

God is Faithful Session 4 – Rest on the Promises

Hebrews 11:11 (KJV) – *Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.*

I. Review/Intro

A. Recap –

1. Sarah received a promise from the Lord
2. Sarah did not immediately judge God faithful/able – she laughed
3. In the process of time, Sarah judged the promise faithful/true
4. Sarah’s judging God Faithful/promise faithful – her miracle.

B. Last Week –

1. He who believes the promises will see the arm of the Lord revealed
2. The arm of the Lord is the supernatural strength/power of God
3. Find the promise
4. Meditate upon the promise
5. Believe the promises
6. Speak the promise
7. *My personal example of Resting upon the Word*

C. The place of Rest –

1 Kings 8:56 (NIV) – *Praise be to the LORD, who has given rest to his people Israel just as he promised. Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses.*

Hebrews 4:1-3 (KJV) – ¹*Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. ²For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. ³For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.*

1. The connection to rest and the promises
2. In Hebrews, these people had the promises but never entered into rest – because they never believed the promises
3. It is not enough to have the promises – you must believe them

II. The Example of Jehoshaphat

A. Jehoshaphat's battle

2 Chronicles 20:3-7 (KJV) – ³And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. ⁴And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD. ⁵And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, ⁶And said, O LORD God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee? ⁷Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend forever?

2 Chronicles 20:12 (KJV) – O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

1. Jehoshaphat experienced the emotion of fear just like anyone else
2. He sought the Lord
3. He prayed declaring the faithfulness of God vs 6 – 7

B. God Responds with a Promise/Word

God always responds with a Word

2 Chronicles 20:14-17 (KJV) – ¹⁴Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation; ¹⁵And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. ¹⁶To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. ¹⁷Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.

C. Jehoshaphat's Response to the Word

2 Chronicles 20:20-22 (KJV) – ²⁰And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. ²¹And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever. ²²And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

1. He Believed the Word/He judged the Word Faithful/True
2. He Acted upon the Word
3. He Rested upon the Word

III. The sign that you are truly resting in the promises is praise and worship

1. Jehoshaphat praised before the enemy was defeated
2. He praised by faith in the promise he had received
3. His praise of faith released the supernatural power of God against his enemies
4. Victory achieved

2 Chronicles 20:25 (KJV) – *And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much*

Isaiah 30:15-17 (KJV) – ¹⁵*For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.* ¹⁶*But ye said, No; for we will flee upon horses; therefore shall ye flee: and, We will ride upon the swift; therefore shall they that pursue you be swift.* ¹⁷*One thousand shall flee at the rebuke of one; at the rebuke of five shall ye flee: till ye be left as a beacon upon the top of a mountain, and as an ensign on an hill.*

IV. Closing

1. Believe and Rest upon the promises
2. Release praise for the Word you have received
3. Allow the Word to bring Rest to your soul