



“Genuine Faith in the Everlasting God”

11/3/24 Text: Genesis 21:22-34

1 Peter 1:6–7: *[6] In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, [7] so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

1. Genuine faith points to God and His grace (vs. 22-24).

[22] At that time Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army said to Abraham, “God is with you in all that you do. [23] Now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my descendants or with my posterity, but as I have dealt kindly with you, so you will deal with me and with the land where you have sojourned.” [24] And Abraham said, “I will swear.”

2. Genuine faith fills God’s people with courage (vs. 25-30).

[25] When Abraham reproved Abimelech about a well of water that Abimelech’s servants had seized, [26] Abimelech said, “I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, and I have not heard of it until today.” [27] So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two men made a covenant. [28] Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock apart. [29] And Abimelech said to Abraham, “What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set apart?” [30] He said, “These seven ewe lambs you will take from my hand, that this may be a witness for me that I dug this well.”

3. Genuine faith leaves a legacy (vs. 31-34).

[31] Therefore that place was called Beersheba, because there both of them swore an oath. [32] So they made a covenant at Beersheba. Then Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army rose up and returned to the land of the Philistines. [33] Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba and called there on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God. [34] And Abraham sojourned many days in the land of the Philistines.

If you were to share a key insight from today’s sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?

Application Questions: Application/Discussion Questions: In what ways do those around you see evidence of God’s work in your life, as Abimelech did in Abraham’s? How can your faith influence those who may not share your beliefs? Abraham addresses the conflict over the well directly and respectfully. How do you handle conflicts and misunderstandings? What steps can you take to seek peaceful resolutions in these situations? Abraham plants a tamarisk tree as a lasting symbol of God’s provision. What “spiritual markers” or reminders can you establish in your life to remember God’s faithfulness and share that legacy with others? When Abraham calls on “the Everlasting God,” he acknowledges God’s unchanging nature. How does knowing God as everlasting impact your trust in Him, especially during times of uncertainty or change? How can you take practical steps to live out a legacy of faith where you are, as Abraham did in this passage?

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