

Remember Your Word. Keep Hope Alive!

ROMANS 4:18 NIV Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him “So shall your offspring be.

Abraham is one of the great figures in the bible. He was remarkable in many ways and has been called the Father of faith. After being called by God to leave his country; people and his father’s household he left by faith even though he didn’t know where he was going.

God made a covenant with him promised to bless him and make him “..a great nation”. God also promised him descendants as numerous as the stars and the sand!

God had proved Himself faithful in many areas of Abraham’s life. He was blessed materially with cattle and herd; He had status; he was powerful (he had a private army of 300 men!) and yet he didn’t have a child. Sarah was barren, He was getting on in years and they longed for a son!

There came a season in Abrahams life where all the odds were against him and his life was AGAINST ALL HOPE – in other word his situation was CONTRARY to HOPE and he didn’t have REASON TO HOPE!.

ROMANS 4:18 NIV Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him “ So shall your offspring be.

AGAINST ALL HOPE: When Gods word came to Abraham concerning having children as numerous as the stars it must have stirred hope in the inside of him. After all, his beautiful wife Sarah was barren and this word from God gave them a positive expectation of God goodness!

However after several years of waiting and believing God, Abraham didn’t see the promise come to pass. Abraham and Sarah began to feel desperate as their situation and life spoke AGAINST the promise or word from God.

They were getting older. He was 99 and Sarah probably around 90. The bible describes Sarah’s womb as dead.

Abraham’s situation was AGAINST ALL Hope – Gods goodness coming to him didn’t seem realistic! Abraham’s situation was such that there was NO REASON to hope!

APPLY: You may have received a rhema or prophetic word that stirred hope in you but at the moment your current situation is totally contrary to your initial expectation – you are against hope.

When things are getting worse & you're getting desperate don't look down, look up, your salvation & breakthrough are nigh – Even when your circumstances seem impossible!

BREAKTHROUGH often happens in times of Desperation. Breakthrough occurs in impossible situations!

Sometimes the IMPOSSIBLE SITUATIONS ARE really a DIVINE SET UP for God to show His POWER and manifest His GLORY. The Impossible in our lives is really an opportunity for God to SHOW HIS GLORY!

Just before breakthrough the enemy does his best to overwhelm us with difficult & trying circumstances.

However, God uses the enemy's devices to set us up for His breakthrough and the ultimate defeat of the enemy in our lives.

Examples in the bible:

The BREAKTHROUGH of the PARTING OF THE RED with the rod of Moses was preceded by one last onslaught of Pharaoh and his army.

Just Before DAVID was ANOINTED king of Judah, he and his men suffered a devastating attack at Ziklag. 1 Samuel 30:1-6

Jehoshaphat's MIRACULOUS VICTORY and MASSIVE PLUNDER of the Ammonites and Moabites was preceded by them overwhelming and surrounding Israel in battle. 2 Chron.20:1

God is in the business of setting us up for great blessing especially when the enemy seeks to take us out!

Psalms 23:5 NKJV 5 You PREPARE a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.

Keep hope alive because even when the enemy plots evil towards us, God strategically turns it for our good. Mordecai's PROMOTION was preceded by Haman's wicked attack on him by the decree against the Hebrew people. Jesus' Glorious RESURRECTION was preceded by His suffering and terrible death on the cross. The powerful RELEASE of Paul and Silas from PRISON was preceded by beatings and chains in the inner prison. Sometimes our circumstances come against all hope and we can come to a place of

discouragement. In spite of Abrahams circumstances and desperation AGAINST ALL Hope Abraham stayed IN HOPE.

Abraham was a Prisoner of Hope! Zechariah 9:12. Against ALL Hope Abraham stayed IN Hope! God wants us to keep Hope Alive no matter what! He goes to great lengths to get us to trust the Word Upon Which we Hope.

Hebrews 6:13-16 NIV 13 When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, 14 saying, "I will SURELY BLESS YOU and give you many descendants." 15 And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised. 16 Men swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath CONFIRMS what is SAID and puts an END TO ALL ARGUMENT.

Expand: court of law; swearing by the bible; perjury (lying under oath; false swearing etc.

Hebrews 6:17 NIV 17 Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of HIS PURPOSE VERY CLEAR to the HEIRS of what was promised, he CONFIRMED it with an OATH

God didn't need to swear. His word was good enough yet God chose to swear by Himself to bless Abraham and his Seed

Hebrews 6:13 NKJV 13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,

To swear: to give one's word, to bind oneself with an oath. To "completely bind oneself" to fulfilling an oath,. God by an irrevocable oath assures us that the blessing of Abraham has become ours in Christ Jesus. Gal 3:29

HOPE IS THE STRONGHOLD FOR OUR SOULS!

When there is a storm in our lives, hope keeps us secure. Hope is our fortress. It is the place of strength and security. The stronghold!

Hebrews 6:18 NIV V18 18 God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, WE who have fled to take hold of the HOPE offered to us may be greatly encouraged. 19 We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, NKJV ... we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

Notice that the writer of Hebrews is speaking of people who have fled for refuge to take hold of hope. People who have decided to lay hold of the confident expectation of God's goodness!

Hope is the Strong hold; fortress for our Souls!

V19 19We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain,

Choose to be a prisoner of hope today. Choose to put yourself in a place of expectation of Gods goodness and best.