



FAITH IN GOD FOR THE PROMISES

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Romans 4:13-21 - 16 Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all 17 (as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; 18 who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, “So shall your descendants be.” 19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb. 20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. 22 And therefore “it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

THE PROMISES OF GOD ARE RECEIVED BY FAITH AND GIVEN BY GOD'S GRACE

The promises of God must become reality to our soul - our mind, will, and emotions.

The promise is sure to all the seed of Abraham, and we are Abraham's spiritual seed through Jesus Christ.

Galatians 3:16 NIV - 16 The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ.

Galatians 3:29 NIV - 29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Romans 4:16 NKJV - the promise might be sure to all the seed. Sure, has to do with being certain, convinced, trustworthy, or dependable. The promises of God are not sure to you until you make Jesus your Savior and Lord.

All the promises of God are in Jesus Christ, and if you're in Christ, you have access to all the promises of God.

II Corinthians 1:20 NKJV - 20 For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

The "Him" is Jesus Christ, and it is through our relationship with Him that we have access to all the promises of God. **Amen** - let it be unto me according to Your Word.

To the glory of God through us - it is through our believing and receiving the promises of God by faith that God gets glory.)



Promise - Gr. epangelia - an announcement or pledge of divine assurance of God; a promise given or to be given. God's promises are a divine assurance which is our insurance that He will do all that He says He will do.

To be given - there are some promises that we will receive here and now, and some promises that await us in eternity. What awaits us is greater than what we're experiencing now - don't become earthly-minded.

God was faithful to keep His promise in the Old Testament or Old Covenant.

Joshua 23:14 NKJV - 14 “Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed.

Since God was faithful to keep His promises in the Old Testament, surely, He will keep His promises to us under a New Covenant, which is declared to be a better covenant with better promises.

Hebrews 8:6 NKJV - 6 But now Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a ministry that is far superior to the old priesthood, for he is the one who mediates for us a far better covenant with God, based on better promises.

God's promises are a part of the blessing of God. When God blessed mankind in **Genesis 1:28** He released the promises that comprised the blessing.

Genesis 1:27-28 NKJV - 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Likewise, the Word of God says that we are blessed, and if we are blessed, then there are promises that comprise our blessing.

Ephesians 1:3 NKJV - 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

The Father is the benefactor, and Jesus is the authorizer. This is why we pray to the Father in the Name of Jesus.

Faith in God is the way we acquire the promises, but not just faith in and of itself, but faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ that has provided us access to the promises of God. There has to be a basis for our faith, and Jesus Christ is the basis, the foundation of our faith.

Faith in God, in the promises of God, is an act that brings forth a tangible, physical fulfillment of those promises. It is believing with your heart and confessing with your mouth the promises of God as you are led by the Holy Spirit.

God wants us to hold fast to our hope and faith and to believe that He will make His promises happen.



The purpose of faith is to turn promises into reality. Each of these promises connects to true faith in God, which is made manifest in the attitude of our hearts, in our actions, in our thoughts, and in our words.

Characteristics of Faith Exemplified by Abraham:

Abraham is often referred to as the "father of faith" due to his profound trust and obedience to God. This title reflects his pivotal role in the covenantal relationship between God and His people. His unwavering belief in God's promises, particularly regarding the birth of his son Isaac and his willingness to sacrifice Isaac, exemplifies the faith that is credited to him as righteousness.

1. FAITH IN GOD CALLS INTO EXISTENCE WHAT HAS NOT MANIFESTED IN THE NATURAL **Romans 4:17 NKJV - (as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of** **Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as** **though they did;**

The Bible is your main promise book regarding the promises made available to you and how you can obtain them. Declare what is written. There are things God has declared concerning you before you were born. Seek Him to see what He has said.

Psalms 139:16 NKJV - 16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.

Faith speaks as a reality what God has spoken that will come to pass. When God speaks, it's as good as done.

Isaiah 55:10-11 NIV - 10 As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, 11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

When we speak the Word of God, we are speaking what He has spoken that is destined to produce the purpose He designated.

2. FAITH IN GOD MAINTAINS EXPECTATION FOR MANIFESTATION OF WHAT GOD HAS SAID IN SEEMINGLY HOPELESS SITUATIONS

Romans 4:18 - 18 who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."

Abraham believed in hope despite having no natural or rational grounds for hope.

Hebrews 10:23 NKJV - 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Faith trusts in God's power and faithfulness, even when the circumstances look hopeless.



Abraham's faith did not mean that he did nothing and just waited for God to create a child in Sarah's womb. This was not going to be by an immaculate conception. Abraham and Sarah had to do their part in marital relations and trust God for a miraculous result. Faith does not mean doing nothing, but doing everything we can do with trust and reliance on God. Abraham did not believe that these circumstances could make God's promises impossible. He believed that God would use them for His glory.

Matthew 19:26 NIV - 26 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

3. FAITH IN GOD DOES NOT CONSIDER THE NATURAL, BUT RELIES UPON SUPERNATURAL POWER OF GOD TO BRING THE PROMISE TO PASS

Romans 4:19 - 19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb.

Consider - to give a lot of attention to or to fix your eyes or mind upon. Faith for the promises can't look at the contrary circumstances.

II Corinthians 4:18 NIV - 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. So, how do we fix our eyes on the unseen: through faith.

Hebrews 11:1 NIV - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Even though we can't see the future, we place our trust in God's promises.

4. FAITH IN GOD DOES NOT WAVER THROUGH UNBELIEF

Romans 4:20 - 20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,

Waver - to separate thoroughly, not together due to opposing opinions or views.

I believe this separation takes place between the spirit and the soul. Your reborn spirit believes the Word of God, but the soul can wrestle in the mind and the emotions, whether to believe and trust God's Word. The soul is often influenced by the circumstances surrounding it. Situations occur in life that, if allowed, can affect our emotional state and have an influence on our mind and will. This can cause us to doubt and even lead to unbelief.

5. FAITH IN GOD IS STRENGTHENED AS IT ENDURES CHALLENGES

Romans 4:20 - 20but was strengthened in faith,.....

James 1:1-4 NIV - 2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.



Faith is tested through trials, not produced by trials. Trials reveal what faith we do have; not because God doesn't know how much faith we have, but so that our faith will be evident to ourselves and to those around us. Trials are occasions for joy, not discouragement, because of what they produce - perseverance. Perseverance is defined as persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success. As we persevere during the trial, our faith is strengthened because we go through it with joy. The Word of God denotes varying degrees of faith - strong, little, weak.

Hebrews 6:15 AMPCE - 15 And so it was that he [Abraham], having waited long and endured patiently, realized and obtained [in the birth of Isaac as a pledge of what was to come] what God had promised him.

6. FAITH IN GOD GIVES GOD GLORY.

Romans 4:20 - 20 giving glory to God,

Glory - a good opinion of someone resulting in praise, honor, and glory. It is an expression of honor through worship, obedience, and praise, reflecting God's worth and value in our lives. While you're waiting on the promise to come to you, praise your way through.

Psalms 34:1 NKJV - I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

When we exercise our faith in God by trusting His Word, we give God glory when He is praised by us and others for what His Word accomplishes in our life and the life of others.

Psalms 115:1 NIV - 1 Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.

7. FAITH IN GOD IS FULLY PERSUADED THAT GOD IS ABLE TO PERFORM WHAT HE PROMISED

Romans 4:21 - 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

In the Book of Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Hebrew names Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah) are thrown into a fiery furnace by King Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon for refusing to bow to the king's image.

Daniel 3:16-18 NKJV - 16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. 17 If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. 18 But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up."

Despite being bound and cast into the flames, they were miraculously unharmed. Because of their faith in God, an angel of the Lord protected them. They glorified God from within the furnace.