

Struggling with the Promise

Genesis 15:1-8

Romans 4:13-25

Hebrews 11:1-7, 30-40



Pressing Forward into 2022

- Our goals
- What are we doing to pursue our goals?
 - Catechism Questions and Meditation
 - Scripture Memorization and Meditation

What have we learned in the previous weeks?

- The Call
- The Journey of Faith
 - Abraham as a picture of the elect - Genesis 12
 - Abraham walked by faith and not by sight - Genesis 13
 - Abraham's tests - Genesis 14

Who is Abram?

- Abram was just a man like us, he was not looking for God but it is God who revealed Himself to him Isaiah 53:6
- Friend of God - James 2:23
- Father of Believers - Genesis 15:6
- Man of Faith - Galatians 3:9

Promises of God to Abram Genesis 12

- Within God's call of Abram there are four basic promises:
 - ① offspring,
 - ② land,
 - ③ the blessing of Abram himself
 - ④ the blessing of the nations through Abram
- God's I WILL to Abram in his calling
 - I will be with you
 - I will guide you
 - I will make you a great nation
 - I will bless you
 - I will make your name great
 - I will make you a blessing to others

- I will avenge you
- I will bless all the families of the earth through you
- God's promises to Abraham are reaffirmed throughout His word
 - Abram - Genesis 12:7; 15:5-21; 17:4-8; 18:18-19; 22:17-18
 - Isaac - Genesis 26:24
 - Jacob - Genesis 28:13-15; 35:11-12; 46:3
 - Moses - Exodus 3:6-8, Deuteronomy 34:4
 - Ten tribes of Israel - Deuteronomy 33
 - Joseph - Genesis 50:24
 - Peter to the Jews - Acts 3:25
 - Paul to the Gentiles -Galatians 3:8
- History and Future - Hebrews 11:1-7, 11:30-40
 - By faith Abel obtained testimony that he was righteous
 - By faith Enoch did not see death
 - By faith Noah and his household were saved
 - By faith the walls of Jericho fell
 - By faith Rahab did not perish
- Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets

Abram struggling to believe the Promises

- Abram questioned the promise of a son and the promised land:-
 - ① Son - But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!" - Genesis 15:2-3
 - ② Land - And he said, "Lord God, how shall I know that I will inherit it?" - Genesis 15:8

Abram struggled and eventually believed God's promises

- Abraham's questioning and struggling with believing are given for our learning Romans 15:4
- Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness - Genesis 15:6
- What does Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness - Romans 4:3
- So also Abraham "believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness -Galatians 3:6
- Abram was seeking for wisdom about the son and the land. When we struggle we ask for wisdom. We see God showed up Romans 1:5

God is the Promise Keeper

- God never lies - Numbers 23:19, 2 Corinthians 1:20
- All prophecies will be fulfilled - Joshua 21:45, 23:14
- Unfortunately, most Christians do not build their house of faith on a foundation of these promises - Matthew 7:26
- We are called not to lack faith but to believe - John 20:27
- God develops our faith through His grace - Mark 9:22-24

Promises for those who are faithful to God

- These promises are not just for a select few but to the called - Acts 2:38-39
- Faith is belief in the word of God which are His promises 1 Corinthians 2:5
- Faith is a gift from God and empowers us to believe - Romans 15:3
- Faith is obedience - Hebrews 11:8
- We walk by faith and not by sight - Hebrews 11:1
- There are thousands of promises in the word of God we are called to believe in:
 - ① The power of God's word works effectively in those who believe - 1 Thessalonians 2:13, Ephesians 3:20-21
 - ② God will provide us with all our physical and spiritual needs - Matthew 6:31-33; Psalm 23:1; Philippians 4:19
 - ③ God will give us the wisdom we ask for as we go through life - James 1:5
 - ④ God will never leave nor forsake us - Hebrews 13:5
 - ⑤ God will never allow our trials to be more than we can bear - 1 Corinthians 10:13
 - ⑥ God will give us peace of mind - Philippians 4:7
 - ⑦ God will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness, once we've repented of it - 1 John 1:9
 - ⑧ God promises us that we don't have to be afraid as long as we are walking with Him - Isaiah 41:10, Psalm 23:4, Luke 10:19, Psalm 91:1,7, 1John 4:18
- Other Promises: Psalm 37:4, Ephesians 6:8, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Ephesians 1:17-19, Nahum 1:7, Romans 8:38-39, Hebrews 13:5-6, Revelation 3:20, 1 John 5:5

Christ Jesus our link to the promise

- Jesus Christ was the descendant of Abram - Mathew 1:1
- Jesus Christ is THE PROMISE - Genesis 3:15, Galatians 3:16

- And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise - Galatians 3:29
- All promises are yes and Amen in Jesus - 2 Corinthians 1:20
- We are the righteousness of God through Christ Jesus - 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Jesus promises, I WILL:
 - Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest - Mathew 11:28
 - And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever - John 14:16
 - And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also - John 14:3
 - All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out - John 6:37
 - Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." - Matthew 4:19

Do you believe the Promises of God?

Therefore,

- Fight the good fight of faith in this life. It's a good fight, but it's definitely a battle - 2 Timothy 4:7-8, Joshua 1:1-10
- Trust God and believe His promises - Proverbs 3:5-7, Numbers 23:19, Hebrews 12:1-2, Isaiah 41:10, John 6:35
- Rejoice in the Lord Always - 2 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Habakkuk 3:17-18
- Have faith in the Eternal Purpose of God - Isaiah 14:27, Job 42:2, Ephesians 3:11
- Walk in the Spirit and not the flesh - Galatians 5:16, 2 Corinthians 3:6
- Cleanse yourself - 2 Corinthians 7:1
- Glorify God in everything - 1 Corinthians 10:31

Next week

- We Have A Great High Priest