



The Life of Abraham—Lifting Up Abraham

The Up's and Down's of Life

We have all had those up days that make you feel like we are on a spiritual high note similar to this passage

Psalm 16:11

You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Also, you've had those down days that seem like this:

Job 14:1

**14 "Man who is born of woman
Is of few days and full of trouble.**

Occasionally, you may have one of those days where within just a few hours or minutes you flip flop and go from one extreme to another. Abraham is about to have "one of those days". No one is spared from these days. You, I, preachers, politicians... no one.

What do you think Abraham, are you about to have one of those days? **Abraham:** Verily!

Genesis 18:1-5

Then the Lord appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. 2 So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, 3 and said, "My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. 4 Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. 5 And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts. After that you may pass by, inasmuch as you have come to your servant."

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The terebinth is a dioecious tree, i.e. it exists as male and female specimens. For a viable population both sexes must be present. The oblong leaf is bright green, leathery, with 10 cm (3.9 in) long or more with three to nine leaflets.

The Angelic Visitation

The Visitors

Abraham is camped out near Hebron. He is on his friends property, Mamre. A year earlier this is where he built an Altar for the Lord and it is also where he learned of Lot's kidnapping. Now three men appear to Abraham and it is as these men just appeared out of nowhere. He ran and bowed to them, similar to our western handshake but his signified that he understood that they were no ordinary guests. He bowed himself to the earth.

The Meal

Gen 18:6-9

6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes." 7 And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, gave it to a young man, and he hastened to prepare it. 8 So he took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate.

Your denomination is not the only one who practiced "Dinner on the Grounds".

The Conversation

9 Then they said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" So he said, "Here, in the tent."

How did they know her name? How did they know her "new" name? That was something only God, Abraham and Sarah knew!

Angelic Attributes

Their appearance was not the stuff created in Hollywood. These men were not pasty white, baby faced Cherubs with wings and harps sitting on the clouds.

- ◆ They appeared as flesh and blood. They could be touched and could eat, drink and talk.
- ◆ They could appear and disappear as if moving between dimensions.
- ◆ They were called "malach" which in the Hebrew meant "messenger" or angel.

Mamre is the site where Abraham pitched



the tents for his camp, built an altar (Genesis 13:18), and was brought divine tidings, in the guise of three angels, of Sarah's pregnancy (Genesis 18:1-15).



The Visitors

*Do not forget to entertain strangers,
FOR BY SO DOING
SOME PEOPLE HAVE
entertained angels
without knowing it.*
Hebrews 13:2