

A BRAND-NEW SERIES BY DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS

SPIRITUAL FITNESS

STRENGTHENING YOUR FAITH IN TROUBLED TIMES

A STUDY OF HEBREWS 11-13

GOING WITHOUT KNOWING

HEBREWS 11:8-16

AUGUST 23, 2020

Introduction: Last time we saw that faith is the necessary ingredient to ensure that problems drive us toward God rather than draw us away from God. Today, we are going to look at two well-known figures in the Old Testament who illustrate how faith enables us to submit to God's will for our lives.

I. Illustrations Of Submissive Faith (Hebrews 11:8-12)

A. Abraham: Submissive Faith Walks With God

Hebrews 11:8 "By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going."

Romans 4:1-8 ¹ "What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? 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 CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.' ⁴ Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. ⁵ But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness, ⁶ just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: ⁷ 'BLESSED ARE THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN, AND WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN COVERED. ⁸ BLESSED IS THE MAN WHOSE SIN THE LORD WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT.'"

Genesis 12:4 "So Abram went forth as the LORD had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran."

Genesis 12:5 "Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his nephew, and all their possessions which they had accumulated, and the persons which they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan; thus they came to the land of Canaan."

Hebrews 11:9 "By faith he [Abraham] lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow-heirs of the same promise,"

Hebrews 11:10 "For he [Abraham] was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God."

B. Sarah: Submissive Faith Waits On God

Hebrews 11:11-12 ¹¹ “By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore there was born even of one man [Abraham], and him as good as dead at that, as many descendants AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN IN NUMBER, AND INNUMERABLE AS THE SAND WHICH IS BY THE SEASHORE.”

II. Principles About A Submissive Faith (Hebrews 11:13-16)

A. They Released Their Grip On The Present

Hebrews 11:13-14 ¹³ “All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴ For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own.”

B. They Renounced Their Past

Hebrews 11:15 “And indeed if they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return.”

C. They Refocused Their Affection On The Future

Hebrews 11:16 “But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.”

Conclusion