

Rosh Hashanah Eve Sermon

Is Anything Too Hard For God?

- I. Abraham's Tithe Opens the door for a seemingly impossible blessing in his life!

(NKJV) Ge 14:17 And the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley), after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him.

ABRAM PAYS A TITHE OF HIS INCREASE TO GOD

18 Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. 19 And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; 20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand."

And he gave him a tithe of all. (Abram-Clear in NIV)

21 Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself." 22 But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, 23 that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich'— 24 except only what the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion."

- II. After Abram's tithe, God promises him he will protect him and reward him. Then, Abram presented his request for what he wants as a reward to God.

GOD RESPONDS TO ABRAM'S TITHE

(NKJV) Ge 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, (*Protection*) your exceedingly great reward. (*Blessing*)"

ABRAM ASKS FOR A BLESSING

Abram asks what is his reward? He wants a child!

2 But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!"

4 And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." 5 Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." 6 And he believed in the LORD, and *He accounted it to him for righteousness.*

ABRAHAM BELIEVED HE WOULD RECEIVE WHAT HE ASKED FOR

- A. Abraham believed what God said!
- B. God tells Abraham to bring an offering to make a covenant with him.
7 Then He said to him, “I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it.” 8 And he said, “Lord GOD, how shall I know that I will inherit it?” 9 So He said to him, “Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.”

ABRAHAM GAVE AN OFFERING ACCORDING TO WHAT GOD SAID

**10 Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.....
.....18 On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying:
“To your descendants I have given this land,**

- III. Abraham remained faithful. This was the requirement from God for him to receive the promise.
(NKJV) Ge 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, **“I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.**

ABRAHAM REMAINED FAITHFUL TRUSTING IN GOD BELIEVING HE WAS ABLE

**2 And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.”
3 Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: 4 “As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. 5 No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. 6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. 7 And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. 8 Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.”**

- IV. God appears to Abraham about a year later and asked this question: *Is anything too hard for God?*
(NKJV) Ge 18:10 And He said, **“I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son.”** (Sarah was listening in the tent door which was behind him.)
11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; and Sarah had passed the age of childbearing. 12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, “After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?”

13 And the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, saying, ‘Shall I surely bear a child, since I am old?’ 14 Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.”

IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR GOD?????

- V. God keeps his promise!
(NKJV) Ge 21:1 And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken. 2 For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

ABRAM RECEIVED BECAUSE OF HIS FAITH

- VI. Review:
- A. Abraham paid a tithe of his increase to the Lord.
 - 1. God responded to the tithe.
 - B. Abram asked for a blessing
 - 1. Abram believed he would receive what he asked for
 - C. Abram gave an offering according to what God said
 - D. Abram continued to remain faithful to God, even though he did not see how the promise could be fulfilled.
 - 1. He believed God was able!
 - E. Abram knew the answer to the question, "Is anything too hard for God", was a resounding No.
 - F. Abraham received because of his faith!

- VII. The blind men
(NKJV) Mt 9:27 When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, “Son of David, have mercy on us!” 28 And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.” 29 Then He touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith let it be to you.” 30 And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, “See that no one knows it.”

- A. As these were Jews, we can feel confident that they were tithers.
- B. They believed that Jesus could help them.
- C. They responded to the question, "Do you believe that I'm able to do this?"
 - 1. Yes, Lord!

- VIII. Review:
- A. Abraham paid a tithe of his increase to the Lord.
 - a. We will give a tithe of our increase to God
 - 2. God responded to Abram's tithe.
 - a. God will respond to our tithe
 - B. Abram asked for a blessing
 - a. we will ask for a blessing that our strength will equal our days and we will live long and prosper

2. Abram believed he would receive what he asked for
 - a. we will believe we will receive what we ask for
 - C. Abram gave an offering according to what God said
 - a. we will give our offering understanding that we will reap according to how we sow
 - D. Abram continued to remain faithful to God, even though he did not see how the promise would be fulfilled.
 - a. We will remain faithful even though we may not *understand* how the promise will be fulfilled
 - E. Abram knew the answer to the question, "Is anything too hard for God", was a resounding No!
 - a. Though what we ask for may seem impossible we will know the answer to the question, "is anything too hard for God" is a resounding no
 - F. We will receive according to our faith!
- IX. Is anything too hard for God?
- A. Ask Abraham when he had a child at 100 and Sarah was 90?
 - B. Ask Joseph when he was in the dungeon where there was no way out of prison?
 - C. Ask Moses when he thought Pharaoh would not let the Israelites go
 - D. Ask Moses when they had their backs against the Red Sea and Pharaoh was coming to kill them
 - E. Ask the people in the desert where there was no food or water
 - F. Ask Joshua when he faced the walls of Jericho
 - G. Ask Gideon when he had only 300 men against 135,000 men Jd 8:10
 - H. Ask Shadrach Meshack and Nebendego in the fire
 - I. Ask Daniel in the lion's den
 - J. Ask Peter after he had fished all night and caught nothing
 - K. Ask Peter and John when they went to an empty tomb
- X. Now I ask you, is anything too hard for God?