

# The Friend(s) of God

Bell Road Baptist Church December 2, 2007 Pastor Rob Patterson

SCENE SELECTION:

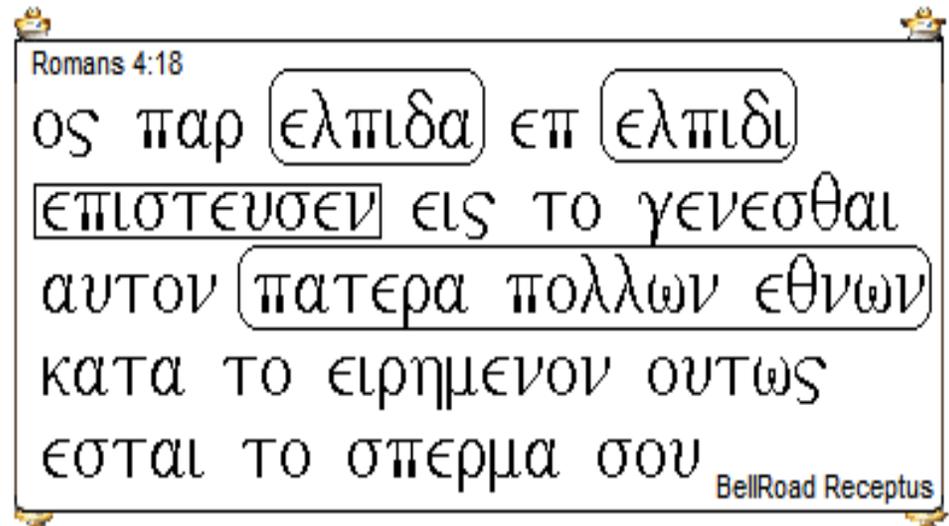
ch 7 v 51 (Acts 7:51-53)



**“You stiff-necked people,  
with uncircumcised hearts and ears!  
You are just like your fathers:  
You always resist the Holy Spirit!”**

» » **Acts 7:57** At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him.

What about **the Promise** God has made to us?  
What is my **HOPE?** What do I **BELIEVE?**



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Then the high priest asked him,

**"Are these charges true?"** To this he replied:

**"Brothers and fathers, listen to me!**

The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was still in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran.

'Leave your country and your people,' God said,  
'and go to the land I will show you.'

**Acts 7:4-8** "So he left the land of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. After the death of his father, God sent him to this land where you are now living. He gave him no inheritance here, not even a foot of ground. But God promised him that he and his descendants after him would possess the land, even though at that time Abraham had no child.

**God spoke to him** in this way:

'Your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years.

But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves,' God said,  
'and afterward **they will come out of that country**  
and **worship me in this place.**'

**Then he gave Abraham the covenant of circumcision.**

And **Abraham** became the father of Isaac  
and circumcised him eight days after his birth.

Later **Isaac** became the father of Jacob,  
and **Jacob** became the father of the twelve patriarchs.

« « **Genesis 18:16** When the men got up to leave, they looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way.

Then the LORD said,

**"Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?"**

Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation,  
and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.

**For I have chosen him,**

so that he will direct his children  
and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD  
by doing what is right and just,  
so the LORD will bring about what he has promised him."

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» » **John 15:15** "I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business.

**Instead, I have called you friends,** for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but **I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit**—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.  
This is my command: Love each other."

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» » **Romans 5:1-5** Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access *by* faith into this grace in which we now stand.

And **we rejoice** in the hope of the glory of God.  
Not only so, but **we also rejoice** in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, **hope.**

And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.