

“WALK BEFORE ME AND BE BLAMELESS”!

Gen 17:1 *"When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless."*

Questions:

- Do you ever look at the faith of the Abrahams of the Bible and think that your faith is almost nothing—so weak and so little?
- Do you ever get really tired and discouraged while waiting on/for the Lord?
- At such times, how often do you launch out on your own? Your best ideas? Your Hagar?
- How does the Lord develop faith in us? In you?
- Abraham was known both as a “friend of God” and as a “man of faith”. Do those terms describe you?
- How “wholeheartedly given over to the Lord” is your present walk?

Gen 17:1a *"When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram.."*

- There are great gaps and spans of time between these appearances of the Lord to Abram. It's interesting to consider that Abraham is called **the friend of God** (*James 2:23*). Why, then, would God wait 13-14 years between conversations? Perhaps you're wondering the same thing with regard to your own situation: "Why don't I hear more frequently from the Lord? Why do I go through weeks or months or years when I don't seem to hear direct words from Him in my spiritual ears?" Keep in mind that Abraham was not only called the friend of God, but he is also called **the father of faith**. Consequently, **God is making a man of faith out of Abram**, and He's making a man or woman of faith out of you. Faith means we walk not by what we see physically, by what we hear audibly or by what we know intellectually. Faith means we hang on, keep on believing to what God said previously. We just hold on to what God has said or made known to us.
- Think back for a moment to a time in the not too distant past when you thought, "This will never work. Everything's going wrong. I'll never make it." Yet here you are today. Why did God allow those things to happen in that way? To teach you to be a man or woman of faith, to teach you to quietly and confidently believe that God is on the throne, that He is in control, that all things work together for good.

Gen 17:1b *"and said to him, "I am Almighty God;"*

- "I am El Shaddai, the Almighty God." Here is the first mention of this name that appears over and over throughout Scripture. **El signifies the right arm, and speaks of strength. Shaddai speaks of a woman's breast, and speaks of nourishment.**
- Thus, God is the mighty One **who sees us through with the right hand of His strength as He nurtures us as tenderly as a mother does her newborn baby.**

Gen 17:1c *"I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless."*

- To a ninety-nine-year-old Abram, God doesn't say, "It's time to retire." He says, "**I want you to go higher. I want you to be perfect.**" Thirteen years elapsed between the account of Chapter 16 and that of Chapter 17, and we can well suspect these were years of unhappiness and unrest in the household of Abram. The presence of Ishmael in the home created endless contempt, bitterness, envy, jealousy, weariness of spirit, and rebellion. These thirteen years were designed of God to teach Abram the folly of acting on his own.
- How is Abram to do this? **By walking in the strength and drawing upon the nourishment** of El Shaddai.] "Walk before Me, and be **blameless (wholehearted, perfect).**" The root meaning of the word is "wholehearted." "Walk before me and be perfect, wholehearted," God says, "Because I am El Shaddai." That is, I am all-sufficient to make you blameless. Walk before me, therefore, and be blameless.
- That will be a **life of fruitfulness and blessing**, a life that is **well-pleasing to God**, for it all springs from the realization that the God who lives within is El Shaddai, the **God who is all sufficient**
- **Walk Blameless-be holy!**
- *Lev 19:2 "Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.*
- *1Pe 1:13-16 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; [14] as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance;[15] but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,[16] because it is written, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."*
- **Walk Blameless-Wholeheartedly!**
- *Psa 119:10 With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!*
- *Psa 119:113 I hate the double-minded, But I love Your law*
- **Walk Blameless-Perfectly!**
- *Psa_18:32 It is God who arms me with strength, And makes my way perfect.*
- *Psa_19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;*

Holy, Holy, Holy – London Festival Orchestra

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.*

Holy, we cry holy

Revelation Song – Phillips, Craig & Dean

*Worthy is the, Lamb who was slain Holy, Holy, is He
Sing a new song, to Him who sits on Heaven's Mercy Seat
[Repeat 2x](Chorus)*

*Holy, Holy, Holy Is the Lord God Almighty Who was, and is, and is
to come With all creation I sing: Praise to the King of Kings! You
are my everything, And I will adore You! Yeah!*

*Clothed in rainbows, of living color, Flashes of lightning, rolls of
thunder, Blessing and honor, strength and Glory and power be To
You the Only Wise King, Yeah*

*Filled with wonder, Awestruck wonder At the mention of Your Name
Jesus, Your Name is Power Breath, and Living Water Such a
marvelous mystery Yeah...*

*Holy, Holy, Holy Is the Lord God Almighty Who was, and is, and is
to come, With all creation I sing: Praise to the King of Kings! You
are my everything, And I - will - adore YOU(Chorus) (Repeat at a
cappella)*

*Come up lift up His Name To the King of Kings We will adore YOU
Lord King of heaven and earth King Jesus, King Jesus Alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia! Majesty, awestruck Honor And Power and
Strength and Dominion To You Lord, To the King, to King To the
King of Glory*

