

Out of Control

The story of Abraham and Sarah is a saga of love and trust in God that at a glance would be perfect for any Hallmark greeting card but this story has a serious edge to it that takes more than a casual glance. These two people are parents of a promise and a problem, all at the same time that was produced as a result of the all too human desire to have that which has been declared from the mouth of God without the patience to wait on the timing of God. It is the story of the issues that surround the dilemma of the believer remaining faithful to an invisible God who has fulfilled many *other* promises in your life while dealing with the emotional and spiritual fatigue of holding out for the thing that you are seemingly denied but desired from the beginning. Abraham and Sarah, like us, had to come to vice like truth that sometimes our dreams remain an intangible joy realized only within our hearts while others are touching what we only hope to have. Abraham never asked to be made a great nation or to become a man of wealth and power. He never sought God to be the father of faith nor did he seek to subdue kings or to even walk in their presence. What he sought in his heart was a son of his own who would continue his name and make him a fulfilled man of his time. Everything that Abraham did seemed to bring him closer to fulfilling Gods ultimate plan but not his personal promise. Every now and then it can seem that when God finally gets our attention that He begins to do great things in our lives that are undeniable but yet there are specific details concerning us personally that seem to be forgotten. We can see our anointing growing and strangers are responding to the gospel that we preach but the ones that we initially asked God to save are still a stranger to God. We are conquering in many areas in our lives that at one time overpowered us and we, like the disciples, know that the devils tremble when we enter a room. People marvel at how when we pray things that seemed impossible are instantly manifested, for them, while we marvel at the fact that we still live paycheck to paycheck and don't ever seem to get blessed with the houses that we are asked to bless. Abraham and Sarah had it all. They had a conversational relationship with God, tangible wealth, Abraham had a reputation as a warrior, Sarah had legendary beauty and they were both masters over many servants, yet they were unfulfilled personally because they were still waiting on a promised seed that seemed delayed and out of their control. It was this revelation, ***that Gods promise was out of their control***, that prompted Sarah to coerce Abraham to become intimate with her handmaiden, Hagar, to produce an promise for them. Hagar became pregnant and produced a son named Ishmael that was nothing but a problem for Sarah and Abraham from the beginning. The problem was manifested in Ishmael but was really based on the fact that Sarah and Abraham were sick of waiting on God and wanted to take control of their happiness. Sometimes serving God becomes a burden to us, not because we fall out of love with The Lord but because we came to Him because of what we would gain with no thought for what we would lose. We never expected to lose control over our personal destiny. Gods promises were suppose to be sweet and passive but in reality they aggressively prompt us to wants what we may had been content not to have. We get angry with Him because he didn't leave us in the warm comfort of complacency or acceptance of where we were. They were both discontented with God because His promises had aroused a desire that they had given up on and had awaken them to a possibility that they were happy to shake off as impossible. They were really saying "***God leave me alone can't you see that I had gotten content in barrenness. It's not going to happen for me and I'm fine with that***"? They truth is that you may be fine being barren but God isn't. He didn't design Sarah to be barren or for Abraham to be without an heir but he did anoint them to be out of their control. They were called and designed to yield to a plan that they couldn't see and to wait on a God that they didn't understand. God isn't going to let you die without bearing the fruit of His promises to you. You just have to learn how to be out of control for Jesus. Paul said that he learned to be content in whatever situation that he found himself in because He knew that he was most in control when he gave control to God. Let God work His plan through you and stop tying your own hands by trying to help God do what He doesn't need your help doing. You just be radical and faithful and keep watching for your moment because if God has called you to a harvest then rain is imminent no matter what the forecast. Let God be in control of your life since He is the only one that knows where you are headed.