

## A FRIEND OF GOD

**James 2:21-23** Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? **22** Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? **23** And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

**Isaiah 41:8** But thou, Israel, *art* my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.

**2 Chronicles 20:7** *Art* not thou our God, *who* didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

**I want you also to note the singular excellence of Abraham. How could he have been God's friend had not grace worked wonderfully in him? A man is known through his friends; you cannot help judging a person by his companions. Spurgeon**

FRIENDSHIP IS A SPECIAL THING. FRIENDS ARE DEAR TO US. MARKS OF FRIENDSHIP INCLUDE (BUT NOT LIMITED TO):

**COMPANIONSHIP (SHARING, TRUSTING, UNITY), *PSA. 55:13; 41:9.***  
**COMMUNICATION (COUNSEL, ADVICE, OPENNESS), *PSA. 55:14; EXO. 33:11***  
**CONSTANCY (DEPENDABLE, HONEST), *PROV. 18:24; 27:6.***

WHILE FRIENDSHIP WITH MAN IS DESIRABLE, FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD IS ESSENTIAL FOR OUR SALVATION

**Friends of God Have Mental Agreement (intellectual, emotional, spiritual)**

### HE gives His Friends Information

**Genesis 18:16-22** ¶ And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way. **17** And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do: **18** Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? **19** For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him. **20** And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous; **21** I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know. **22** And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.

**John Gill's Exposition of the Entire Bible [Genesis 18:19](#) For I know him,** Not only by his omniscience, but with a special knowledge, such as is accompanied with peculiar love and affection; and so Jarchi says, it is expressive of love. God loved Abraham, he was a peculiar favorite of his, and therefore he would reveal his

secrets to him, see [Am 3:2](#); and he knew not only who he was, but what he was, a holy good man, made so by his own grace, and what he would do by the assistance of that grace, and particularly what follows:

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his *friends*. **Ye are my friends**, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but **I have called you friends**; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.—John 15:13-15

## HE gives His Friends Promises

**1 Corinthians 2:14-16** But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. **15** But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. **16** For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

**Exodus 33:11** And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

## Friends of God Have Moral Likeness

**James 4:4** Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

**Be ye Holy**---- **1 Peter 1:16** Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

**Be ye Pure**---- **1 Corinthians 10:6-7** ¶ Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. **7** Neither be ye idolaters, as *were* some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

**Be ye Separate**--- **2 Corinthians 6:17-18** Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you, **18** And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

**Matthew 18:19-20** Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. **20** For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

## **Friends of God Have Mutual Interests**

**Genesis 21:1-3** ¶ 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.

**Like the Things God Likes**

**Love the People God Loves**

**Lament the Things God Loathes (dislikes, detests, despises)**

**Proverbs 6:16-19** These six *things* doth the LORD hate: yea, seven *are* an abomination unto him: **17** A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, **18** An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, **19** A false witness *that* speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.