

Thrive
Our Trust for Thriving
Genesis 15:3-6

Biblical thriving is MUCH MORE than physical wealth

Biblical thriving has to do with prospering spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and physically both now and for all eternity!

Genesis 15:1–6 (ESV) — 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.” 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?” 3 And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” 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.” 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.” 6 And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

The Key passage is verse 6!

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

Four Major Hindrances to Trusting God

- **Delays**
- **Distractions**
- **Circumstances**
- **Evidence**

There are four basic levels of TRUST regarding God

Level #1 – BASIC Trust – Trusting in God’s EXISTENCE

You could also call this demon trust...

James 2:19 (ESV) — You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

Not one demon is an atheist!

Level #2 – RELIGIOUS Trust – Trusting in God’s ACCEPTANCE

I can DO certain things that will put me in “good standing” with God...

I can do enough good works to get me into heaven...

To say...

“But I know God!”

... is not enough!

To say...

“But I know Jesus!”

... is not enough!

To say...

“But I know Jesus is the Son of God!”

... is not enough!

Matthew 8:29 (ESV) — And behold, they cried out, “What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?”

Matthew 7:21–22 (ESV) — 21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’

Matthew 7:23 (ESV) — And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

The question is NOT, “Do You know Jesus?”

The REAL question is, “Does Jesus know you!?!?”

Level #3 – SAVING Trust – Trusting into God’s GRACE

John 3:36 (ESV) — Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

1 John 5:13 (ESV) — I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

Level #4 – RIGHTEOUS Trust – Trusting God’s WORD

Genesis 15:3–6 (ESV) — And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” 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.” 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.

The Hebrew word used for “believed” here is the word “AMEN”...

“Amen” literally means, “It is as He says” ... “It’s the truth!”

Abram literally went outside and looked in the sky...

As the Lord said, "count the stars if you can... so shall your offspring be"

Abram said, "Well, then it's settled... It's done... it's the TRUTH!!!"

***"Faith is believing something is so,
Even when it is not so,
In order for it to be so,
Because God says it is so."
by Manley Beasley***

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Level #1 – _____ Trust – Trusting in God's

Level #2 – _____ Trust – Trusting in God's

Level #3 – _____ Trust – Trusting into God's

Level #4 – _____ Trust – Trusting God's
