



## **“AGAINST ALL ODDS AND GRITTY”: ABRAHAM-STYLE FAITH (ROMANS 4:18-25)**

PASTOR DAN SEITZ - OCTOBER 25, 2020

**Rom. 4:18** In hope [Abraham] believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>19</sup> He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup> No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup> fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup> That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup> But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup> but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, <sup>25</sup> who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

### **THE FALL FOCUS BIG IDEA**

**Gal. 6:9 NLT** So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up.

**Gal. 6:8** ...the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

### **A FOURTH “GOOD” TO NOT GROW WEARY OF**

#### **ABRAHAM-STYLE FAITH: TWO FLAVORS**

1. **Abraham-style faith is “against all odds” certainty in God’s personal promises.**

**Rom. 4:18** In hope [Abraham] believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations...

**Rom. 4:20** No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, [he was] ...<sup>21</sup> **fully convinced** [Greek: “filled completely”] that God was able to do what he had promised.

**Gen. 15:5** And [the LORD] brought [Abraham] outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

**Rom. 4:19** [Abraham] did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb.

**2. Abraham-style faith is Jason Aldean, “Use What I Got”-grit to bring them about.**

**Gen. 17:16** I will bless [Sarah], and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

**A BRIEF MESSAGE FOR THE MARRIED**

**A PAIR OF PRICKLY QUESTIONS**

**1. *If Abraham-style faith is partly a mental state, how do we manufacture it?***

**Rom. 4:20** ...[Abraham] grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,

**Jer. 32:17** Nothing is too hard for [God].

\*Giving glory to God catalyzes conviction.

**2. *If Abraham-style faith is unconquerable confidence in God’s personal promises, how do we identify the “personal promise?”***

**Start with God’s Universal Promises**

Hebrews 12:28 (an unshakeable kingdom); Psalm 10:18 (a world wiped clean of bullies); Eph. 2:7 (ages of endless enchantment).

**Stay Open to God’s Personal “Spin”**

**Psa. 86:17** Show me a **sign** [Hebrew: “**pledge, token**”] of your favor,

**Matt. 7:7** “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

**Matt. 7:11** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

**Matt. 21:22** And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

**GOZIEM’S ABRAHAM-STYLE, “UNDER THE STARS” STORY<sup>1</sup>**

---

<sup>1</sup> Have your own Abraham-style, “under the stars” story? Dan would love to hear it (danielseitz42@gmail.com).