

***God promises to faithful Abraham that in his offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.***

<sup>15</sup> The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven,  
<sup>16</sup> and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, <sup>18</sup> and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

The Word of the Lord.

*(Thanks be to God)*