

Faith In A 'Contrary To Hope' World - Hebrews 11:11-12 & Romans 4:18-22

Romans 4:18-22 (Abraham) 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."

Faith in the God of the Promise

- ❖ **Romans 4:21** (Abraham) being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.
- ❖ **Hebrews 11:11** (Sarah) because she judged Him faithful who had promised.

Natural Perspective = Death Spiritual Perspective = Life

- ❖ **Romans 4:19** (Abraham) did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb
- ❖ **Genesis 16:2** So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the Lord has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai.
- ❖ **Hebrews 11:11-12** By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as many as the stars of the sky in multitude—innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.
- ❖ **Romans 4:17** (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

God's Promises and Covenant Never Waver

- ❖ "Sarah is my sister" 2 times
- ❖ Lot
- ❖ Ishmael

God's Perfect Timing

- ❖ **Genesis 17:21** But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year.
- ❖ **Genesis 18:10** And He said, "I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son."
- ❖ **Genesis 18:14** Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.
- ❖ **Genesis 21:2** For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

Darkness to Light

Genesis 1:2-3 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

Job 12:22 He uncovers deep things out of darkness and brings the shadow of death to light.

Isaiah 9:2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

Isaiah 42:16 I will bring the blind by a way they did not know; I will lead them in paths they have not known. I will make darkness light before them, and crooked places straight. These things I will do for them, and not forsake them.

Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.

Daniel 2:22 He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him.

Matthew 5:14 You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Mark 4:22 For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light.

John 1:5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 12:46 I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.

Acts 26:18 to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.

2 Corinthians 4:6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5:8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

1 John 1:5 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

Slavery to Freedom

Isaiah 61:1 "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

Romans 6:22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

Romans 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death

1 Corinthians 7:21 Were you called while a slave? Do not be concerned about it; but if you can be made free, rather use it.

1 Corinthians 7:23 You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.

Galatians 4:1-7 Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

1 Peter 1:18-19 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Death to Life

Matthew 25:46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

John 5:24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Romans 8:10-11 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

1 Corinthians 15:21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead.

1 Corinthians 15:51-55 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

2 Corinthians 1:9 Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead,

Ephesians 2:1, 4-7 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins...But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death.