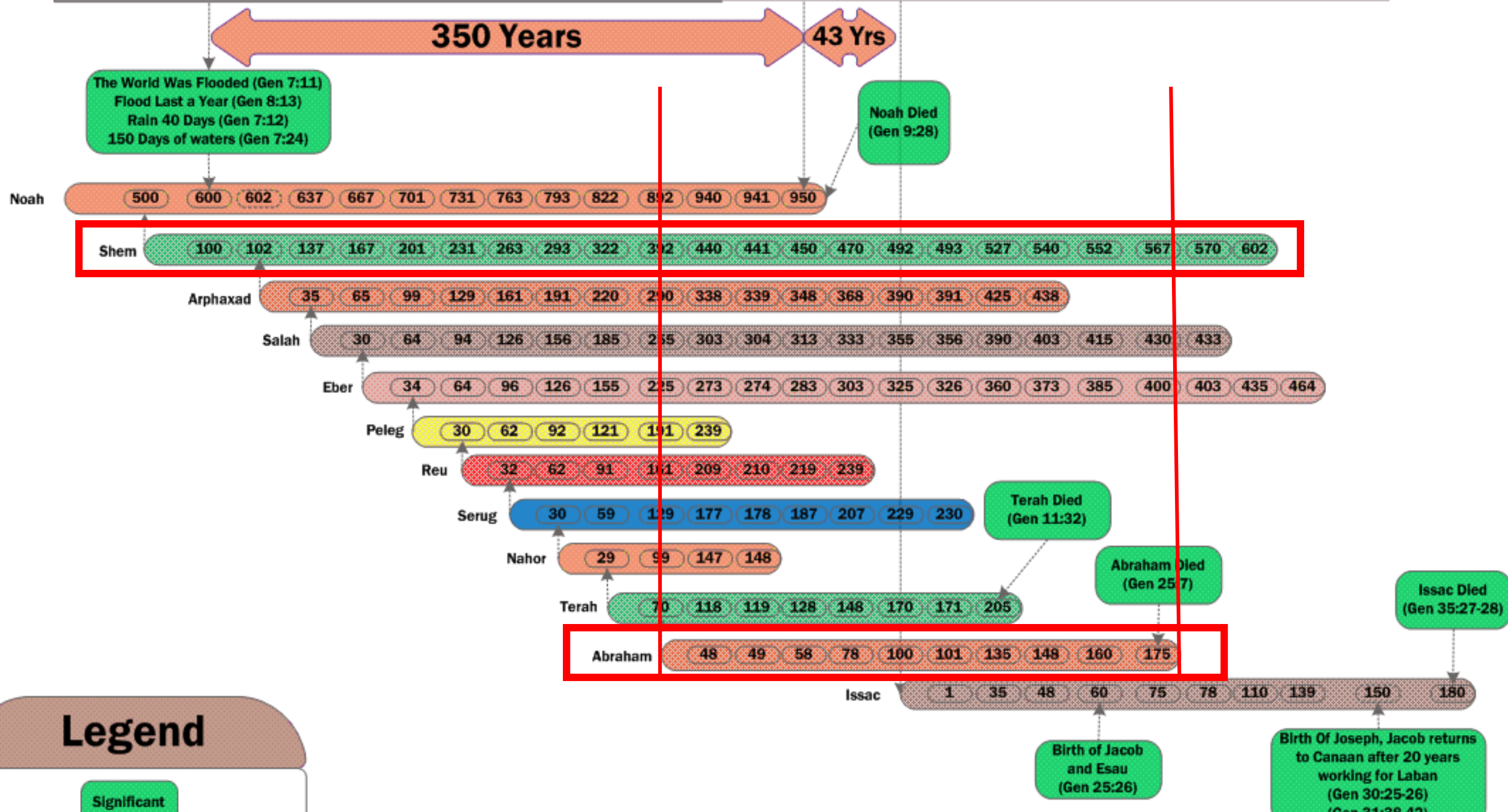
“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,  
Creator of heaven and earth,

20 and blessed be God Most High,

who has delivered your enemies into your hand.”

Then Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of everything.

# Generations From Noah to Issac





## Hebrews 7

1 This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, 2 and Abraham apportioned to him a tenth of everything. First, his name means “king of righteousness.” Then also, “king of Salem” means “king of peace.” 3 Without father or mother or genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God, he remains a priest for all time.

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**Abraham interceded between God and others**

## Genesis 18

20 Then the LORD said, “The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great. Because their sin is so grievous,

21 I will go down to see if their actions fully justify the outcry that has reached Me. If not, I will find out.”

23 Abraham stepped forward and said, “Will You really sweep away the righteous with the wicked?

24 What if there are fifty righteous ones in the city?

**Genesis 18:24** Will You really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous ones who are there?

**25** Far be it from You to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous and the wicked are treated alike. Far be it from You!

Will not the Judge of all the earth do what is right?”

**26** So the LORD replied, “If I find fifty righteous ones within the city of Sodom, on their account I will spare the whole place.”

**Genesis 18:27** Then Abraham answered, “Now that I have ventured to speak to the Lord—though I am but dust and ashes—

**28** suppose the fifty righteous ones lack five. Will you destroy the whole city for the lack of five?”

He replied, “If I find forty-five there, I will not destroy it.”

**29** Once again Abraham spoke to the LORD, “Suppose forty are found there?”

He answered, “On account of the forty, I will not do it.”

**Genesis 18:30** Then Abraham said, “May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak further. Suppose thirty are found there?”

He answered, “If I find thirty there, I will not do it.”

**31** And Abraham said, “Now that I have ventured to speak to the Lord, suppose twenty are found there?”

He replied, “On account of the twenty, I will not destroy it.”

## Genesis 18

**32** Finally, Abraham said, “May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak once more.

Suppose ten are found there?”

And He answered, “On account of the ten, I will not destroy it.”

**33** When the LORD had finished speaking with Abraham, He departed, and Abraham returned home.

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**Abraham fearlessly carried out God's purposes**

**Abraham lived open-handedly before God**

**Abraham interceded between God and others**

**Abraham looked forward to Jesus Christ**



**John 8:56 Your father Abraham was overjoyed to see My day. He saw it and was glad.”**

**Galatians 3:8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”**

**9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.**

## Hebrews 12

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off every encumbrance and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with endurance the race set out for us.

2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

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Old Testament**

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