

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
of CHARLESTON
Sunday, March 1, 2009

R. Marshall Blalock, Pastor



Abraham Life with an Uncertain Future

Hebrews 11: 8-16

By faith Abraham, even though he was past age—and Sarah herself was barren—was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore. All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

1) Put no trust in circumstances.

The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. — Genesis 12:1

Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. — James 4:13-14

"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." — Luke 22:42

2) Remember where "home" truly is.

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, — Philipians 3:20

"The earth is the vestibule, not the living room." — Tim Keller

3) Trust the faithfulness of God.

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. — Lamentations 3:22-23

References

D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Heirs of Salvation*.
R. Kent Hughes, *Hebrews, An Anchor for the Soul, Volume 2*.
Arthur Pink, *An Exposition of Hebrews*.
Timothy Keller, *Series of Sermons on Hebrews II*.
Thomas Hewitt, *The Epistle to the Hebrews*.