

The Blessedness of Rest Series: 5

An Unwavering Confident Faith [part 2]

Let us continue to consider Abraham from what we said last time. He was a man of great faith and great confidence.

Romans 4.16-21

“and being [fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform](#)” (v21) - he was totally confident (KJV *fully persuaded*).

Abraham received a promise from God – that he would be the father of many nations. That promise meant that he and Sarah had to have a child.

- v16. The promise is sure to those of faith – this wasn’t just for Abraham, this is for us all, those who will believe, trust and enter the rest.
- v17. Abraham got in line with God and started speaking the way God spoke. He called those things which did not exist as though they did. He started confessing that he was father of many nations (Abraham – *every time he spoke his own name he was confessing this promise*).
 - This is not positive thinking, positive mental attitude or mind over matter. Nor is this what some have labelled ‘*name it and claim it*’. This is agreeing with God’s word and confessing it by faith.
 - A few weeks ago we saw that seeds need planting. The seed is the word of God and needs to be spoken. We speak what God says, not what we feel or think. The seed will produce the intended result.
 - In the foreknowledge of God, what He has promised is already done, even if we can’t yet see the physical manifestation of it.
- v18. When everything was contrary to what he was believing – he still believed
- v19. He did not consider his aged physical body, nor Sarah's age or her inability to conceive – Sarah’s womb was dead (barren)
- v20. He did not waver (doubt God's promise) but rather was strengthened in faith by meditating (considering) on the promise – He looked at the promise and not the problem
 - Abraham did not waver (*stagger, oppose, dispute, contend, doubt or hesitate*) at God’s promise through unbelief but was confident in God.
 - James 1.6-8 “[But let him ask in faith, with no doubting \(wavering\), for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.](#)”
- v21. He was fully persuaded, totally convinced, absolutely certain that God would fulfill His word – that gave Him confidence.

- Abraham and Sarah eventually received God's promise – Isaac. It didn't happen straightaway, they had to stand in faith and rest in that “[what \[God\] had promised He was also able to perform](#)”
- Hebrews 10.23 (Amp) “[So let us seize and hold fast and retain without wavering the hope we cherish and confess and our acknowledgement of it, for He Who promised is reliable \(sure\) and faithful to His word.](#)”

His rest in God didn't end once Isaac was born – that was not the end of his faith. We mentioned a few weeks ago that some years later God asked Abraham to offer up Isaac as a sacrifice. (**Genesis 22.1-14**)

v5. “[we will come back to you](#)”

Why does Abraham say these words?

- It was not just a figure of speech
- It was not because he was unprepared to go through with the task
- It was not because he wanted to prevent the boy from being afraid

These are not idle words – these are faith words, spoken by a man who was confident in his faith. The writer to Hebrews shows us clearly the reasoning behind these words:

Hebrews 11.17-19

Abraham was prepared to offer up Isaac because he was absolutely confident, totally convinced, fully persuaded that

(1) Isaac was the fulfilment of God's promise to him [v18]

- “[in Isaac your seed shall be called](#)” - Genesis 21.12. Not Ishmael or any other son, but in Isaac.

(2) and, if Isaac was killed, God would raise him to life in a moment.

Confidence will not be moved or shaken by circumstances, conditions or setbacks. There is no worry or fear attached to a confident man - that's REST.