



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.

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

Faith is the language of the Kingdom of God and since we are now citizens of the Kingdom (**Philippians 3:20**) we need to speak the language of the Kingdom.

- 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 from a single seed. "father of many nations”**

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’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. Faith in God requires that we perform the natural processes and procedures that correspond with what we are believing -



corresponding action. **(James 2:26)** Faith in God does not mean you're inactive, doing nothing, but that you're doing everything you know and should do and with trust/reliance in God to bring the promise to pass.

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 - what we give attention to or fix our eyes or mind upon.

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)** Who do others say that I am? **(Matthew 16:13-16)** Nor the giants size and weapons **(I Samuel 17:4-7)** The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God **(II Corinthians 10:4)** Nor what his brother said regarding David's motive for being there **(I Samuel 17:28)** **(Jeremiah 17:10 ESV - "I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give to each man according to his ways, according to the results of his deeds. James 4:3 - ask and receive not)** What Goliath said about David and what he would do to David **(I Samuel 17:42-44)** **(I Peter 5:8)** 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).**

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 minds 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.

Staggering - It takes an intoxicated person who's staggering longer to walk from point A to point B. They are subject to trip or stumble because they don't recognize the obstacles before them; they often lack clear focus and awareness regarding where they are and where they're going; and because their senses are impaired, they lack the confidence to move forward at a proper pace.

5. FAITH IN GOD IS STRENGTHENED AS IT ENDURES CHALLENGES

Romans 4:20 - 20but was strengthened in faith,..... James 1:2-4 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 and proven through trials, not produced by trials. (**Romans 10:17** - faith comes by hearing and adhering to the Word of God) Trials reveal what faith we do have; not because God doesn't know how much faith we have, but so our faith will be evident to ourselves and to those around us. Trials in the life of the believer should be an occasion for joy to manifest and not discouragement because of what they produce - perseverance. Perseverance is defined as persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success. Although I have to wait for my way out, I persevere, knowing I have a way out.

Romans 5:3-4 NKJV - 3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

AMP - 3 And not only this, but [with joy] let us exult in our sufferings and rejoice in our hardships, knowing that hardship (distress, pressure, trouble) produces patient endurance; 4 and endurance, proven character (spiritual maturity); (perseverance produces spiritual growth and maturity. Babies cry, toddlers pout, adolescents complain, but the spiritually mature face hardships with joy and confidence in God.) **and proven character, hope and confident assurance [of eternal salvation].**

As we persevere during the trial, our faith is strengthened because we go through it with joy - **Nehemiah 8:10** - the joy of the Lord is our strength. Joy is a spiritual strength that encourages endurance, promotes a positive outlook, and helps us to sustain our faith during difficult times.

I Thessalonians 5:16 NIV - 16 Rejoice always

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. Abraham was 75 years old when God promised him a son, and he waited 25 years for the promise to manifest. This is evidence of strong faith - being willing to wait long, no matter how much time it takes for the promise to manifest, and enduring patiently, no matter the situations you face, waiting for the promise to manifest. Getting what we want immediately is not always the best for us. Oftentimes, waiting is the best thing because it helps develop the character God desires in us.

Psalms 27:13-14 AMP - 13 I would have despaired (when you despair (lose hope), desperation can set in causing you to act rashly - lack of consideration of the possible consequences of an action and irrationally - lacking usual or normal mental clarity, reason, and understanding) **had I not believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. 14 Wait for and confidently expect the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for and confidently expect the Lord.**

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, adoration, thanksgiving, obedience, and praise, reflecting God's worth and value in our lives. There is a correlation between faith in God and giving praise or glory to God. People of faith are people of praise. It is not possible to be in faith and not praise God, and it is not possible to believe the Word of God or promises of God and not celebrate (You should start the party once you believe the promise). As people of faith, we celebrate the fact that God is too faithful to fail, so we thank Him in advance for His goodness.

Psalm 106:12 NLT - 12 Then his people believed his promises. Then they sang his praise.

Psalm 56:4 NLT - 4 I praise God for what he has promised. I trust in God, so why should I be afraid? What can mere mortals do to me?

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 lives of others.

Our testimony of the goodness of God gives God glory. When we testify about God's goodness, we're proclaiming His greatness and revealing how He has worked in our life transforming us.

Psalm 66:16 NKJV - Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will declare what He has done for my soul.

While you're waiting on the promise to come to you, praise your way through.

Psalm 34:1 NKJV - I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. Remember, all the glory belongs to God.

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

Abraham believed that regardless of the circumstances he faced in his life, that God would use them for His glory.

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. KJV - Fully persuaded - means to be completely convinced and entirely confident that what God has promised He is able to deliver. Being fully persuaded implies that we have a strong conviction regarding the promises of God that cannot be easily swayed by contrary circumstances.

In the Book of Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Hebrew names Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah) were thrown into a fiery furnace by King Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon for refusing to bow to the king's image. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were doers of the Word of God and were not going to break the first two commandments of the Ten Commandments 1. You shall have no other gods before Me. 2. You shall not make for yourself a carved 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 were fully persuaded that God was able to deliver them. Abraham was totally convinced that God had the power and the ability to do what He said He would do. In fact, Abraham accounted it as good as done.