

Romans - Part 6
Romans 4:17-25
Miracles
10/17/2021

- We're going to talk about How to believe God for a miracle

Romans 3:28 (NIV) "We maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from the law."

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV) "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

Romans 1:17 (NIV) "For in the Gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last. Just as it is written, the righteous will live by faith."

Romans 4:17-25 (ESV) as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

Abraham's Miracle:

1st) God is the **AUTHOR** of Miracles.

Romans 4:17 (ESV) in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

- God gives life to the dead and He calls things that are not as though they were
- He does that physically -- health is a restoration of life.
- He does that emotionally -- a dead relationship restored, a marriage resurrected.
- He does that spiritually -- when God gives new life to a church or a group of people; that's called revival.
- *"He calls those things that are not as though they were."*
- *"He calls into being that which does not exist."*

2nd) Miracles begin with **HOPELESSNESS**.

Romans 4:18 (ESV) In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations,

- God is the God of Hope

Romans 15:13 (ESV) May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV) The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Phase 1 - **DREAM**

- Every miracle that ever starts, starts with a vision, a dream, an idea, a goal, a beautiful thought, a promise from God.

Phase 2 - **DECISION**

Gen. 15:4 (NIV) "So Abram left as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was 75 years old when he set out from Haran".

Phase 3 - **DELAY**

Gen. 15:1-6 (NIV) "After this the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision. `Don't be afraid Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.' But Abram said, `O sovereign Lord, can You give me one? What can You give me since I remain childless? The one who will inherit my estate is Eleazer of Damascus.'

And Abram said, `You have given me no children so a servant in my household will be my heir.' Then the word of the Lord came to him, `This man will not be your heir. But a son coming from your own body will be your heir.' He took him outside and said, `Look at the heavens and count the stars. Indeed, if you can count them. So shall your offspring be.' Abram believed the Lord and it was credited to him as righteousness."

Phase 4 - **DEAD END**

Gen. 21:1 (NIV) "Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as He had said and the Lord did for Sarah what He had promised. Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age.

Phase 5 - **DELIVERANCE**

Genesis 22:13 (NIV) "Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the place `The Lord will provide'"

How to Have Faith:

A) Trust in **GOD** not yourself.

Romans 4:17 (ESV) as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed,

- Faith is simply seeing things the way God sees them

B) His **HOPE** was based on God's word.

Romans 4:18 (ESV) In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be."

Romans 10:17 (NIV) "Consequently faith comes from hearing the message and the message is heard through the word of Christ."

C) He looked **BEYOND** the circumstances.

Romans 4:19 (ESV) 19 He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

D) Give **GLORY** to God no matter what happens.

Romans 4:20 (ESV) No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,