

### Book of Romans Part 10 May 4, 2022

#### Romans 4:18-25

<sup>18</sup> Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." <sup>19</sup> Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. <sup>20</sup> Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup> being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup> This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup> The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, <sup>24</sup> but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. <sup>25</sup> He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

Am I going to let my past failures prevent me from taking the journey God has for me?

Am I afraid to change? What are my fears of the future?

Abraham hoped when it didn't make any sense!

When God plans a miracle for us, He doesn't need to do a feasibility study first!

Abraham believed God, not the evidence!

The secret to Abraham's success was in his friendship with God.

Abraham was faced with a crisis of truth.

We will think and act in accordance with how we believe.

Regret looks back – worry looks around – faith looks up.

A God-centered faith will give you power to stand against the odds.

#### 2 Kings 6:15-17

<sup>15</sup> When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked.

<sup>16</sup> "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."



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<sup>17</sup> And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see." Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

A God-centered faith enables us to face the problem.

#### **Romans 4:19**

<sup>19</sup> Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead.

Faith does not mean denying the problem.

Denial: Refusal to admit the truth or reality of a situation

#### Jeremiah 6:14 (TLB)

You can't heal a wound by saying it's not there.

God-centered faith points us to God.

A God-centered faith strengthens us.

Abraham wasn't just strengthened to have faith. He was strengthened in his faith.

#### 2 Corinthians 12:8-9

<sup>8</sup> Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

A God-centered faith brings blessing.

#### Isaiah 64:4

<sup>4</sup> Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

#### **Ephesians 3:20**

 $^{20}$  Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,



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