

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may . . . glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:16

The Coastal Light

Church of Christ

1912 Osborne Rd. St Mary's, GA 31558 : (912)882-5800 : www.churchofchriststm.org

Elders:

Linwood Burden

Terry Powell

Deacons:

Eric Bennett

Bill Christensen

David Nordstrom

Gary Tupper

Preacher:

Art Wilson



May 21, 2023

Evangelize

"Go therefore and, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Mt. 28:19-20
ESV

"The churches of Christ salute you"

Romans 16:16

Sunday Services

10:00am service

11:00am Worship

6:00pm Worship

Wednesday Service

7:00pm

Welcome Visitors

**You are our honored guest.
Thank you for coming to visit with us.**

Please complete a Visitor's Card and put it in the collection plate or give it to one of the men and please sign the register in the foyer so we can have a permanent record.

You are encouraged to take any DVDs or tracts you find in the foyer and enjoy some Visitors Bread in the basket beside the door as you exit.

**Past sermons can be found on our website at:
www.churchofchriststm.org.**

If you have any questions about anything you have heard or seen, please feel free to ask.

**In respect of the worship service, please
turn off or place your cell phone on
silent during worship.**



THANK YOU

PRAYER REQUEST
FRIENDS & FAMILY

Spivey's- Continued prayers.

Harlie Christensen – Prayers.
Having complications with high
blood pressure with her pregnancy.

Tina Hood – Prayers for possible
upcoming test. (**Caleb Hood's**
mom)

Today's Sermon

AM: Mary – The God of Abraham
(Gen.15)

PM: The God of the Impossible

Art Wilson

Announcements

Elder's/Deacon's & Art meet after service today

Cards are available in the fellowship hall. For the
card ministry.

Live streaming of the **10 AM & 11 AM Sunday**
morning service and **Wednesday's 7 PM** bible
study can be watched on the St Mary's church of
Christ Facebook page.

What Must I Do To Be
Saved?

Hear the Word

Romans 10:17

Believe the Word

Hebrews 11:6

Repent of Your Sins

Luke 13: 3, 5

Confess Jesus Christ as the Son of the
Living God

Mathew 10:22

Be Baptized for the Remission of Your Sins

Acts 2:38

Remain Faithful unto Death

Revelation 2:10

God's Covenant With Abraham – Genesis 15:1-
21; 17:1-8

Abraham had no heir. At some point after his brother Haran had died in Ur, Abraham had taken Lot, Haran's son, into his family, perhaps thinking that Lot would be his heir. But that had not worked out so well. Abraham and Lot had come a parting of the ways in the end of Genesis 14 with Lot pitching his tent toward the well-watered plains and the city of Sodom.

So, when God appeared to Abraham again at the beginning of Genesis 15, Abraham's first words were, "What will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer?" God assured him that Eliezer would not be his heir, but "**your very own son shall be your heir**" (v.4). He then promised again that his seed would be as numberless as the stars in the sky and that they would possess Canaan, though they would be slaves in another land for 400 years before returning to Canaan, "for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete" (v. 16).

What does that mean? God is patient, not willing that any perish but that all would come to repentance. It has always been so. Yet, when the Amorites' wickedness reached the tipping point, God judged them and gave their land to Israel. God rules in the affairs of men. When a nation becomes so wicked it cannot continue, God will still step in to check the immorality of man.

Having been assured Abraham would actually have a child (though by this time he was past 80 years old and Sarah past 70), Sarah next suggested (Gen 16) that Abraham take her Egyptian handmaid (a slave girl) as a concubine to raise up children. She quickly changed her mind when the slave girl put on airs before her mistress. Sarah treated Hagar so harshly that she fled into the wilderness, but an angel found her and sent her back, assuring her that her son, Ishmael, would also have a multitude of offspring – the modern Arab people.

Things continued until Ishmael was about 13 and Abraham was 99. Then the Lord came to Abraham again when He told him he would be the father of "a multitude of nations." He renewed his covenant to be Abraham's God and the God of his offspring after him. He also repeated his promise that his offspring would live in the land of Canaan – and gave him a sign of this covenant, the rite of circumcision of all males.

God also told Abraham at this time that Sarah would have a son who would be the child of promise and Abraham's heir. Abraham laughed, and said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before you!" (Gen 17:18). We, like Abraham, often prefer our "plans" to God's Plan and want God to accept our "Ishmaels" in place of His Son of Promise.

Yet, in the end, Abraham accepted God's promise – and the sign of circumcision as a token of God's Covenant with him.

Back in Genesis 12:1-3, when God called Abraham He made 3 promises to him: 1) He would make of him a great nation; 2) He would give his descendants a land of their own; and 3) He would bless all nations of the earth through Abraham's descendants.

We will see more of how God would bless the nations through Abraham in our next reading.