Believing Against Hope

Romans 4:17-22

Life often presses us into places where hope seems impossible. It presents us with options that appear insurmountable. But God promises to be with us through it all. It does not matter what the situation is. The doctor's report, financial struggles, a broken relationship, or the burden of transgressions can feel overwhelming. He is there. In these kinds of moments, Abraham becomes an example of how to get through such difficulties. In Romans 4:18, we read that *"Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed."* Abraham clung to the promises of God, and it was **counted to him as righteousness (Gen. 15:6).**

This posture of trusting God when circumstances scream otherwise is echoed throughout the word of God: *"It is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus."*

Abraham believed against hope; the church endured against opposition. Both teach us the same truth: **God keeps His promises.**

Abraham's Faith is Believing Against Hope

Abraham was 75 when God first promised him descendants as numerous as the stars. Decades passed, yet no child was born. Humanly speaking, hope was gone.

Romans 4:19 says Abraham *"did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead…or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb."*

Abraham had every reason to doubt. Yet he chose to believe.

Faith is not ignoring reality but trusting God in spite of reality. Hope isn't built on circumstances; it's built on God's Word. Faith is not the absence of doubt; it's the choice to believe God **more than your doubts**. Faith doesn't deny the obstacles, but declares, *"My God is bigger than the giants I face."* Abraham kept believing because he knew the **Promiser**. **Romans 4:21 says, *"He was fully convinced that God was able to do what He had promised."*** Abraham's faith wasn't built on circumstances; it was built on God's character.

Faith is not wishful thinking. It is confidence in a God who has never broken His word. If God promised, He performed. Giants may roar, but God does not fail.

This is the scripture's faith moment. "Being fully convinced," this is the place where faith finds its anchor. His body was "dead", and Sarah was barren. The promise had been given. This is what is most important. He did not allow the circumstances to disturb his faith. When we are fully convinced, our faith is not tossed or turned by feelings, reports, or circumstances.

What does being fully convinced produce? It produces endurance. It produces hope. Being fully convinced glorifies God. **Romans 4:20: "He did not waver in unbelief at God's promise but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God."** Faith that is unshaken magnifies God. It announces trust in God. Every time we trust God in the impossible, the world sees His power. Our confidence becomes a testimony that He is a promise-keeper. **Genesis 15:6: "Abraham believed the Lord, and He counted it to him as righteousness."**

The power of being convinced in your faith is this:

- It anchors your faith when storms rage.
- It fuels endurance when giants surround you.
- It glorifies God when others see your confidence.
- It secures your righteousness in Christ.
- It gives unshakable hope when everything seems impossible.

So today, choose to embrace the faith of Abraham. Believe it, despite the report. Trust despite the circumstances. **"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful." (Heb. 10:23)**

Blessings,

Pastor Gool