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Pastor Billy Burchfield

**Wednesday, November 9, 2022**

**“Living in the Power and Promise of God’s Word”**

***Choose to Believe God***

**Rom. 4:17:** (as it is written, *“I have made you a father of many nations”*) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

***Biblical faith*** involves a balanced perspective; 1) **believing** God’s Word in the face of one’s circumstances, while not ignoring circumstances or 2) **pretending** no problem exists. *Faith recognizes the problem*, then presents it to God, acknowledging Him in the face of that problem and ***declaring His truth and promise as the greater “word” on the subject***.

Abraham became the father of many nations because ***he chose to believe God instead of believing his circumstances*** (4:3). Abraham had no children and he knew his seed was way past its prime, **yet** he chose to believe God, who quickens the dead and calls those things that do not exist as though they do. He did not deny his or Sarah’s natural condition, **but** rather believed God’s ability to change circumstances by calling those things that did not exist as though they did. **Notice**, that God calls those things which do not exist **as though they do** exist. We see that **authentic faith** does not deny the obstacle at hand, but declares that God is greater than the obstacle. Faith does not deny that a sickness is in the body, but declares Jesus’ ability to heal the body (Mark 5:23). Faith does not deny financial need, but acknowledges Jesus’ ability to meet our needs (Matt. 17:24–27).

**Choose to Believe God**. **Abraham is the father of faith**, and by his example, we see that **faith works**. He and Sarah do not have a child until he is 100 and she is 90. **What kept him believing?** **Faithfulness**. He believed that God could give life to Sarah’s dead womb and to his dead seed. God not only wants faith, He wants faithfulness. When it ***looks like*** God is not working, will we remain faithful? Remain faithful even when it looks like our faith is failing and then watch our faith produce life.

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