

Audio Transcript of Sermon

October 4, 2025

We Seek a Country called the Kingdom of God

Hello. Thank you for joining us today. My name is Tom Laign with Sabbath Bible Study. We seek a country called the Kingdom of God, a kingdom that is not of this world that will be established with divine authority. Living on this side of eternity awaiting the return of Jesus Christ, while we seek a kingdom to come, we live today as law-abiding citizens of our respective countries. We know whoever resists the laws of a nation resists the authority of God Who allowed for the nations and leaders we have today. We know that those who obey the law wherever they live have no need to fear any kind of prosecution. In addition to obeying laws, we also pay taxes, and are respectful to civil authorities. Romans thirteen verse one.

Romans 13:1-7

1. Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

3. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

4. For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

5. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

6. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

7. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

The journey of faith we have, where we find ourselves living on this side of eternity living in our respective countries awaiting the return of Jesus Christ and the establishment of the Kingdom of God, is not that much different than what faithful people have done throughout history. Hebrews reminds us that

faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. We are given examples of faith by several individuals starting with Abel. Hebrews eleven verse one.

Hebrews 11:1-16

- 1. Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.**
- 2. For by it the elders obtained a good report.**
- 3. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.**
- 4. By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.**
- 5. By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.**
- 6. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**
- 7. By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.**

We know by faith Abraham was called to go to a land where he would receive an inheritance, and he departed for that promised land sight unseen doing all in faith. Along his journey throughout his life and the life of his descendants, he sought a city built by God, and Sarah his wife even had a child late in life. Through Abraham came more people than the grains of sand on a beach. Verse eight.

- 8. By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.**

9. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10. For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11. Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

12. Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the seashore innumerable.

These people all died in faith and did not then receive the promises. It was as if they saw the promises from a great distance, and yet what they saw was enough to give them hope to never give up. Seeing the promises from a great distance and having the hope to never give up was for them a declaration that they sought a country, a better country, a heavenly country, just like we seek a country to come, the Kingdom of God. Verse thirteen.

13. These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

15. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

16. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

We can see this search for a better heavenly country through the life of Abraham, and the story begins when he was simply known as Abram. He was told by God to leave where he was living to go to a new land he had not previously seen, and was told through him a great nation would be born, that would become a blessing to the world. Abram left along with his wife and household. Genesis twelve verse one.

Genesis 12:1-20

1. Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

2. And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

3. And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

4. So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

5. And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.

6. And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Shechem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land.

7. And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the Lord, who appeared unto him.

8. And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Beth-el, and pitched his tent, having Beth-el on the west, and Ai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the Lord, and called upon the name of the Lord.

Abram traveled a bit more to the south because there was a famine in the land and came to Egypt. He knew Pharaoh was the ruler and that ultimately, he would need to yield to Pharaoh. He likely feared for his life and told Sarai to pretend to be his sister. While that spared his life it brought hardship to Pharaoh's house, to the point where Pharaoh wanted to know from Abram why he wasn't honest in the first place. To protect himself from further harm, Pharaoh had Abram and Sarai leave. Verse eight.

9. And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

10. And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land.

11. And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon:

12. Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they shall say, This is his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive.

13. Say, I pray thee, thou art my sister: that it may be well with me for thy sake; and my soul shall live because of thee.

14. And it came to pass, that, when Abram was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she was very fair.

15. The princes also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before Pharaoh: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.

16. And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels.

17. And the Lord plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife.

18. And Pharaoh called Abram, and said, What is this that thou hast done unto me? why didst thou not tell me that she was thy wife?

19. Why saidst thou, She is my sister? so I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold thy wife, take her, and go thy way.

20. And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him: and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.

After leaving Egypt, they returned to the area of Bethel and Ai where they first stayed before going to Egypt. It was then that God had Abram look around and God told him that all the land he saw would be his, and his descendants forever, and that his descendants would be so numerous that it would be almost impossible to count them all. Genesis thirteen verse one.

Genesis 13:1-18

1. And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

2. And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

3. And he went on his journeys from the south even to Beth-el, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Beth-el and Ai;

- 4. Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first: and there Abram called on the name of the Lord.**
- 5. And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.**
- 6. And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.**
- 7. And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.**
- 8. And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.**
- 9. Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.**
- 10. And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere, before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.**
- 11. Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.**
- 12. Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.**
- 13. But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly.**
- 14. And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:**
- 15. For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed forever.**
- 16. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.**
- 17. Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.**
- 18. Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the Lord.**

In search of a kingdom to come and having been told his descendants would be more numerous than the grains of sand at a beach, Abram found himself in

a quandary because no heir had been born to him. In his mind, without a child, the only heir that would make sense to him was the steward of his house, Eliezer of Damascus. In a vision, God told Abram that Eliezer would not be his heir and that his heir would be his yet to be born child. God had Abram look to the stars of heaven and told him his descendants would be as hard to count as the stars. Abram believed, and it was counted to him for righteousness. Genesis fifteen verse one.

Genesis 15:1-21

- 1. After these things the word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.**
- 2. And Abram said, Lord God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?**
- 3. And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.**
- 4. And, behold, the word of the Lord came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.**
- 5. And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.**
- 6. And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness.**

God then reminded Abram that he was brought out of Ur of the Chaldeans to be given the land that he was currently on. Abram wanted a sign that he would inherit the land and God had Abram provide an offering. He found himself fighting with birds who wanted to peck at the offering and when night came, Abram fell asleep. During that night's dream God provided another vision to Abram showing his descendants would be slaves in a foreign country for four hundred years, but that when they left, they would leave being very wealthy. He would have no way of knowing that God was foreshadowing the captivity in Egypt. God also told Abram he would live to be an old man and die in peace and that eventually all the land from the Nile to the Euphrates would belong to his descendants. Verse seven.

7. And he said unto him, I am the Lord that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give thee this land to inherit it.

- 8. And he said, Lord God, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?**
- 9. And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon.**
- 10. And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not.**
- 11. And when the fowls came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away.**
- 12. And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.**
- 13. And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;**
- 14. And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.**
- 15. And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.**
- 16. But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.**
- 17. And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.**
- 18. In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:**
- 19. The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites,**
- 20. And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims,**
- 21. And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.**

Abram did live to be an old man. When he was ninety-nine years old, God told Abram to walk before Him and to be perfect, explaining that now was the time the covenant between God and Abram would be made. He explained Abram would be the father of many nations, and that God would be their God, and also added that he would be now known as Abraham. Genesis seventeen verse one.

Genesis 17:1-22

- 1. And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.**
- 2. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.**
- 3. And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,**
- 4. As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.**
- 5. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.**
- 6. And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.**
- 7. And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.**
- 8. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.**

Male circumcision was to the sign of the covenant, and his heir would come through Sarah, the new name for his wife, who at that time was ninety years old. That caused Abraham to laugh wondering how somebody so old could have a child and also prompted him to remember his son Ishmael whom he had with Hagar, the handmaid to Sarah. God told Abraham that Ishmael would be the father of many princes, but the covenant would flow through the child that Sarah would have. Verse nine.

- 9. And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.**
- 10. This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.**
- 11. And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.**

12. And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed.

13. He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

14. And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.

15. And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be.

16. And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

17. Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?

18. And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!

19. And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

20. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.

21. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

22. And he left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

Still searching for the kingdom to come, later Abraham and Sarah were camped in the plains of Mamre when God came to visit, and dined with Abraham on a meal prepared by Sarah and the servants. Genesis eighteen verse one.

Genesis 18:1-15

1. And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

- 2. And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,**
- 3. And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:**
- 4. Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:**
- 5. And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.**
- 6. And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.**
- 7. And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.**
- 8. And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.**

God wanted to know where Sarah was and reaffirmed that Sarah would have a son even though she and Abraham were very old. Hearing this caused Sarah to laugh because she couldn't see how somebody as old as she was could have a child. God heard the laughter and asked why Sarah was laughing reminding them that nothing was too hard for God. Sarah denied laughing because she was afraid, and God told her she did laugh, and left it at that, with Sarah learning that with God nothing is impossible. Verse nine.

- 9. And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.**
- 10. And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.**
- 11. Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.**
- 12. Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?**
- 13. And the Lord said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?**

14. Is anything too hard for the Lord ? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

15. Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

When it was time, Sarah became pregnant and gave birth to Isaac who was circumcised on the eighth day as God had told Abraham. This all happened when Abraham was one hundred years old and Sarah was in her nineties. Like any parents should, Abraham and Sarah celebrated the birth of their child. Genesis twenty-one verse one.

Genesis 21:1-8

1. And the Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did unto Sarah as he had spoken.

2. For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

3. And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.

4. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac being eight days old, as God had commanded him.

5. And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

6. And Sarah said, God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me.

7. And she said, Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck? for I have born him a son in his old age.

8. And the child grew, and was weaned: and Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned.

Having been given a son and told through him a great nation would come, God tested Abraham to see if Abraham would remain faithful, and told him to sacrifice Isaac. Abraham arose early the next day to prepare to do that and took Isaac and household servants with him, eventually leaving them so just he and his son would be on the mountain. He prepared the altar and placed Isaac on it ready to offer him. Genesis twenty-two verse one.

Genesis 22:1-18

- 1. And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.**
- 2. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.**
- 3. And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.**
- 4. Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.**
- 5. And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.**
- 6. And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.**
- 7. And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?**
- 8. And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.**
- 9. And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.**

It was with this act of devotion that God told Abraham that through his seed, all nations of the world would be blessed because he obeyed God. Abraham would not know that much later God would have to sacrifice His Son to pay for the sins of mankind, and God spared Abraham from having to offer his son. Abraham also would not have understood that through Jesus salvation would be made available to all people, not just the physical descendants of Abraham. Verse ten.

10. And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

11. And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.

12. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

13. And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

14. And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen.

15. And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,

16. And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

17. That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the seashore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

18. And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Abraham was willing to sacrifice his only son. Even though God spared Abraham from having to go through with that, that willingness to put God first is something we all must do as we seek a country called the Kingdom of God. The kingdom we seek is not of this world and is heavenly, and so there can be nothing on this planet, not even a person, who can be more important to us than God. If we are to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, we must be willing to give up everything to follow Him, as we are led to that country we seek. Luke fourteen verse twenty-five.

Luke 14:25-33

25. And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them,

26. If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

27. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

28. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?
29. Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,
30. Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.
31. Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?
32. Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.
33. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

With the challenges of life as we live on this side of eternity, it can be hard to stay focused on the country we seek that will be established at the return of Jesus, and yet we must remain focused. We cannot allow everyday worries to live rent free in our mind, because the worries of this life are nothing compared to the glory to come in the Kingdom of God. Jesus taught that our needs would be provided as much as the needs of wildlife are provided to them. Instead of letting worry live rent free in our minds, Jesus taught to seek first the Kingdom of God and God's righteousness. Matthew six verse twenty-five.

Matthew 6:25-33

25. Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?
26. Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?
27. Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?
28. And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:
29. And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

31. Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32. For after all these things do the Gentiles seek: for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Like Abraham and the faithful of Hebrews eleven we seek a country, a better country, a heavenly country. Like Abraham, we find ourselves living on this side of eternity and, while we seek a kingdom to come, we live today as law-abiding citizens of our respective countries. The country we seek is the Kingdom of God, a kingdom not of this world that will reflect the righteousness of God.

We seek this country, a better country, a heavenly country, and we celebrate the eventual establishment of the Kingdom of God throughout the year through faith, and within the Church of God we especially celebrate the Kingdom of God during the Feast of Tabernacles, and wherever you may be during the upcoming feast, may you have a joyous and meaningful Feast of Tabernacles.

Thank you for joining us today. God-willing we'll get together Monday night for the opening night of the Feast of Tabernacles. Until then, thank you for joining us today.