



FAITH IN GOD FOR THE PROMISES

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Bible Study – 7-17-2025

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.

1. 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,

We have the same spirit of faith - we believe and speak.

Romans 10:8-10 NKJV - 8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

There's a particular way the God kind of faith speaks, and we see it here in Romans 4:17. *Faith is the language of the Kingdom of God and since we are now citizens of the Kingdom (Philippians 3:20 - For our citizenship is in heaven) we need to speak the language of the Kingdom. Speaking the language of the country you're a citizen of enables you to conduct business efficiently and promptly. Before we were saved, we were citizens of the Kingdom of darkness (Colossians 1:13) and we spoke the language of that kingdom - fear, doubt, unbelief. Now that we're saved, we need to speak Kingdom of God. Learn it - Romans 10:17*

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”** Declare you have promise before you see the promise manifested in the



natural, and you will see it manifest in the natural.

2. The God kind of faith speaks abundance, overflow, increase, more than enough **from** a single seed. "**father of many nations**" *Never underestimate the power of a seed. Be ready to sow.*

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 - refers to a situation where you continue to hold onto hope even when there seems to be no reason for optimism. Abraham believed in hope despite having no natural or rational grounds for hope. He and Sarah were beyond child bearing years in the natural.

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 - *be around positive people who will encourage you - everybody can't go on your journey, Abraham & Lot*

We must understand that happiness and joy are not the same. Happiness is often fleeting because it is based upon external circumstances.

But joy is an inner contentment we have as we trust in God.

Philippians 4:11-13 NLT - 11 Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. 12 I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. 13 For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

hold fast - be rooted and grounded in the truth. *Roots provide stability.*

confession - to declare publicly - what we're saying indicates our expectation. *You're going to speak what you expect.*

without wavering - inclining - don't lean towards a contrary opinion to what you believe. Stay the course of your confession.

for He who promised is faithful - reliable, steadfast, and unwavering. 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.

Jeremiah 1:12 - God watches over His Word to perform it. Marriage is covenant - should be a binding obligation / enduring promise



Abraham's faith in God to bring about the promise did not mean that he and Sarah 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. *So we see that faith in God doesn't mean that natural processes and procedures are disregarded - corresponding action.* Faith does not mean you're inactive, doing nothing, but it means you're doing everything you know to do and should do with trust and reliance on God to bring the promise to pass.

(You know your expectation is still active when you're motivated to move forward in obtaining it. You're not letting your dream, your expectation, die on the vine - you're not going let your dream fail prematurely or not come to fruition, due to being ignored, neglected.)

3. FAITH IN GOD DOES NOT CONSIDER OR FOCUS ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE NATURAL, BUT RELIES UPON THE 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. *What are you giving your attention too? Your focus will affect your faith either in a positive or negative manner.* Those who are weak in faith are moved and/or influenced by contrary circumstances.

II Corinthians 5:7 NKJV - 7 For we walk by faith, not by sight. *In defeating Goliath, David did not focus on what everyone else was saying about the giant (I Samuel 17:25) nor the giants size and weapons (I Samuel 17:4-7) nor what is brother said regarding David's motive for being there (I Samuel 17:28) nor what Goliath said about David and what he would do to David (I Samuel 17:42-44) but David stood on the promise of God regarding Israel (Genesis 12:3, Psalm 83) and the promise of what would be given to the man who defeats Goliath (I Samuel 17:25-26).*

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. *(Focused faith - our eyes fixed on the unseen rather than what we see.)*
The promises of God in His Word are the unseen. We focus on what we are believing.

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 for the future.

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,

Unbelief - Greek *apistia* - unwillingness to commit yourself to the Word of God



KJV - staggered - Gr. to separate thoroughly, to doubt - it means that due to opposing opinions or views, you are not together in your thinking. Doubting is wavering between two opinions.

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. Your mind can be motivated by sense knowledge and therefore cause your soul to be influenced by the circumstances surrounding you. *That's why we have to renew our mind, to see things from God's perspective.* Situations occur in life, that if allowed, can affect our emotional state and have an influence on our mind and will. This can cause you to doubt and even lead to unbelief.