

Three Visitors

Genesis 18:1-15

by Don Falkos

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On a hot summer day, Abraham was sitting in front of his tent when he looked up and saw three travelers standing nearby. He hurried over to greet them. "Please, come to my home where I may serve you. I will have water brought so that you may wash your feet. Then you may rest in the shade of the tree while I have a bit of food prepared to strengthen you for your journey."

"Thank you," they replied, "We accept your kind offer."

Abraham ran into his tent and asked Sarah to make bread. He then selected a calf and instructed a servant to prepare the meat. When the meal was ready, he served it to his three visitors.

When they had finished eating, the visitors asked, "Where is your wife Sarah?"

Abraham replied, "She's right there, in the tent."

Then one of the visitors, who was the Lord, said, "I will return here about a year from now, and by that time Sarah will have already given birth to a son."

Sarah was just inside the entrance to the tent, listening. She overheard what was said and laughed quietly to herself, thinking, "That's impossible. I will never experience the joy of giving birth. My husband is old and I am worn out."

Outside, under the tree, the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'How can I have a child now that I am old.' Is anything impossible for God?"

Sarah stepped out of the tent and said to the Lord, "I did not laugh."

But the Lord replied, "Yes, you did."