



Welcome To Open Bible Hour

Thank you for joining us on this Lord's Day!

Our desire is that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ as we pursue an in-depth study of the book of Hebrews.

If you have a prayer request, for which you would like us to pray, please fill out a prayer sheet at the back table and give to Lyle.

Our website: OpenBibleHour.net

“BY FAITH SARAH CONCEIVED”

Hebrews 11:11-16

February 23, 2014

HALL OF FAITH

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith



Abel



Enoch



Noah



Abraham



Sarah



Brought the
right
sacrifice

Walked
with God

Preached
and Built

Obedied

Conceived

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith

By Faith



Heb 11:11-16

- 11 By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised.
- 12 Therefore there was born even of one man, and him as good as dead at that, as many descendants AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN IN NUMBER, AND INNUMERABLE AS THE SAND WHICH IS BY THE SEASHORE.
- 13 All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.
- 14 For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own.
- 15 And indeed if they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return.
- 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

Gen 16:1-2

- 1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife had borne him no children, and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar.
- 2 So Sarai said to Abram, "Now behold, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Please go in to my maid; perhaps I will obtain children through her."

Gen 18:10-15

10 He said, "I will surely return to you at this time next year; and behold, Sarah your wife will have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door, which was behind him.

11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; Sarah was past childbearing.

12 Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have become old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?"

13 And the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, when I am so old?'"

14 "Is anything too difficult for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

15 Sarah denied it however, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. And He said, "No, but you did laugh."

Heb 11:11-16

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Rom 4:16-22

- 16 For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all,
- 17 (as it is written, "A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") in the presence of Him whom he believed, even God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.
- 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."
- 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;
- 20 yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God,
- 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.

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God's Sovereignty Over the Womb

Gen 20:18

18 For the Lord had closed fast all the wombs of the household of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

Gen 25:21

21 Isaac prayed to the Lord on behalf of his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord answered him and Rebekah his wife conceived.

Gen 29:31

31 Now the Lord saw that Leah was unloved, and He opened her womb, but Rachel was barren.

Gen 30:22

22 Then God remembered Rachel, and God gave heed to her and opened her womb

1 Sam 1:5

5 but to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, but the Lord had closed her womb.

SARAH

1. Faltered at times in her faith . . .so do we.
 - Hagar
 - Laughter
 - Denial
 - Ishmael
2. There is no mention in Hebrews of Sarah's unbelief. Her unbelief is forgiven and forgotten. In Hebrews her faith is remembered and honored . . . so will ours.
3. Out of her deep reverence and fear of God, Sarah realized her lack of faith in His Word and then believed God for her ability to conceive . . . so should we.
4. God accepted her act of faith and granted the birth of a child to Sarah . . . so shall we.
5. Sarah was absolutely critical to Abraham receiving the promises of God . . . so are we.

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Looking for a City/Country

Ps 27:4

4 One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek:
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
To behold the beauty of the Lord
And to meditate in His temple.

Job 19:25-26

25 "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives,
And at the last He will take His stand on the earth.
26 "Even after my skin is destroyed,
Yet from my flesh I shall see God;

Phil 3:13-14

13 but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Phil 3:20-21

20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

1 Peter 1:13

13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Titus 2:12-13

12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,

13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,

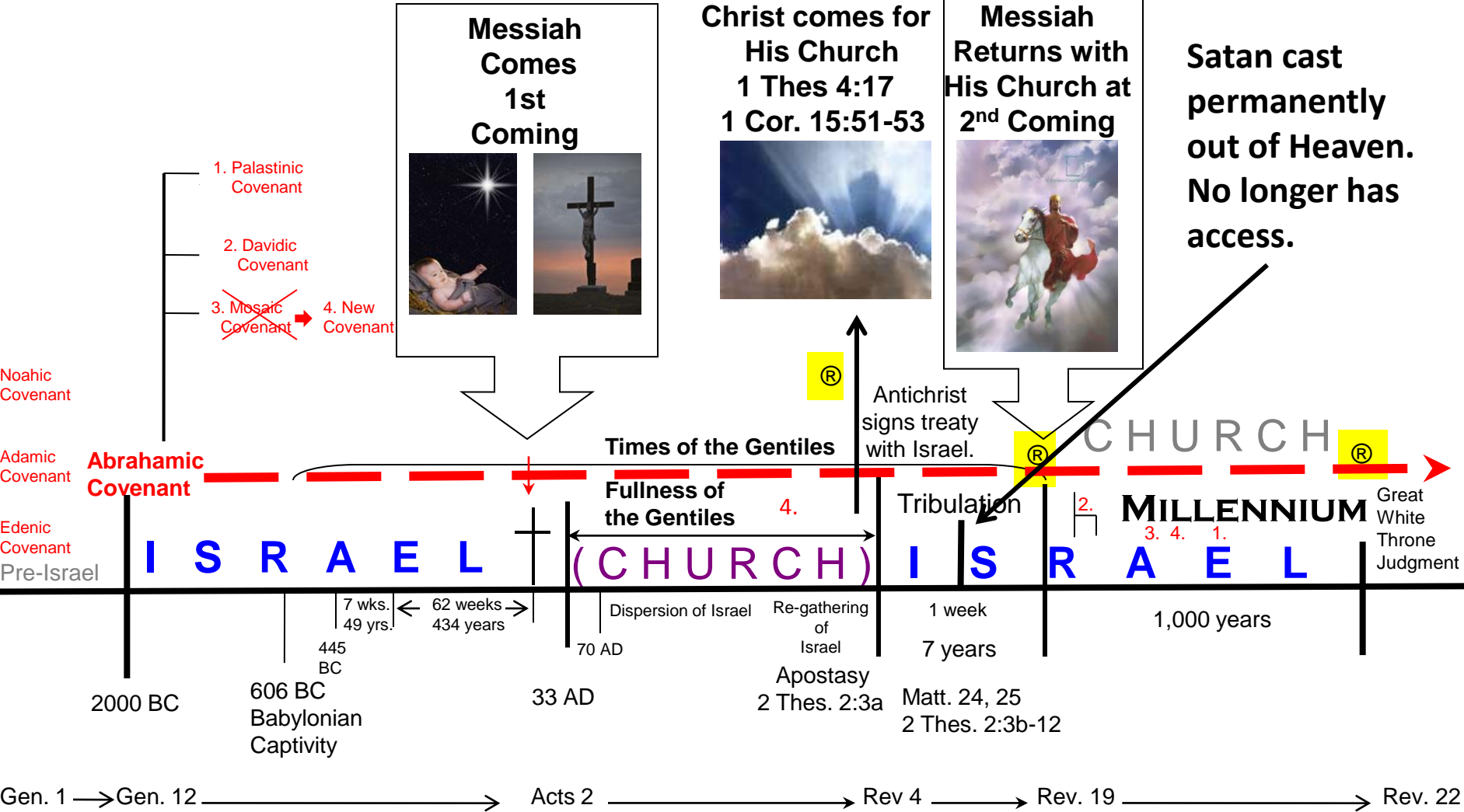
2 Peter 3:13

13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

John 14:2,3

- 2 "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.
- 3 "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.

Comprehensive Biblical View of Future Prophetic Events



® = Resurrection

Application

1. For Abraham, Sarah, and their family, they were quite content and happy to be strangers, aliens, and exiles on the earth.
2. These believers of faith did not know what was taking place. God had given them no inside information, no word as to when or how the promises would be fulfilled. He only gave the promises, and that was enough.
3. These believers died in perfect hope and assurance of the fulfillment of the promises.
4. For the person of faith, God's promise is as good as the reality. His promise of the glory that is ahead was as encouraging and certain to these believers as actually possessing it could have been.
5. The most positive thing about our faith is not what we can see or hold or experience, but the promise that one day we will forever be with the Lord in the heavenly city.