

Tuesday, August 21, 2007

“The Power to Wait”

SERMON THREE:

“Waiting On Your Promise”

Romans 4: 19 - 21 (NJKV)

Isaiah 40: 31 (NJKV)

- Over the last two weeks, we have discussed how we, as believers, are empowered by God to wait.
- To **wait** means, “To expect patiently with hope”.
- The key to waiting is **hope**. Hope is defined as “a feeling that what is wanted will happen”.
- Waiting without hope leads to discouragement, which leads to destruction.
- Job was able to wait on his deliverance because he had hope.

“For there is hope of a tree, if it is cut down, that it will grow again” (Job 14:7)

- Let us look at how Abraham, the great patriarch of faith, was able to wait on what God had promised him.
- Abraham’s testimony serves as the cornerstone of modern religion.
- Within Abraham’s testimony, we find the origin of three of the world’s leading religions, touching the lives of billions of people.
- In Genesis 17:5, His name was changed from Abram to Abraham, meaning ‘Father of Many Nations’.
- What is so unique and special about Abraham’s testimony is that when God changed his name, he had nothing, just a promise.
- According to Genesis 12: 1-4, Abraham left everything behind to venture out on a faith journey, taking only his wife Sarah, his nephew, Lot, and his personal possessions; All this based on nothing more than a promise.

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- However, it wasn't just any promise; this was a promise from God, who, according to **Numbers 23:19** *"is not a man that He should lie, neither the son of man that He should repent; hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good"?*
- Remember, a promise is only as good as the person making the promise.
- It is easy to wait on a promise when you have faith in the promise-maker.
- There will be no true waiting where there is no faith. (Hebrews 11:6)
- In our scriptural text, the Apostle Paul writes about Abraham's testimony.
- In verse 4, he writes that Abraham did not waiver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith.
- In verse 21, Paul goes on to write, *"that being fully convinced that what He had promised He was able to perform"*.
- Abraham had faith that God would never break His promise.
- What were the promises?
 1. He would become a father of many.
 2. His name would become great.
 3. God would bless those who blessed him, and curse those who cursed him.
 4. God would bless his descendants for generations to come.
 5. Through him, all the families of the earth would be blessed.
- In conclusion, just as God delivered on His promises to Abraham; He will deliver on His promise to you.