

## **GOD APPEARS TO ABRAM & ISAAC IS BORN!**

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, God appeared before him and said, "I am the Almighty God. I will make a covenant between us, and you will become the father of many nations. I will give you and your descendants the land of Canaan, and it will be yours forever. From now on, you shall be known as Abraham, father of nations."

And God appeared to Abraham in a mysterious way. Abraham was sitting in the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Suddenly he looked up and saw three men. He ran to meet them and bowed low before them. He cried, "My Lord, if you look with favor on me, I beg you, rest beneath these trees, drink some water, and wash your feet. I will bring bread to give you strength. Then you may take up your journey again."

And they replied, "Do what you have said."

Abraham ran into his tent and told his wife to make cakes with fine flour. Then he went quickly to his herd and selected a calf for dinner. There was also butter and milk, and Abraham stood by while the men ate beneath the tree. They asked him where his wife, Sarah, was, and he told them she was in the tent. One of the men said, "Your wife will give birth to a son." Sarah, who had come to the entrance of the tent, heard these words and laughed because like her husband, she was very old. God said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Does she believe she is too old to have a child? With God, everything is possible. The time will come when Sarah will have a baby."

Sarah grew frightened and denied that she had laughed. But God said, "I know that you laughed."

Everything that God had promised happened just as He had said. In her old age, Sarah gave birth to a son, and Abraham called his son, ISAAC.