



FAITH IN GOD FOR THE PROMISES

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Romans 4:16-21 NKJV - 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.

As we continue in our study, Faith In God For The Promises, we will further observe the faith Abraham exhibited in God. Abraham is often referred to as the "father of faith" due to his profound trust and obedience in God. *Trust and obedience are two key ingredients to faith. Trust - believe in the reliability, truth, ability, and strength of someone. Obedience - following rules, instructions, or commands given by someone in a position of authority or responsibility.*

I. FAITH IN GOD CALLS INTO EXISTENCE WHAT HAS NOT MANIFESTED IN THE NATURAL
Romans 4:17 - "calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

II Corinthians 4:13 NKJV - 13 And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak,
Faith is released through what we believe and speak that align itself with the Word of God.

Manifested in the natural *means it's not tangible, you can't put your hands on it, yet, you haven't seen it with your natural eyes, but you have a vision of it through the eyes of faith. Faith is substance, and it enables us to see what is intangible as tangible, what is not seen as seen.*

There's a particular way the God kind of faith speaks, and we see it here in Romans 4:17.

- 1. The God kind of faith declares the promise a reality before there is any evidence of it manifesting. “I have made you a father of many nations”*
- 2. The God kind of faith speaks abundance, overflow, increase, more than enough before there's a single seed. "father of many nations”*

When we really start to speak the language of faith, we sound crazy, like we have lost our minds to the world.
I Corinthians 2:14 - But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them because they are spiritually discerned.



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."

contrary to hope, in hope believed - a situation where you continue to hold onto hope even when there seems to be no reason for optimism. It seems that the odds are stacked against you, but even though this may be the case, you refuse to give up hope. Abraham believed in hope despite having no natural or rational grounds for hope.

(Abraham was 100 years old, and Sarah was 90 years old, and God was still declaring that they would have a son, and they expected to have a son even though circumstances seemed hopeless.)

How do you know you've lost your expectation? When you're no longer talking about your expectation or doing anything in line with your expectation.)

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

Hope - joyful and confident expectation

Joy is an inner contentment and satisfaction that arises from a relationship with God.

Joy is not dependent upon external circumstances. In fact, joy transcends or goes beyond the limits of changing circumstances and produces a deep fulfillment and peace.

True joy comes from the Holy Spirit and abiding in God's presence. (**Psalm 16:11**)

We must understand that happiness and joy are not the same. Happiness is often fleeting because it is based upon external circumstances. But joy helps to sustain us as we trust God through life's challenges.

hold fast - be rooted and grounded, confirmed and established, in the truth. *Roots provide stability in times of storm and nutrients for growth.*

profession - confession - to declare publicly

without wavering - inclining - to lean, tend, or become drawn toward an opinion or course of conduct (contrary to what you believe)

for He who promised is faithful - reliable, steadfast, and unwavering in one's beliefs and actions. *God is the same today, yesterday, and forever.*

Faithfulness is a key attribute of God's character. God is committed to His promises and to us, His people. He is a covenant-keeping God.



*The Hebrew word for covenant is "**berit**" and conveys a sense of a binding obligation and an enduring promise. **Marriage is a covenant** and should be seen as a binding obligation and an enduring promise*

The reason we should hold fast to our confession of expectation in regard to receiving the promise is because the one who promised the promise, is faithful.

Faith trusts in God's power and faithfulness, even when the circumstances look hopeless. *(Quit looking at your inability in the natural to bring the promise to pass and look to God's ability and His faithfulness.)*