



Believing God For His Best!

You have an eternal destiny that is God's best
You have a legacy to leave for future generations
Abraham, Sarah & Joseph

May 23, 2021 – Part 6

Ephesians 2 ¹⁰ We have become his poetry, a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. Even before we were born, God planned in advance our destiny and the good works we would do to fulfill it! TPT

I will finish everything God put me in the earth to do. I will leave a legacy for future generations. I am awakening to my best time in the earth.

Hebrews 6 ¹² So don't allow your hearts to grow dull or lose your enthusiasm, but follow the example of those who fully received what God has promised because of their strong faith and patient endurance. TPT

Abraham, Sarah & Joseph are examples to us!

Galatians 3 ^{14a} Jesus Christ dissolved the curse from our lives, so that in him all the blessings of Abraham can be poured out upon gentiles. TPT

Genesis 12 ² Follow me, and I will make you into a great nation. I will exceedingly bless and prosper you, and I will make you famous, so that you will be a *tremendous source of blessing* for others. TPT

Hebrews 11 ¹¹ It was by faith that even Sarah was able to have a child, though she was barren and was too old. She believed that God would keep his promise. NLT

Sarah's faith was as great as Abraham's faith

Genesis 17 ¹⁵ God also said to Abraham: "Concerning your wife Sarai, you are not to call her Sarai anymore, but Sarah," *'My Princess,'* will be her name. ¹⁶ I will *wonderfully* bless her. Yes, I will bless her *greatly*, and she will become a *mother of nations*; kings of nations will arise among her children!" ¹⁷ Then Abraham laughed so hard he fell to the ground, saying to himself, "How *in the world* can a hundred year-old man become a father? How can my wife Sarah get pregnant at ninety?" ¹⁸ And then he spoke out loud: "O, that Ishmael might prosper with your blessing!" ¹⁹ God said, "Listen to me. I promise that you and Sarah will have a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will confirm my everlasting covenant of love with him and his seed. ²⁰ And regarding Ishmael, I have heard your cry and I will indeed bless him. I will cause him to have many, many descendants. He will father twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation. ²¹ But my everlasting covenant relationship is with Isaac, who will be born to you and Sarah about this time next year." ²² When he had finished speaking with Abraham, God ascended *up to heaven*. ^{18:9} They asked him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" He answered, "over there – in the tent." ¹⁰ Then one spoke up and said, "I will return about this time next year, when your wife Sarah will certainly have a son." Sarah overheard it, for she was at the tent door not far behind him. ¹¹ Now, both Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. ¹² Sarah laughed to herself *with disbelief*, saying, "A woman my age – have a baby? After I'm worn out will I now enjoy marital bliss *and conceive* – with my aged husband?" ¹³ Yahweh *knew her thoughts* and asked Abraham, "Why is Sarah laughing, saying, 'How can a woman my age have a baby?'" ¹⁴ Do you think there is anything too marvelous for Yahweh? I will appear to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son!" ¹⁵ Sarah was afraid, so she denied it, saying, "I wasn't laughing." But he said, "Yes, you were!" TPT

Romans 4 ^{16b} faith of Abraham, the father of us all. ¹⁷ That's what the Scripture means when it says: "I have made you the father of many nations." He is our example and father, for in God's presence

he believed that God can raise the dead and call into being things that don't even exist yet. ¹⁸ **Against all odds, when it looked hopeless, Abraham believed the promise and expected God to fulfill it. He took God at his word,** and as a result he became the father of many nations. God's declaration over him came to pass: "Your descendants will be so many that they will be impossible to count!" ¹⁹ In spite of being nearly one hundred years old when the promise of having a son was made, **his faith was so strong that it could not be undermined by the fact that he and Sarah were incapable of conceiving a child.** ²⁰⁻²¹ **He never stopped believing God's promise,** for he was made strong in his faith to father a child. And because he was mighty in faith and **convinced that God had all the power needed to fulfill his promises, Abraham glorified God!** TPT

Psalm 105 ¹⁷ Then **he sent someone to Egypt ahead of them—Joseph,** who was sold as a slave. ¹⁸ They bruised his feet with fetters and placed his neck in an iron collar. ¹⁹ **Until the time came to fulfill his dreams, the LORD tested Joseph's character.** NLT - ¹⁹ God's promise to Joseph purged his character until it was time for his dreams to come true. TPT - ¹⁹ Until the time that his word [of prophecy regarding his brothers] came true, The word of the Lord tested *and* refined him. AMP

JOSEPH'S NAME AND HIS TESTIMONY

Joseph's name means, 'added or he will add.' God ADDED to Joseph's life, the things he needed in the 'in-between years', so he could then ADD to his family and his generation in his 'remaining-years', by fulfilling GOD'S WILL AND HIS DESTINY. IN THE PROCESS, Joseph grew and matured through the challenges he faced, being emptied of SELF, so he could be full of GOD. In his 'in-between-years', GOD was allowing hard difficult circumstances to ADD to Joseph's life, an enlarged God-kind of HEART, that would be full of COMPASSION and UNDERSTANDING.

CONSIDER HOW JOSEPH MUST HAVE FELT IN THESE TRYING MOMENTS

When his mother died at the birth of his younger brother
When his own brothers hated him
When his brothers stripped him of his coat
When his brothers schemed to get rid of him
When his brothers casted him into the pit
When his brothers sold him as a slave
When he was forced on a long trek with a caravan of slave traders down to Egypt
When he was auctioned and sold in an open market with other slaves
When he realized he was once a favored son, but now a slave
When he was lured to sin by and with his owner's wife
When he was lied about, falsely accused, and sentenced to prison
When he was cast jailed for a crime he did not commit
When he was no longer a slave, but now a prisoner
When he correctly interpreted the baker's and the butler's dreams, asking the butler to be remembered, but to only be forgotten

CONSIDER NOW HOW JOSEPH MUST HAVE FELT IN THESE GLORIOUS MOMENTS

When his day of release from prison came and he was summoned to appear before Pharaoh
When he was called upon to interpret Pharaoh's dreams
When he was appointed second to Pharaoh and given the charge to prepare the nation for the coming global crisis
When he saw his father and his brothers again
When he saw God bringing to pass the two dreams he had, 13 years prior, at age 17
In those thirteen years, Joseph could have allowed the enemy to get him distracted, disoriented, disillusioned, deceived, and detoured from God's will and purpose for his life, but he didn't. He came through his testings, bigger, better and stronger because he kept his HEART OPEN and his EYES FOCUSED on the LORD.