

Faith In Action

(Part 2)

“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” (Hebrews 11:6)

Hebrews 11:8 Tells the following: ***“By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.”*** When God called Abraham He told him, ***“Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.”*** Abraham was requested to leave behind the things that he was comfortable with; his country, his people and his father’s household, and to move to area that he does not know. Abraham responded in such a way because he had a sincere faith toward God. Abraham did not say to God show me the place then I will see and decide, but he trusted God and obeyed Him. Many when God is calling them they will bargain with God, they will ask God show me first then I will follow you, or they will tell God give me first this or that after that I will follow you. This is bargaining and not a genuine faith. Some they think about God as a big shopping mall and they use Him and tell Him give me that and give me this. Others they say to God give me that or this first then I will give you back. This is not a genuine faith. Abraham believed God and obeyed to do before seeing or receiving, ***“This is what the ancients were commended for.”***

Abraham, ***“By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.” (Hebrews 11:9)*** Faith is willingness to suffer and persevere for God. Abraham left his comfortable place of living and was willing to suffer for God. Faith is willingness to tolerate loneliness to fulfill the plan of God. There was a great plan of God to raise up a nation and people who will carry His name and His plan of salvation to the whole universe. Abraham was the first one who was called so that this plan of God would be fulfilled. That required of Abraham to leave the comfort zone and suffer for God in loneliness and isolation from the world and from the atmosphere of what he used to be and enjoy living.

Abraham had a true and real faith in God, ***“For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.” (Hebrews 11:9)*** Abraham was looking forward to receive the things of God, the heavenly dwelling and the heavenly city that would be coming from above. Abraham ***lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob,*** He taught his children to obey God and to live their lives in order to fulfill the call of God. ***“People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.¹⁶ Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.” (Hebrews 11:14-16)*** Those people they were able to obey God and follow Him because they were not looking for worldly things and the treasure of this world, but they were looking for things of heavenly value. True faith in God is not the ambition to live in a modern and advanced country. Some people they think faith in God would give them the right to bargain with God and request Him to fulfill what they have decided and what they have choose, but that is not true faith. Sincere faith is to comply with God’s call and move

forward after Him where He called you and asked you to move and to be. Genuine faith is not that God would follow what you want, but you will follow what He had asked you to move and to be.

God had promised Abraham that He would make him a great nation but till this time he didn’t have even children from Sarah, but the true faith in God enabled them to continue to walk with God. And this is what the word of God tells us, ***“And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.” (Hebrews 11:11)*** Sarah was able to bear children not because she went to doctors and took medicine or some intervention had been done for her. But her faith in God enabled her to conceive because she considered God is faithful; she believed and considered that God will not let her wait in vain. It is not wrong to go to doctors and take medicine, but we should keep in our minds that God is faithful and He will not forget us and leave us without fulfilling what He had promised to us. Life calls us to have faith in God; trials and hardships in life call us to consider that God is faithful and He will not leave us without fulfilling His full plan for us. That very reason was the initiative for the starting of multiplication and increase in the descendants of Abraham and to be in number as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore: ***“And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.” (Hebrews 11:12)***

“By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.” (Hebrews 11:17-18) By faith Abraham was able to give to God the things that He asked of him, his only son Isaac that he love. Although through Isaac the promise would be fulfilled but Abraham believed and obeyed God knowing and believing that God is able to bring Isaac back from the dead.

My dear and beloved: “All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.” (Hebrews 11:13) God had promised Abraham that He will make him a great nation and his name great. But when Abraham died, only he had Isaac, and when Isaac died he had only Jacob and when Jacob he had only the twelve patriarchs. They were not yet a great nation but they obeyed and believed God that a day will come that He will fulfill what He had said in His word to them. That is a genuine faith, that you continue to believe and obey even you have not yet really receive. Your faith would enable you to trust God fully and makes you convinced that God sure will achieve to you what He had promised you. Today God is calling you to come out from your doubts and your lack of trust in God. He is calling you to consider your ways of life and to be reformed and transformed according to the will of God. He is calling you to come out from sins, despondency, backsliding and laziness and commit your life and cause to God as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I repent from my sins _____ . I know that Jesus had died for my sins on the cross so I would enjoy a life and to the full in your presence. I commit my life and my cause into your hand, O Lord restores me to what you had called me to move and to be, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.