

Promises

Men's Bible Study

**Romans 4:13-25**

**But I can't**



The background features a dark blue field with dynamic light effects. On the left and right sides, there are curved, glowing trails of small white and blue particles, resembling a digital or particle simulation. Bright orange and yellow light flares are positioned at the top corners, with rays of light extending across the frame. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and energetic.

**Can I have Faith in  
God and still have  
doubts in his  
promises?**

# The change

It is a change in the exposition of Paul

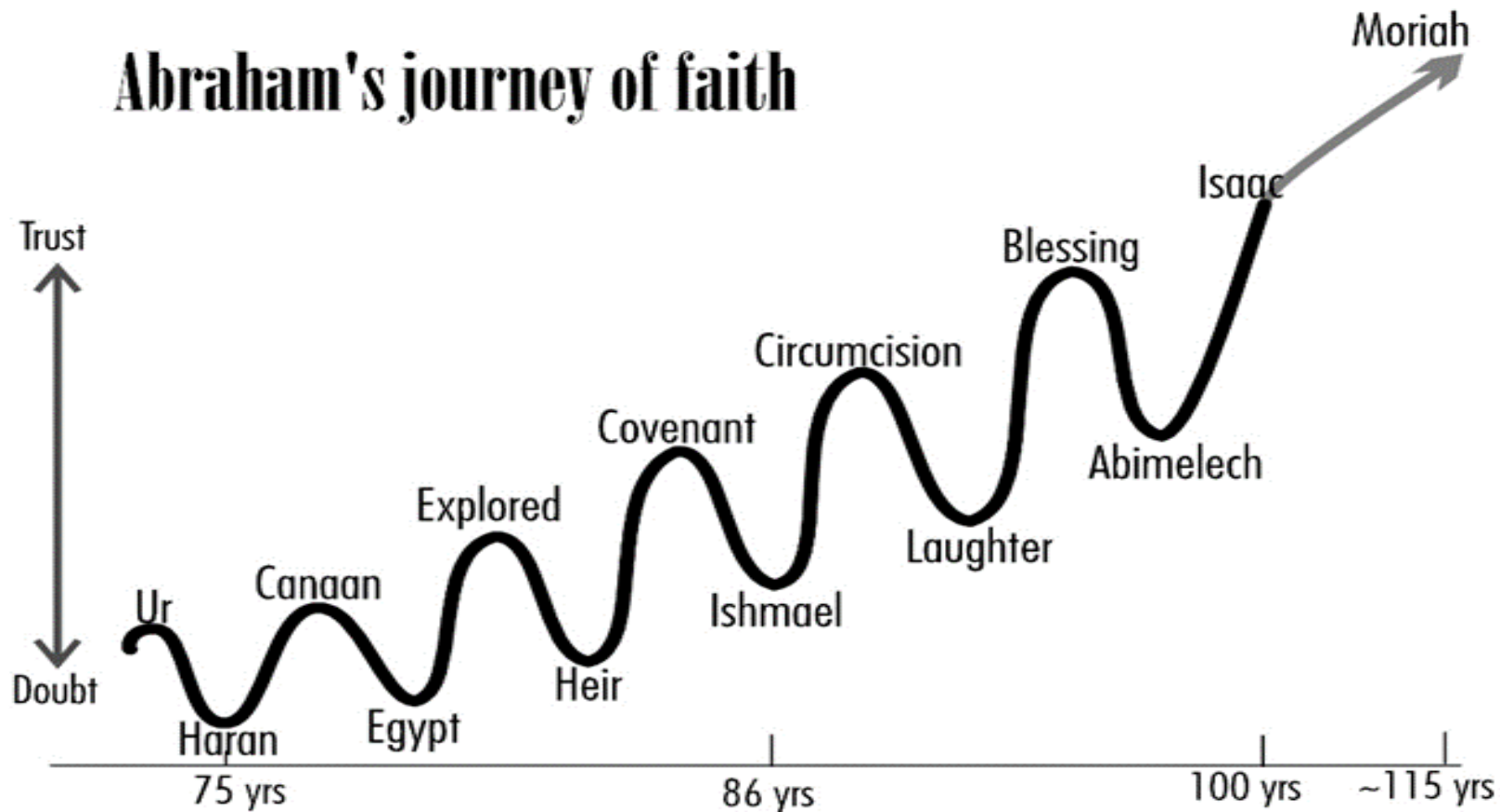
It is subtle and if you are not looking closely, you might miss it.

He has changed his line of thought from the common uniting idea of justification of faith to how to live by faith.

One is the beginning

The other is the race itself.

# Abraham's journey of faith



Romans 4:11,12

And he received circumcision as a sign, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but have not been circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them.

And he is then also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised but who also follow in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

# Romans 4:13-15

13 It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. 14 For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless, 15 because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

# Romans 4:16-17

16 Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. 17 As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.

What is faith's object?



# ABRAHAM an example: Hope to belief

Verse 18 - **In hope against hope he believed,** so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, " So shall your descendants be ."

Faith's object was on the  
promise.

Faith is not just believing in  
God, it is trusting in all  
promises given by God.

# ABRAHAM an example: Faith pointed

Verse 19 - Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb;

Faith's object was on the  
promise.

## **ABRAHAM an example: Faith's boast**

Verse 20 - yet, with respect to the promise of God,  
he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith,  
giving glory to God,

Verse 21 - and being fully assured that what God  
had promised, He was able also to perform.

**Faith's object was God's  
trustworthiness and ability.**



**ABRAHAM an example: Faith's RESULT**  
*21 and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.*

*22 Therefore it was also credited to him as righteousness.*

**Faith's RESULT IS  
RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

*“The promise must be by grace if it is to be guaranteed. To introduce works, ‘I must do my part,’ is to introduce an element of insecurity and uncertainty.”*

*William Newell*

### Insecurity Leads to:

- We try to whitewash our own lives.
- We cannot love God because self comes first.
- We cannot love others.
- We do not become the inheritors of God’s promises.

## NEXT WEEK: BENEFITS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

### Homework:

1. Read Romans Chapter 5:1-11
1. Answer these questions for yourself from this portion of scripture:
  1. What is the hope of the glory of God?
  2. How does this hope motivate you to live for God's glory?
  3. How has God demonstrated his love for you? How do you respond to his love?
  4. How do you boast in God through Jesus Christ?
  5. How do you share this boasting with others?