





assured him that the number of his offspring would be as numerous as the stars in the sky. It says, "Abraham believed the Lord, and He credited it to him as righteousness."

belike the stars. It was a promise for what would come after him. Genesis 15:6 shows the essence of faith. It says, "Abraham believed the Lord, and He credited it to him as righteousness."

It literally was a credit to his account. It wiped out all the debt of sin and death he owed. His faith was God-given and through it God counted him as righteous. The reason for this is that the promise was ultimately fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ.

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God's promise to Abraham shaped the rest of his life through the promise of His Word directed the course of his life. He trusted in the promise through his pilgrimage on earth with the confidence that it would ultimately be fulfilled through the Messiah. As the Lord Jesus Christ said to the Jews in John's Gospel chapter 8, "Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."

e. The faith that God gave Abraham of Abraham's life. He clung to this confidence that it would ultimately be fulfilled through the Messiah. As the Lord Jesus Christ said to the Jews in John's Gospel chapter 8, "Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."

It strikes me as ironic sometimes how our trust in God can waver. As Christians we readily confess our faith in God for the big things and the bodily resurrection on the Last Day. Yet we agonize over the smaller things like money and daily bread. It seems to me that our priorities often get mixed up to the point that our confession of faith is not consistent with our view of earthly things. How easily we fall into this trap.

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Faith is a fragile thing. One moment we will have God's Word firm in our hearts and the next it takes the back burner. In the Gospel reading our Lord Jesus says, "Do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For these things, and your Father knows that you need them, and these things will be added to you." He says, "Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

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Faith in the wrong things and worry chokes our faith. Christ and God's Word then all things fall into place. This is not wishful thinking. It is the real problem in your life? If you're worried about money? It would seem so for the most part. Is it God's will for us to worry? Most certainly not! Worry is the opposite of faith. Rather, Jesus says, "Come to me all you who are burdened and I will give you rest." God invites us to focus on His Word and to keep our eyes on His Kingdom and mission. He will surely take care of whatever needs should come up. He will surely take care of whatever needs should come up.

h. But when our focus is clearly on the mission of Jesus Christ. And He will surely take care of whatever needs should come up. He will surely take care of whatever needs should come up.

Indeed, faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. May the certainty of God's love in Jesus be an anchor for your soul. May His Word take deep root and guard you in all your ways. And the Lord Jesus Christ will surely light our way through this temporary world until we see Him in His glorious Kingdom. Amen. The peace of God that surpasses all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

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