

# God keeps His promises The Story of Abraham

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God called to Abram "Out of Ur  
Take up your flocks; take up your herds;  
And leave your house and all you know;  
Go to a land I'll someday show"

So Abram, Sarai, Terah, Lot  
Packed up their clothes and tents and pots;  
in Haran stayed 'till Terah died  
then on 'till Canaan land they spied

At Alon Moreh God appeared  
told Abram, this is it! Your seed  
will have this land forever more  
My promise is forever sure

But then a famine came, it did  
no fruits, or vegetables or bread;  
it got so bad they left the land  
and went to Egypt, Abram's plan

But Oh, thought Abram, what will be  
when Sarai's beauty then they see  
My life won't last a day or two  
they'll take my wife and kill me too.

Oh what, oh how.... Oh Now I see  
a little lie will set us free  
one little lie, it's not that great  
Sarai, you must cooperate

Just tell them you're my sister, Dear;  
and then I'll have no need to fear  
and when the time is right we'll go  
right back to Canaan, who's to know?

But Abram's fear and Sarai's lie,  
nearly made Pharaoh's household die  
What have you done, why did you lie  
Here, take your wife and go bye bye  
and take the flocks and herds and please  
no longer practice to deceive

Now God blessed Abram; God blessed Lot  
so much their herdsmen just could not  
find pasture near enough for all  
so tempers flared and names were called

Then Abram said "Lot, this must stop;  
we're kin and kin to fight ought not  
so pick your place and take your stuff  
what's left for me will be enough

So Lot saw Jordan's valley green  
and took his family straight down stream  
and further down that stream he stalled  
right next to godless Sodom's walls

Then God to Abram came again  
and said the land's all yours, my friend  
each hill and valley, river, stream  
I give to you, it's not a dream  
I keep my promises, each one  
and work it out 'till all is done

But then news came, a tragic word  
that Lot, his family and herds  
were kidnapped, taken, gone, capoot,  
soon Abram's army was afoot  
no hesitation or delay  
they set right off to save the day  
and rescue Lot and bring him back  
Old Abram's love was just like that

And Oh, the joy when Lot was found  
Yes, Lot was rescued safe and sound  
and then to Abram's great surprise  
Melchisedec, the great and wise  
came out to bless him in the name  
of God Most High, the Priest proclaimed

King of Righteousness and Peace  
with bread and wine they had a feast  
a tithe of all, did Abram give  
to Him who has forever lived

Then Sodom's king same slithering up  
just like a mangy, sneaky pup  
and offered Abram all the loot  
the spoils of war, that crazy coot

Not me, no way, not one small dime  
no sandal strap with me you'll find  
no one, of me, will ever say  
the King of Sodom gave him pay  
I did not get this far by deed  
of godless compromise with greed  
I only want what God has planned  
The seed, the blessing and the land

God came again in vision clear  
To Abram saying, "Do not fear  
I am your shield, your refuge true  
And your surpassing reward, too

But Abram said ""What's this to me,  
For still I'm childless, look and see  
You promised that I'd have the joy;  
a blessed, bouncing, baby boy  
Shall all that you once promised fall  
To Eliezer, is that all?

God spoke again, His word was clear  
To Abram said, "You come out here  
And look up in the starry sky  
And count it up, go on, just try

Your family shall in number be  
More than the stars you now can see  
Right then, right there Abram believed  
In God; His promise of the seed

So God accounted Abram's faith  
As righteousness for Jesus sake  
And made an everlasting bond  
A covenant, unchanging strong

For God Himself appeared and moved  
Between the sacrifices, proved  
To Abram yet again the fact  
God never takes a promise back

Old Sarai felt the time was done  
and God would never give the son  
He'd promised; so she made a play  
to have a child another way

My handmaid Hagar is the one  
through whom I'll finally have a son  
then Abram's faith began to fail  
and so was born the son: Ishmael

That lie that Egypt's dowry bought  
just like a trap had Abram caught  
that little lie he thought was past  
now bore a bitter fruit at last  
and so my child, this lesson keep  
what seed you sow you'll surely reap

Now men may fail, and often do  
men just like Abram fail, it's true  
But God the faithful Lord of all  
will never let His promise fall

Old Abram's birthday came again  
T'was 80 years, plus 9, plus 10  
when El Shaddai said "Walk with Me,  
obedient and blameless be

I'll make my covenant with you  
and multiply your seed, it's true  
No more will Abram be your name  
but Abraham I now proclaim  
Father of many nations be  
All blessed in your descendency

This everlasting covenant sign  
of circumcision is designed  
to symbolize your faith in me  
and I to you will faithful be

Not only have I changed your name  
from Abram into Abraham  
but Sarai has Sarah become  
this Princess soon will have your son

Then Abram fell down full of mirth  
to think old geezers could give birth  
From laughing he just couldn't stop  
impossible that he'd be Pop  
to Sarah's son, she's way to old  
"Let's stick with Ishmael," he crowed

"No", said the Lord, "but Sarah shall  
bear you a son, not Ishmael  
but Isaac, that will be the name  
of Sarah's son, the one, the same  
with whom My covenant I make  
and covenants I never break"

With that old Abram's faith got stronger  
but Sarah's doubts would linger longer  
struggling with reality  
that she was old, and so was he

So God and angels came again  
to Abram's tent in Canaan land  
Said Abram, wash your feet and rest  
and let us serve you, be our guests

Then Abram said to Sarah, Quick  
go make three loaves and make them slick  
while I prepare the meat and so  
we'll serve them well before they go

The Lord said, Where is Sarah now  
said Abram, In the tent" and bowed  
old Sarah couldn't help but hear  
as by the tent door she stood near

Then with a voice so loud and clear  
God said "I'll come again next year  
and Sarah then will bear a son  
Yes, Sarah, then it will be done

But Sarah laughed, she laughed, she did  
She laughed as in the tent she hid  
with 90 years a barren womb  
and Abram good as in the tomb  
there's just no way that this could be  
the tiniest possibility

Now why did Sarah laugh, said God  
shall it be thought so strange, so odd  
that I who made all things from n'owt  
could cause a barren womb to sprout

I heard you laugh, I've heard you cry  
through fear your laughter now deny  
but though in doubt your laughter be  
next year you'll laugh quite joyfully

The son you've longed for all your life  
I tell you, Sarah, Abram's wife,  
will come and you shall name the boy  
Isaac, laughing then with joy

Then Sarah judged Him to be true  
and though past age enough for two  
receiving strength at last conceived  
because the promise she believed

Oh what a day, Oh what a morn  
the day that Sarah's son was born  
They saw that God will faithful be  
the God of all eternity

No laughing matter is it then  
if God, a promise makes to men  
And though the waiting may cause pain  
God never promises in vain

And now the story's nearly done  
now I said nearly, for there's one  
last part, the hardest part, to be  
the final, greatest test you'll see

For teenage Isaac had become  
Abraham's truly special son  
and now lest he an idol be  
to Abram, God said, Offer me  
as a burnt offering your one,  
your only Isaac, whom you love

Go now to mountain I will show  
just like I did so long ago  
and when you get there, I will test  
your love for me to be the best

As early in the morn he could  
he grabbed an ax and cut the wood,  
he laid it on the donkeys back  
with fire and knife he had no lack  
and Isaac last of all, he'd do  
just what the Lord had told him too

For Abraham had finally learned  
that God would every promise turn  
into a sure reality  
if he would follow faithfully

Isaac was Abram's precious son  
but not his god, oh no, no one  
was God, but God to Abraham  
so Isaac would become the lamb  
of sacrifice at God's command  
such was the faith of Abraham

Three days they walked, three days they talked  
they walked and talked but never balked  
and finally God said behold  
the mountain, that's where you must go

Now as they journeyed on their way  
Isaac confused began to say  
Father, I see the fire and wood  
but where's the lamb to offer could  
it be that you forgot to bring  
the sacrifice and offering

My Son, God will provide, you'll see  
He will provide a lamb to be  
the offering that He demands  
we'll go and follow His commands

If Abraham would kill his son  
His one and only precious one  
He had no doubt, God would be true  
to raise up Isaac good as new  
and from the ashes there would stand  
a nation numerous as sand

So Abraham an altar made  
he laid the wood in order, bade  
his son draw near and then he bound  
with cords his Isaac on the ground

No struggle, argument or fight  
for Isaac shared his dad's delight  
to follow God at any cost  
even if now his life he lost

Then lifted up his son did he  
and placed him on the wood to be  
the sacrifice at God's command  
this final, costliest demand

To take the knife he stretched his hand  
from heaven came the Lord's command  
Abraham, don't touch the lad  
another plan I've always had  
For now I know your fear of me  
is settled, set young Isaac free

Then lifting up his eyes he looked  
and saw a ram and gladly took  
the ram and offered it in place  
of Isaac, trembling now with haste  
to free his son and there embrace  
his Isaac now with weeping face  
these tears of joy he could not hide  
nor faith by fire purified

Now God began with promise true,  
then added on a covenant too,  
And now from heaven God would take  
an oath, sworn in His name to make

No one above our God can be  
so in who's name to swear can He  
For God to take an oath demands  
that on His own name it will stand  
This oath is changeless as the Name  
of God who changeless will remain

Said God to Abraham that day  
with blessings that won't pass away  
I bless you, now, forevermore  
and in your Seed the blessing's sure

That Seed, that Son, that Special One  
That "Seed of Abraham" will come  
Both God and man, of promise true  
all nations will be blessed in You

And in two thousand years would come  
another Father and His Son  
and there upon an altar cross  
this Son would not be spared the cost  
of laying down His life for you  
The Lamb of God; what will you do  
since now you know this ancient story  
is about the Lord of glory

Will you turn, and Christ receive  
like Abraham will you believe  
God's promises, you know by now  
His promises are sure, and how

God's promise of eternal life  
in here today in Jesus Christ  
So like old Abraham, believe  
God's promise, Jesus Christ receive