

Be Strengthened in

F A I T H

“He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was **strengthened in faith**, giving glory to God.” – Romans 4:20

Romans 4:13-21

When life is discouraging..



- Faith is keeping up our spirits when things aren't going well..

Holding on to truth..



- Faith is taking God at His word, seeing every page of the Bible as **TRUE** ..

Substance of our hope..



FAITH

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Romans 4 Strong Faith illustrated..

FAITH

- Israel's pride in Abraham..
 - Matt 3:8-9 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, **and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as *our* father.'** For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

Abraham not righteous within himself..

F A I T H

- **Rom 4:1-3** What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has *something* to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” ⁴ Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.

A forgiving God..

FAITH

- **Rom 4:5-7** But to him who does not work but believes on **Him who justifies the ungodly**, his faith is accounted for righteousness, ⁶ just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:
- ⁷ “*Blessed are those whose **lawless deeds are forgiven**, And whose **sins are covered**;* ⁸ *Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.*”

Justified by faith..

- How Abraham was justified..
 - Galatians 3:6-9 (connected with Gen 12:1-3)
 - Romans 4:1-5 (connected with Gen 15:1-6)
 - Romans 4:17-22 (connected with Gen 17:1-12)
 - James 2:21-24 (applied to Gen 22:1-14)

Justified by faith..

- Four conclusions ..
 - Justification is not a single act or instance
 - Requires confessing and turning from sin
 - Requires continual trust in all circumstances
 - Involves obedience to God's directions
- Not faith only ..
- Apart from works refers to works of merit which would give reason to boast ..
- Results in blessedness in forgiveness..
 - Experienced before circumcised (vs 9-12)

Abraham's hope in God..

- Abraham's faith in God's promise..
 - ¹³ For **the promise** that he would be the heir of the world *was* not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but **through the righteousness of faith**. ¹⁴ For if those who are of the law *are* heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of no effect, ¹⁵ because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law *there is* no transgression.
 - The promise of a nation, a son, and a Savior..
 - The promise of heaven (Heb 11:9-16)

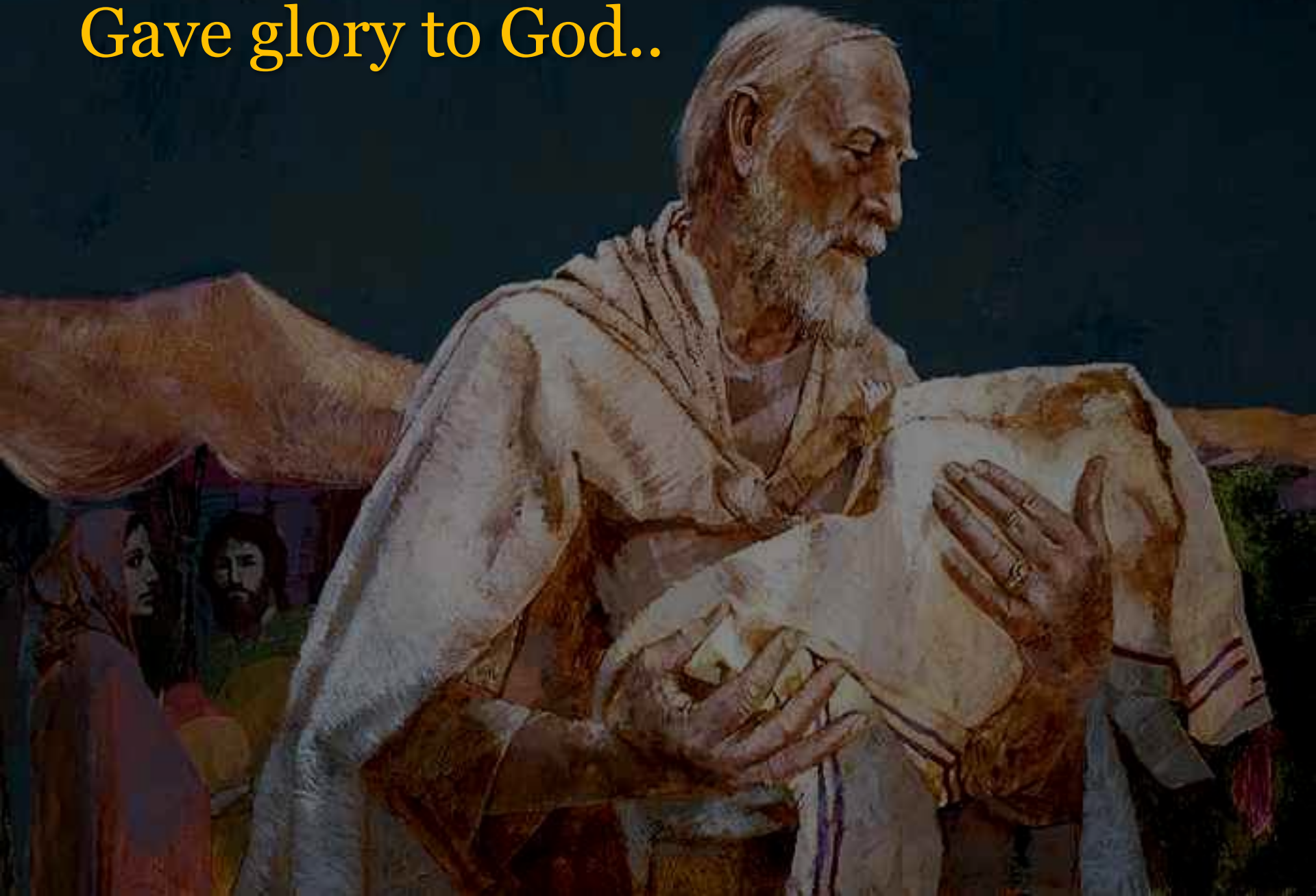
It all depended on a son..

- Sarah his wife was barren..
 - Human wisdom to have a son by Hagar (Gen 16)
 - 13 years passed (Gen 16:16; 17:1)
 - 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I *am* Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. ² And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.”

Believing in hope.. Fully persuaded

- ¹⁹ And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, ²¹ and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. ²² And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."

Gave glory to God..



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Romans 4:13-21