Genesis 18:9-15

*A Doubt Storm*

Introduction

1. There are snow storms…windstorms…rainstorms…hail storms and there are doubt-storms.

 Have you ever been hit by a doubt-storm?

2. To some doubt is more real than others. With a gift of faith, I can see the rainbow before the

 clouds part. I can now shout: *“Land ho”* before the fog clears.

3. In Genesis 18:9-15 Sarah was finds herself in a ‘doubt-storm’. In v. 12 Sarah laughed within

 herself at God’s promise.

Are you in a doubt storm?

**I. THE REVELATION TO DOUBT 18:9, 10**

 ***A. The Preparation for Revelation 9***

**1.** *They* (the pre-incarnate Christ poises the question) ask a question that they already

 know the answer. There are no question to a God who is all knowing!

 **2.** *In the tent…*the questions are raised for our benefit not God’s. He knows our name,

 where we are, and everything about us. Questions come to us!

 ***B. The Proclamation of Revelation 10***

**1.** Although there are three the verb is in the singular.

 **2.** God speaks. The word is from the Lord. *His return* meaning the birth will be a

 divine provision.

 **3.** *Sarah thy wife will have a son.* Doubt must have a revelation of divine truth. God

 is love. Christ died. *All Scripture is given by inspiration. Casting all your care upon*

 *Him, because He cares for you. “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”*

**4.** The revelation is too BIG. It is beyond us. It doesn’t compute with life as we see it!

Are you in a doubt storm?

**II. THE REASON FOR DOUBT 18:11, 12**

1. ***It’s Logical 11***
2. *Sarah and Abraham* (both were well stricken in old age…Abraham was impotent).

Sarah had passed menopause. *My lord being old also (Rom. 4:19)*…Sarah was too old and Abraham was impotent.

1. *“Shall I have pleasure”*
2. ***It’s Laughable 12***

*Therefore Sarah laughed within herself*

1. Abraham laughed in 17:17. His was a laugh: *It’s too good to be true.* Sarah’s was a laugh of doubt. *“Yea, right…I’m going to have a baby.”*
2. Have you ever laughed? *“Yea right.” “It may be true for some, but not me.”*
3. When it seems to depend upon me, and I just can’t!!

Are you in a doubt storm?

**III. THE RECIPE FOR DOUBT 18:13, 14**

The answer is in God.

1. ***God Knows All Things 13***
2. God addresses Abraham, but He knows Sarah has her ear to the side of the tent.
3. *Sarah laughed within herself*. God knows all about your doubts.
4. He knows what obstacle stands in your way. *“Shall I surely bear a child, who am old?”* God isn’t shocked, surprised or shaken by your unbelief. At the end of yourself, your can’t…it’s too big for you to handle!
5. ***God Must Do It 14***
6. Here is the real crux of doubt: you doubt the power of God to perform what He has promised. The real question behind our unbelief…*Is anything too hard for the Lord?*
7. God can do anything…anything but fail. *Nothing is too hard for God!*
8. God has the right time…His time, not mine.

\**At the appropriate time.*

*\**14b and v. 10 *I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life.*

*\**The birth of Isaac was a scheduled event as far as God was concerned. God has a plan. God is in control. Our doubts do not negate God’s promises. **Truth cannot change!!** Truth can change us (Heb. 11:11). God must do a work in me!!

Are you in a doubt storm?

**IV. THE REACTION TO DOUBT 18:15**

1. ***Denial*** Be honest with God
2. *Then Sarah denied saying, “I laughed not.”*
3. She lied. Why is it so hard to admit doubt?
4. Isn’t it wonderful that God doesn’t leave us at these moments of denial.
5. ***Dread*** *Nay, but you did laugh…she was afraid.*
6. God knows your doubts and deception.
7. There is no stern rebuke, but a gentle reminder that He knows.

\**Jesus looked at Peter…He went out and wept bitterly.*

*\*Jesus looks at you!*

***Are you in a doubt-storm?***

***As God brings us to the end of ourselves:***

**We can’t…He must!**

**God’s Word is sure.**

**God Knows.**

**God Has A Plan…His time is right. His way is right.**

**God’s Design…Increase your faith. Be honest with God.**

**“Trust Me” “Rest In Me” “I’ve never failed!!”**