

**HEBREWS:
CHRIST IN ALL OF SCRIPTURE
AMEN BIBLE STUDY 2017-2018**

**Anchor Down
Hebrews 6:13-20
December 14, 2017**

13-15 I. As Abraham did in Genesis.

A. God's promise

¹³ For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, ...

cf. Genesis 12:2-3; 15:4—5; 17:4-8

B. God's oath

¹⁴ saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you."

cf. Genesis 22:16-17

C. Abraham's faith

¹⁵ And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise.

cf. Genesis 15:6; 22:1-3, 8, 10, 10-14; Romans 4:1-3 James 2:21-23

1. waiting patiently

2. obtaining eventually

16-20 II. So Abraham's heirs do in Jesus.

A. God's promise

¹⁶ For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. ¹⁷ So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, ...

cf. Genesis 3:15

B. God's oath

...he guaranteed it with an oath, ¹⁸ so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, ...

cf. Psalm 110:4

C. Our faith

1. safe refuge from

...we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

2. strong encouragement to

...we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

3. steadfast hope before

¹⁹ We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, ...

4. sure anchor of

¹⁹ We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, ...

5. solid ground behind

¹⁹ We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, ²⁰ where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Discussion Questions

1. Read Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-6; 17:4-8; and 22:16-18. Which of these statements of God's promise to Abraham is the strongest in your opinion, and why do you choose that one?
2. Not only does Genesis 22:16-17 explicitly add an oath to God's promise, as Hebrews 6:14 says; but Genesis 15:8-18 also constitutes such a strong oath that R.C. Sproul says it is his favorite passage in all the Bible! How does it make you feel that God condescends to say, "May I be ripped in two, like these sacrificial animals, if I do not fulfill my promises to Abraham and his true children who share his faith"?
3. Abraham waited 25 years between God's promise of a son and the birth of that son (Genesis 12:4 and 21:5). Is there a promise from God for which you are patiently waiting now? What is the greatest challenge to your patience, and what do you do about it?
4. Jesus taught his disciples NOT to take oaths to buttress their promises (Matt 5:33-37). Why do these verses in Hebrews say God did not follow that teaching when he added an oath to his promise?
5. Of the five fantastic facets of faith named in these verses (safe refuge from this world system, strong encouragement to hang in there with Christ, steadfast hope before our eyes, sure anchor of our souls, and solid ground behind the tabernacle curtain), which is most important to you today, and how does it help you to remember it now?
6. The name Melchizedek brackets the warning passage in Hebrews 5:11-6:20. How do you think the readers will be better prepared for the resumption of that subject following that warning section?

GOING DEEPER

1. Have you ever had any actual experience with an anchor? What was it like, and what did you learn from it?
2. Why might Abraham have been a particularly good example for the author of Hebrews to use with his particular audience?