

4:17 As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations."^[c] He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not. 18 Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be."^[d] 19 Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. 20 Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, 21 being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. 22 This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness.

FAMILY OF FAITH

- (1) It is my belief that God is doing something unique in our nation at this time and unique through kings' Church NYC.

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- (a) Kings' Church – People are finding life in God. Both Spirit and Truth. The living power and life of God, that comes with healing, deliverance, prophecy, etc. AND the word of God, that comes with

- (i) **JOHN 4:23** But a time is coming and has now come when the TRUE worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father is seeking such as these to worship Him. **24** God is Spirit, and His worshipers must worship Him in spirit and in truth."...

- (b) Charleston; Tulsa. We are reformers. We are bringing reformation to the church, bringing it back to the fundamentals of what it means to be a community that follows God.

- (i) **HEBREWS 11:10** For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

- (2) Intro. Book of Romans, two fundamentally disparate communities come together in Christ on the foundation of Faith. Here in this portion - Paul continues his polemic against the law as justifier, and founds THE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND MAN ON FAITH.

(a) We must remember this - *Abraham represents the first post edenic story of God and man walking* in relationship together.

(i) IN EDEN: Adam walked with God

1) 8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. Gen 3:8 - The insinuation is that God was going to walk with Man, and had.

a) God can meet you right where you are,

i) AND

b) It is ok to travel if God is moving somewhere - ACTS 14:14 There we found some brothers who invited us to spend the week with them. And so we came to Rome.

15 The brothers there had heard about us and traveled as far as the Forum of Appius and the Three Taverns to meet us. When Paul saw them, he was encouraged and gave thanks to God.

i) Be careful of always 'chasing' every alleged move—those people are generally not planted in the House of God; be careful never going.

(b) Abraham Walked with God

1) Gen 17:1-2

a) And God appeared to Abraham and said to him, Abraham walk before me in Righteousness that I may bless you.

(3) 4:17 As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations."^[c] He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not. 18 Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

1) Abraham walking with God was BASED ON FAITH—this is what Paul is saying. This whole game starts with believing in the impossible.

The Way, Not The Stay

Romans 4:17-22

David Engelhardt

- 2) God comes down from heaven, lives a sinless life, dies for sinners, that we could believe and walk with God?
 - a) Sounds impossible?
- (4) Some of us believe we are walking with God when we are walking against God.
 - (i) PAUL BELIEVED HE WAS WALKING WITH GOD AND HE WASN'T
 - 1) Acts 9:1 But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters ^e to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.
 - 2) Acts 19:8-9 describe how the Apostle Paul in Ephesus moved the disciples to another location when "hardened and disobedient" people spoke evil about the Way. Acts 19:23 says "About that time there occurred no small disturbance concerning the Way."
 - a) It's called the WAY NOT THE STAY
 - i) It's simple - are you walking with God, are you talking with God, are you going with GOD, are you growing with God?
 - (b) Saul thought he was walking with God.
 - 1) Move of God is happening what? Let's go kill 'em.
 - a) Anytime something is new - kill it. That's why the older demoniationalists hate new songs.
 - b) Saul walking on the Road to Damascus.
 - i) That word Damascus means well watered place.
 1. EDEN means well watered place
 2. Eden was a place that represented new life, the new work of God.
 3. Most historians think Paul's conversion was 33 or 34 ad, so we're talking the very Beginning of the church

4. And Paul is going to the very new move of God it kill it. IN THE NAME OF GOD.
5. Satan wants to kill the new move of God, and loves to do so in the name of God.
 - a. Angel of light. Wolf in sheeps clothing. The enemy starting with
 - i. SUN TZU ALL WARFARE IS BASED ON DECEPTION.
 - ii. Satan is the father of lies.

2) He was murderous.

- a) It's funnny because I've been in a bit of a murderous season, chopping the heads off of snakes slithering through the churches.
 - i) For instance - it's racist because it's disprarportionate. Fighter Pilots vs. the NBA. DENOUNCING THE BLM MOVEMENT -THEY'RE BURNING THE CITY DOWN.

(5) You're probably Paul if (a) you know you're right, (b) if you're murderous, and (c) if you are hunting down other Christians for a living.

(a) SLOW TO SPEAK

- (i) Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

a. James 1:19-20

(b) QUICK TO CELEBRATE LIFE

- (i) Morgan and Eric's Baby.
 - 1) Let's see if it becomes more than a clump of cells.
 - 2)

(6) SAUL WAS MURDEROUS.

- a) The witnesses laid their coats at Paul's feet. In a murder you are culpable if "Aiding and Abbetting" or being an "accessory to murder" A person who is

convicted under an aiding and abetting theory faces the same penalties as the principal perpetrator. – so he was

- (7) Let me be clear: God is doing something profoundly beautiful at Asbury, kids are worshiping God for hours, they are repenting for sin, there is radical generosity, and there is gentle oversight be staff. Be very careful when Criticizing God - THERE ARE TIMES WHERE YOU BELIEVE YOU ARE Criticizing man - but you are offending the Holy Spirit.

1) **1** When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty. Walk before Me and be blameless. 2I will establish My covenant between Me and you, and I will multiply you exceedingly."

a) **Before and not behind.**

- i) When someone smaller walks in front of you - you have to have patience, you have to go the pace of the smaller, you can protect, encourage, and direct.

- (8) He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed.

(a) What did he believe?

- (i) He believed the Impossible
- (ii) He believed that God could function outside the rational mechanistic world.
- (iii) *He believed there was more to the world than his experience.*
 - 1) Fundamental humility
 - a) Science is (exploration, observation, and categorization) based off of experimentation, and by that obs.
 - i) What if you haven't seen God?
 - ii) Would you believe?

(b) He believed in God who gives life to the Dead.

The Way, Not The Stay

Romans 4:17-22

David Engelhardt

- (i) He recognized his body as dead — that's a step for us - recognizing we are dead in our trespasses, but God can give life to us.
 - (ii) ROMANS 4:19 Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead.
- (c) And the things that were not.
- (i) How could you call a thing that "is not." EX Nihilo - out of nothing.
- (9) 20 Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, 21 being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. 22 This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness
- (i) Why are people going to Asbury, they want to believe, no experience an assurance of Faith, that God sees them, and has a plan for them