

STUDY SIXTEEN

THE PURPOSE OF GOD'S CHOICE

Genesis 18

Introduction

In this story three men appeared to Abraham while he was staying near some great trees at a place called Mamre. Abraham immediately prepares a special meal for his visitors and they surprise him with an important message. After their meal the visitors go for a walk with Abraham and one of them has an important conversation with him.

Questions For Discussion

1.a) Two of the visitors were what? (See Gen. 19:1)

b) The third was who (vv.13, 17 & 20)?

2.a) Why did the Lord appear to Abraham?

b) What does this teach us about the way God relates to people?

3. Compare Sarah's response (v.12) with Mary's response in similar circumstances in Luke 1:38.

a) Why did Sarah laugh?

b) How can we tell that Mary's response was one of faith?

4.a) When Sarah became afraid what did she do (v.15)?

b) How did the Lord answer her?

c) What does this teach us about God's character? (See Ps. 51:6 & Jn. 16:13)

d) What leads people to lie?

e) When we are ashamed how should we respond to God and to our neighbours?

5.a) Why did God choose Abraham? (v.19)

b) Why has he chosen us? (See Eph. 1:4 & 2Th. 2:13)

6. What can we learn about prayer from Abraham's example?

7. What can we learn about God from this chapter?

For Further Thought And Action

Spend special time praying for your city or country.

Memory Verse

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

Ephesians 1:4