

February 25th

BELIEVING WHAT YOU'VE BELIEVED

“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.” And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

GENESIS 15:5-6

“Ever asked God why? Have you ever wondered what God is doing in a situation? Have you ever struggled to look through your crisis to see God’s hand in it? God is clear that He makes all things work together for good. The good things. The bad things. The uncomfortable suffering. The laughter and joy. God doesn’t waste anything. And God is never in a hurry to accomplish His perfect purpose. He does things in His perfect time, in His perfect way. But we become impatient and unsettled. We become fidgety. We crave the normal, we run from the unexpected. Our Bible heroes are no different. Abram shares with God his concerns about God’s timing in fulfilling His promise.

God appears to Abram again here in Genesis 15, but Abram’s trust is on shaky ground. You only need to look at what He says to God to understand what he’s feeling: “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless...” A better rendering shows the absolute despair that Abram felt: “for I shall die childless.” This is not just a sentence of despair; it’s also the death of Abram’s name. The only way to preserve his name is through a slave named Eliezer. How does God respond to Abram’s hopelessness? He gives His grand promise.

“Look toward heaven and number the stars, if you’re even able to number them. This will be the number of your descendants.” God doesn’t just bring a promise; he smashes the concrete ceiling with a sledgehammer! In the moment of Abram’s despair, God brings His light. This is how God always works. Think about our sin, men. Our sin causes separation from our Creator and King. But God. God lavishes the riches of His grace out to Abram and to you. It’s the Niagara Falls of God’s Grace, but it’s the falls that you never get out from under. You can’t escape God’s love for you. You can’t be disqualified. God’s love never fails. Abram just needed to be reminded of God’s promise...and so do you. A promise that He will save you from your sin. Our hero Abram has a profound action here, but one that gets missed because it’s not beating his enemies. It’s not rescuing Lot. It’s not stopping before he sacrifices his son. It’s simple belief in God’s promise. And God credits this belief to Him as being righteous before God. Only faith saves!

Men, how will you respond to your God today? Will you believe what you’ve always believed? That God gave His Son for you to die in your place? That you are forgiven because of His grace alone? Look up from your failure, your success, your discouragement, your worry. Look up to the God who has saved you. Find your hope today in the gospel. It’s called good news for a reason. Remember it today. Find your sure footing in it. Use the gospel to give you all that you need to be a faithful man of God today!

Spend some time reflecting on why the good news is so good for your soul. Share your testimony with someone else of what God has done for you and is doing in you now.

For Further Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

