

SBC BULLETIN

SERMON: THE STORY OF ABRAM (5)



JUST A STORY

PRAYER
REQUESTS

WHAT'S ON?

BIBLE READING

Someone I know is prone to advocate various conspiracy theories from time to time. Many of these theories have their roots in far-right political ideologies, rife with anti-Semitic views and racist bigotry. The Christianised versions of these theories are usually linked to a literal understanding of the end-times. Before the return of Jesus, these people anticipate, the anti-Christ will take over the world to rule over it for one thousand years. One day this person started warning me of the impending doom awaiting all Christians at the end-times. (contd on p.3)

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

SUNDAYS@6 - Back on again this evening

Bible studies at 9.30 am and 7pm at church

Tuesday morning Craft Group - All welcome

Thursday morning Mainly Music for littlelies and their carers

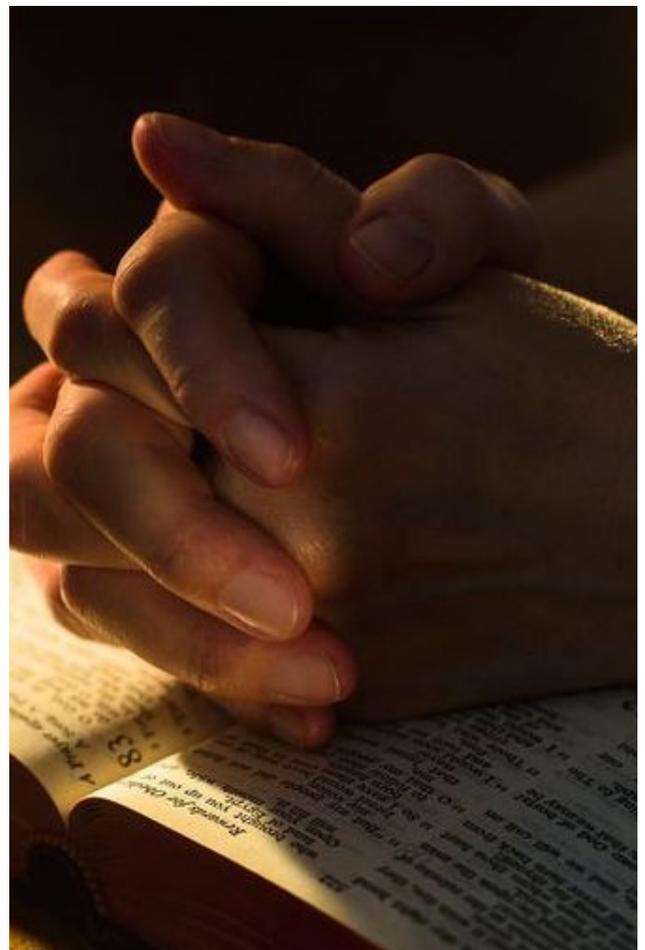
Thursday Bible Study at 6pm at church

Mentor Programme - see Chad

If you are interested in either church membership or baptism (or to find out more about these) please speak to one of the pastors.

A Prayer List for you

1. Praise the Lord for his kindness and compassion.
2. Pray for Christians who are suffering persecution.
3. Pray for the development of the refreshment centre.
4. Pray for Richard Davies who is struggling with his leg.
5. Pray for the church in Moora that they may be a blessing to the people in the area.
6. Pray for the church camp in May.
7. Pray for our children and young people and their parents.
8. Pray for the church leaders.



He was not too pleased when I immediately started poo-pooing the whole idea, saying that Jesus could come back any day and believing that certain things had to happen first before he could return was doing an injustice to the end-time message of the gospel.

“You just don’t know,” he sternly warned me, “in every city in the world there are already people who are meeting together with the sole purpose of bringing about one world government.”

“I know,” I said, “I am part of such a group.”

He was taken aback for a moment. “What do you mean?” he asked.

“Just what I say. I am part of a group which is committed to bringing about a new world government. We meet together regularly to devise strategies to take over the world. What’s more, you are behind the times, we are not only in the cities. We now have groups even in some very small country towns as well. We are everywhere and we are growing fast.”

He looked confused. “Which group are you in? What do you call yourself?”

“We go under different names,” I said. “We don’t all use the same name.”

“So, which group are you in?”

“We sometimes refer to ourselves as the Illuminati,” I whispered.

“You are a member of the Illuminati?” he asked.

“Yes,” I said. “We meet together weekly to carry out our vision to “illuminate”. But my group also goes under another name.”

“What is it?” he asked.

“Scarborough Baptist Church,” I answered. “And may all the anti-Christian groups you fear so much, be warned. We are here, we are everywhere, we are ready, we have our plans, we have started our quest to institute the Kingdom of Light and Love across the whole world. We want one world government where our God rules completely. Watch out! God himself is with us. We are coming to get you!”

After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.”

2 But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” 3 And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

4 Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” 5 He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

6 Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

7 He also said to him, “I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.” 8 But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?”

9 So the Lord said to him, “Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon.”

10 Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. 11 Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.

12 As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him.

17 When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces. 18 On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram and said, “To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi[e] of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates— 19 the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, 20 Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, 21 Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites.”