

Romans 4:17-25

(Read)

- Sometimes when preparing to preach, I go through a passage and start circling or underlining words or phrases that catch my eye.
- Things that are odd, or intriguing, things that stand out.
- NOTICE in verse 19 the word dead to deadness.

(Read)

- That's a lot of death in one sentence.
- Abraham's body dead, Sarah's womb has died.
- Both cannot bring life, they're both in death.
- So I underlined those words.
- And as you read on it talks about the faith.
- Abraham on how he believed that God perform that which he said he would, and how that imputed.
- Then I come to verse 24 to him for righteousness.

* Righteousness was put into Abraham because he believed what God said, had performed.

vs 23 Imputed Righteousness was not just for him but for us also.

vs 24 (READ)

- And Paul's that word again, (dead) Circle it!

- So some observations:

- Paul is comparing Sarah's womb to Joseph of Arimathea's tomb, womb to tomb.

- Womb to tomb -

Headmark
 Arise to climb
 back into the
 womb
 Paul said
 it's not the
 womb it's
 the tomb
 Gen 2:11-12
 Buried?
 there was
 just in the
 THE TOMB
 He must be
 born again
 The word is
 in HG is
 OMB

- Both places, no life was supposed to come forth...
- If Abraham believed that God would bring forth life from that which was dead, ^(Sarah's womb) righteousness would be imputed unto him.
- If we believe that God would bring forth life from that which was dead, ^(Joseph's tomb) Righteousness would be imputed unto us.

- So Sarah's womb is a type of the tomb which Jesus came forth.
- And the birth of Isaac was a type of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- And in both instances, it is faith that brings the victory. It's faith that wins the power of God.

vs 21
- Faith that God can do what he's said he will do.
"And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able to perform."

Fully persuaded? Are you fully persuaded?
When I was young, I spent a lot of time with my dad. I was always helping him in the backyard, or underneath the hood of the truck. And whenever he could get something to move ^(EX) He'd say that it needs to be persuaded. And he'd break out the sledgehammer and say this is the persuader!

Have you ever been
fully persuaded by the
word of God?

Jer 23:29 Is not my word... like a hammer that
breaketh the rock in pieces?

- Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit,
a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not
despise.

Of course now, at the Algeria house we have
ourselves a horse and there's been a tremendous
amount of learning going on in the past weeks
about horses.

- We have a horse that is not broke.
- So it exhibits behavior that is not desirable.
- She doesn't respect our space - why?
- She bucks & rears when there's too much pressure on her - why?
- She may even bite you - why?
- You might say, "That's a terrible, dangerous horse."
- Well yeah, that's because she's not broke.
- A horse that is not broke doesn't respect you or trust you.

Let me say this... A person without a broken heart
a contrite spirit... will exhibit undesirable behavior...
- Hell buck, rear, & bite at the things of God.
- And dangerous he will be and untrustworthy.

- Our horse was very docile and mild mannered when we got her. She didn't do any of those things like rear, kick, + bite...
- But once we started trying to train her and expect something out of her, that's where the problems began.

Likewise, I don't come how nice a person may seem on the outside. How docile and mild mannered they may conduct themselves. Inside there may be rebellion penned up in there. And when God begins working on that heart, then the fire comes out, the bucking, rearing, and crashing of teeth.

If anyone ever tells you that horse doesn't rear, kick, or bite, don't believe them.

All horses kick, All horses bite, All horses buck.

It's a matter of the environment + training.

It depends on how broke they are.

A broke horse rarely or never gets spooked.

If they do, they're not going to bolt and run, or rear back, or start kicking at whatever spooked them. Why? Because they have been fully persuaded by their trainer that it's in their best interest to just relax and be still.

Is it natural? ~~No~~. No at all. Naturally, a horse will take off running or start fighting the second any sense danger --

But the truth has worked with the ^{horse} and fully persuaded horse that safest most effective means of handling fear is to trust the trainer --

Let me ask you this? Are you fully persuaded to trust the trainer --

John 14:18 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

"And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able to perform."

Verses 19 + 20 (Rea)

Was he strong in faith?"

Sarah laughed, "Take things in their own hands --"

Abraham kept asking when was he going to get his son --

I've heard a few things, when I look at Abraham →

- Nobody is perfect. If being broke is a learning process, may at times, the only way to learn and succeed is to fall and fail first...
- As far as faith... Our strength come not from our faith, but whom we've put our faith in...
- That is why it's faith the size of a mustard seed that moves mountains... It's not the faith that does the moving, It's whom we placed our faith and trust that can make the mountains flee...

You look at Abraham before Isaac was born, you see a little faith... kinda wobbly at times... but take a look at his faith on Mount Moriah...

Gen 22: 10-12

- At that point, there's no doubt whatsoever that Abraham is "fully persuaded that what he had promised, he was able to perform."

Abraham was broke, a broken spirit + contrite heart... There was no budy, no reary, no budy... He did as God asked him to do... Fully persuaded...

Are you fully persuaded?

Ezek 36:26. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

A broken heart & a contrite spirit...
Is not my word as hammer breaking the rock into pieces?

← What is a metaphor? →