

The Faith of Sarah “At the Appointed Time”

Key Question: Is anything too hard for the LORD?

Key Verse: Hebrews 11:11 **By faith** Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since **she considered him faithful who had promised.**

It is not the strength of your faith but the object of your faith.

“she considered him faithful who had promised”

Key Challenge: Psalms 37:7a Be still before the LORD and **wait patiently** for him; **fret not...**

Isaiah 25:1 O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, **plans formed of old, faithful and sure.**

Genesis 11:30 Now **Sarai was barren; she had no child.**

Genesis 12:1 Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.

Genesis 12:2 And **I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.**

Genesis 12:3 **I will bless those who bless you,** and him who dishonors you I will curse, and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”**

Genesis 12:7a Then the **LORD appeared to Abram** and said, “**To your offspring I will give this land.**” (*Sarai was barren; she had no child*)...

Genesis 12:10 Now there was a **famine in the land.** So **Abram went down to Egypt** to sojourn there, **for the famine was severe in the land.**

Genesis 12:11 When he was about to enter Egypt, **he said to Sarai his wife, “I know that you are a woman beautiful in appearance,**

Genesis 12:12 and when the **Egyptians see you,** they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ **Then they will kill me, but they will let you live.**

Genesis 12:13 **Say you are my sister**, that **it may go well with me** because of you, and that my life may be spared for your sake.”

*Genesis 20:12 Besides, she is indeed my sister, the **daughter of my father though not the daughter of my mother**, and she became my wife.*

Genesis 12:14 When **Abram entered Egypt**, the **Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful**.

Genesis 12:15 And when the **princes of Pharaoh saw her**, they praised her to Pharaoh. And the **woman was taken** into Pharaoh’s house.

**“Sarai was barren; she had no child”
“To your offspring I will give this land.”**

Genesis 12:16 And for her sake **he dealt well with Abram**; and **he had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male servants, female servants, female donkeys, and camels**.

Genesis 12:17 But the **LORD afflicted Pharaoh** and his house with great plagues **because of Sarai, Abram’s wife**.

Genesis 13:1 So **Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had**, and Lot with him, into the Negeb.

Genesis 13:2 Now **Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold**.

Genesis 13:14 The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, “Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward,

Genesis 13:15 for all the land that you see **I will give to you and to your offspring forever**. (*Sarai was barren; she had no child*)

Genesis 13:16 **I will make your offspring** as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, **your offspring** also can be counted.

Genesis 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”

Genesis 15:2 But Abram said, “**O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless**, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”

Genesis 15:3 And Abram said, “**Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.**”

Genesis 15:4 And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “**This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.**”

Genesis 15:5 And he brought him 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.” (*Sarai was barren; she had no child*)

Genesis 15:6 And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Genesis 15:18 On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “**To your offspring** I give this land...

Genesis 16:1 Now **Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children**. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar.

Genesis 16:2 And Sarai said to Abram, “**Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children**. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her.” And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.

Genesis 16:3 So, **after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan**, Sarai, Abram’s wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to **Abram her husband as a wife**.

Genesis 16:4 And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she (Hagar) saw that she (Hagar) had conceived, **she (Hagar) looked with contempt on her mistress (Sarai)**.

Genesis 16:5 And **Sarai said to Abram, “May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt** (*to be trivial, insignificant; to curse, blaspheme, revile*) May the LORD judge between you and me!”

Genesis 16:6 But **Abram said to Sarai, “Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please.”** Then **Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her**.

Genesis 16:13 So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, “You are a God of seeing,” for she said, **“Truly here I have seen him who looks after me.”**

Genesis 16:15 And **Hagar bore Abram a son**, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.

Genesis 16:16 Abram was **eighty-six years old** when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

Thirteen years later...

Genesis 17:1 When Abram was **ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram** and said to him, **“I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless,**

Genesis 17:2 that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.”

Genesis 17:3 **Then Abram fell on his face.** And **God said to him,**

Genesis 17:4 “Behold, my covenant is with you, and **you shall be the father of a multitude of nations.** (*your very own son shall be your heir, Hagar bore Abram a son*)

Genesis 17:6 I will make you **exceedingly fruitful**, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you.

Genesis 17:8 And I will give to you and to **your offspring** after you **the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan**, for an **everlasting possession**, and I will be their God.”

Genesis 17:15 And God said to Abraham, **“As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.**

Genesis 17:16 **I will bless her, 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.”**

Genesis 17:17 Then **Abraham fell on his face and laughed** and said to himself, “Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? **Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?”**

“said to himself” “Abraham said to God”

Genesis 17:18 And **Abraham said to God**, “Oh that **Ishmael** might live before you!”

Genesis 17:19 **God said**, “**No**, but **Sarah your wife shall bear you a son**, and **you shall call his name Isaac** (*God laughs*). I will establish my covenant with him as an **everlasting covenant for his offspring after him**.

Genesis 17:21 But **I will establish my covenant with Isaac**, whom **Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year.**”

Genesis 17:22 When he had finished talking with him, **God went up from Abraham.**

Genesis 18:1 And the **LORD appeared to him** by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day.

Genesis 18:2 He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, **three men were standing in front of him**. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth

Genesis 18:3 and said, “O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant...

Genesis 18:9 **They said to him**, “**Where is Sarah your wife?**” And he said, “**She is in the tent.**”

Genesis 18:10 **The LORD said**, “**I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.**” And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him.

Genesis 18:11 Now **Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah.**

Genesis 18:12 So **Sarah laughed to herself**, saying, “**After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?**”

Genesis 18:13 The **LORD said to Abraham**, “**Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’**”

Genesis 18:14 **Is anything too hard for the LORD?** At the **appointed time** I will return to you, about this time next year, and **Sarah shall have a son.**”

Genesis 18:15 But Sarah denied it, saying, **“I did not laugh,”** for she was **afraid.** He said, **“No, but you did laugh.”**

“about this time next year”...

Genesis 20:1 **From there** Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar.

Genesis 20:2 And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, **“She is my sister.”** And **Abimelech** king of Gerar **sent and took Sarah.**

Genesis 20:3 **But God came** to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, **“Behold, you are a dead man** because of the woman **whom you have taken, for she is a man’s wife.”**

Genesis 20:10 And Abimelech said to Abraham, **“What did you see, that you did this thing?”**

Genesis 20:11 Abraham said, **“I did it because I thought,** ‘There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.’”

Genesis 20:12 Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife.

Genesis 20:13 And when God caused me to wander from my father’s house, I said to her, ‘This is the kindness you must do me: at **every place to which we come,** say of me, **“He is my brother.”**’”

Genesis 20:14 Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and **returned Sarah his wife to him.**

Genesis 21:1 The **LORD visited Sarah as he had said,** and the **LORD did to Sarah as he had promised.**

Genesis 21:2 And **Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him.**

Genesis 21:3 Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, **Isaac**.

Genesis 21:5 Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

Genesis 21:6 And Sarah said, “**God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me.**”

Genesis 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.**”

Genesis 23:1 **Sarah lived 127 years**; these were the years of the life of Sarah.

Hebrews 11:11 **By faith** Sarah herself **received power to conceive**, even when she was **past the age**, since **she considered him faithful who had promised**.

“I did it because I thought”, “is anything too hard for the LORD?”

Sarah considered him faithful who had promised...

But the LORD afflicted Pharaoh...

But God came to Abimelech...

The LORD visited as he had said... and the LORD did as he had promised...at the time of which God had spoken...

Lamentations 3:22 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;

Lamentations 3:23 they are new every morning; **great is your faithfulness.**

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, **for he who promised is faithful.**

“I did it because I thought”, “is anything too hard for the LORD?”

“I did it because I thought” He who **did not spare his own Son** but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

“I did it because I thought” him faithful who had promised.

Galatians 4:4 But when the **fullness of time had come**, **God sent forth his Son**, born of woman, born under the law,

Galatians 4:5 **to redeem** those who were under the law, so **that we might receive adoption as sons**.

Isaiah 25:1 O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, **plans formed of old, faithful and sure**.