

[Heb 11:1 NASB] Now faith is the assurance of [things] hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

[Heb 11:2 NASB] For by it the men of old gained approval.

[Heb 11:3 NASB] By faith we can believe in things unseen. Creation

- Faith in worship. Cain and Abel
- Faith in our walk. Enoch
- Faith in our work. Noah
- Faith in our wanderings. Abraham
- Faith in our waiting. Sarah and Abraham
- Faith in our willingness. Abraham and Isaac

[Heb 11:11 NASB] By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since **she considered Him faithful who had promised.**

[Heb 11:12 NASB] Therefore there was born even of one man, 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.**

[Heb 11:13 NASB] 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.

[Heb 11:14 NASB] For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own.

[Heb 11:15 NASB] And indeed if they had been thinking of that [country] from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return.

[Heb 11:16 NASB] 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.

[Gen 12:1-3 NASB] 1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "**Go** forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, **To the land which I will show you;** 2 **And I will make you a great nation,** And **I will bless you, And make your name great;** And so you shall be a blessing; 3 **And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.**" The result of God's work

[Gen 13:16] "I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth, so that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your descendants can also be numbered.

Abram wants an heir

[Gen 15:2] Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "Since You have given no offspring to me, one born in my house is my heir." Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but **one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir.**"

[Gen 15:5] And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

[Gen 15:6] **Then he believed in the LORD;** and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The promise didn't happen immediately

- [Heb 6:13-15 NASB] For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "I WILL SURELY BLESS YOU AND I WILL SURELY MULTIPLY YOU." And so, **having patiently waited, he obtained the promise.**

Through Abram's Body:

[Gen 16:1] Now Sarai, Abram's wife had borne him no [children,] and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar.

[Gen 16:2] So Sarai said to Abram, "Now behold, the LORD has prevented me from bearing [children.] Please go in to my maid; perhaps I will obtain children through her." And **Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.**

[Gen 16:3-4] After Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Abram's wife Sarai took Hagar the Egyptian, her maid, and gave her to her husband Abram as his wife. He went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her sight.

[Gen 16:5] And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done me be upon you. I gave my maid into your arms, but when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her sight. May the LORD judge between you and me."

[Gen 16:16] Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to him.

GOD changes their names

[Gen 17:4] "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, And you will be the father of a multitude of nations.

[Gen 17:5] "No longer shall your name be called Abram, But your name shall be Abraham; For I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.

- Abram = "exalted father"
- Abraham = "father of a multitude"

[Gen 17:15] Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah [shall be] her name.

- Sarai = "princess"
- Sarah = "noblewoman" The wife of a king. The princess of the provinces

Rev 2:17 we also get a new name

[Gen 17:16] "I will bless her, and indeed I will give you a son by her. Then I will bless her, and she shall be [a mother of] nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

[Gen 17:17] **Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed**, and said in his heart, "Will a child be born to a man one hundred years old? And will Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear [a child?]"

Abraham says, let it be Ishmael

[Gen 17:19] But God said, "No, but Sarah your wife will bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.

Abraham is visited by the Lord

[Gen 18:9] Then they said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "There, in the tent." [Gen 18:10] He said, "I will surely return to you at this time next year; and behold, Sarah your wife will have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door, which was behind him.

[Gen 18:11] Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; Sarah was past childbearing. [Gen 18:12] Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have become old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?"

[Gen 18:13] And the LORD said to Abraham, "**Why did Sarah laugh,** saying, 'Shall I indeed bear [a child,] when I am [so] old?' **Hebrews makes no mention of her disbelief: 1 Cor 13:5 Love does not take into account a wrong suffered.**

[Gen 18:14] "Is anything too difficult for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

[Gen 18:15] Sarah denied [it] however, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. And He said, "No, but you did laugh."

It has been 25 years since they set out. Thirteen years since the birth of Ishmael.

Sarah gives birth

[Gen 21:2-3] So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.

[Gen 21:5] Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

[Gen 21:6] Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me."

[Gen 21:7] And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Faith is accompanied by patience. If God said it, it will happen eventually.

God has plans for you!

[Jer 29:11 NASB] 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. 'Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

[Jer 29:13 NASB] 'You will seek Me and find [Me] when you search for Me with all your heart.

God will not fail you:

[Deu 31:6 NASB] "Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the LORD your God is the one who goes with you.

He will not fail you or forsake you."

[Deu 31:8 NASB] "The LORD is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. **He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."**

[Heb 13:5 NKJV] [be] content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "**I will never leave you nor forsake you."**