**It's Your Time!**

**Genesis 18: 9-14, 21: 1-5**

If you have ever waited for God to fulfill His promises to you, you will be encouraged by the story of Abraham and Sarah. When God called Abraham, he was already seventy five years old and Sarah, his wife was sixty five (Genesis 12:4). This lets us know that we are never too old for God to use.

Abraham was known as the friend of God. He was devoted and obedient to what God called him to do. Because of his obedience, God promised that He was going to bless him beyond measure. He assured Abraham that one day he and Sarah would have a child and that the world would be blessed through their seed.

Although Abraham believed God, he didn't realize just how long God would have him wait before the promise would be fulfilled. None of us likes to wait. We want God’s blessings to manifest immediately in our lives. But waiting on God to fulfill His promises strengthens our faith and prepares us for the battles ahead. Each time we faithfully wait on God, we grow. We become more confident, knowing that He always keeps His promises; and even if they seem delayed, they will not be denied. Our God cannot and does not lie (Numbers 23:19).

God waited 25 years before His promise to Abraham and Sarah to have a son would be filled. By waiting until they were both too old to naturally have a son, God proved that what is impossible with man is possible with Him. This story should serve as an example for us. For instance, if you get a hopeless medical report from the doctor, don’t give up! It doesn't matter what the doctors say! When they give up and give you bleak, terminal news, God says, "LIVE!" Some may be believing God for a child. Since they are getting older, they are beginning to lose hope. God is saying to you, "I can create life in a womb that is considered barren or infertile, because I am God." Remember, our lives are in His hands.

Abraham is now 100 years old and Sarah is 90 but they had faith and received their baby boy. Abraham's faith and trust in God helped him to plant the seed. God fertilized it, and Sarah's faith enabled her to give birth to what was planted.

I am a living witness that God keeps His promises. Years ago when it looked as though I was having a Job-like experience, God assured me that He would restore the years that the cankerworm and locusts had stolen. (Joel 2:25). It took over 15 years for the promises to begin manifesting, but He came through, and I'm still waiting for some to be fulfilled.

Sisters and brothers, the same God who kept His promises to me will do the same for you. Just keep waiting and trusting, and He will let you know when **"It's Your Time."**

**Happy New Year!**

Elder Shirley Freeman

Daughters of Zion Women's Ministries