

**IF YOU
CAN SEE
IT YOU
CAN SAY
IT**

**BISHOP
FELTON
HAWKINS**



Romans 4:16-22

16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

22 And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

He considered not his own body now dead

It is clear that at some point in Abraham's faith walk he had grown in his faith that he was able to ignore the facts.

He ignored the fact that he was now a hundred years old and his wife was now 99 years old.

Can we imagine how foolish that must have seemed in the eyes of the people of that day and the spiritual strength for Abraham to believe that at this age he or his wife would be able to bring forth a child.

And yet as ridiculous as this may sound it is what was necessary in order for Abraham to be considered righteous in the eyes of God.

Genesis 17:18-27

18 And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!

19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.

21 But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

22 And he left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

23 And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him.

24 And Abraham was ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

25 And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

26 In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son.

27 And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him.

Here we see the difference between the covenant of provisions and the covenant of faith.

God promises to bless Ishmael with much wealth, he even promises to bless Ishmael and his offspring with many people, land, and resources.

The fact that Abraham fell on his face and laughed at the news seems to be a human reaction that did not represent the faith that he had developed to believe God.

The circumcision that Abraham endured along with every male in his household speaks volumes of the faith that Abraham had.

He endured much suffering as a response to obedience to God for the benefit of **having the promise of God.**

This should also remind us that material things such as Ishmael received does not represent a covenant with God but as the scripture says God will have mercy on whom he will.

God has the ability to bless us with material things, even though it is not a response to our faith but indicative of God's sovereignty.

Hebrews 11:11

11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

The scripture also accredits Sara who through her faith revived strength not only to conceive but to give birth to Isaac

2 Corinthians 4:14-18

14 Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.

15 For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.

16 For which because we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

This faith walk requires us to look beyond this outward man, this outward world and to see spiritually into the eternal world

The ability of faith based on grace

We faint not because our inward man is renewed day by day

We look at the things that are not seen and ignore the things which are seen

Romans 8:24-25

24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

When faith and hope is present faith also has to be present.

1 John 2:15-17

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

It is our love for this world, the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, pride of life, is of this world and not after God.

Luke 16:9

9 And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations.

Jesus says make friends with mammon of unrighteousness, but he did not say fall in love with mammon.

1 Tim 6:6-12

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

Romans 4:17

17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

When you can see it, you can say it.

Numbers 20:11-12

11 And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also.

12 And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.

He believed me not to sanctify me in the eyes of the children.

Hebrews 11:6

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.