THE SERMON

"GOD IS NOT MALE, FEMALE OR A CHICKEN!"

Pastor Mike

WHAT IF WE DIE AND IT TURNS OUT GOD IS A BIG CHICKEN?? WHAT THEN?!
WATTERSON

Stop. Think.
YOUR WORDS MATTER
Expect Respect: Inclusive Language Campaign
University of Michigan

- **Clip - Shockingly Negative**

https://www.sermonspice.com/product/17356/shockingly-negative

Abram was very negative as he had not been given an heir. So, God appeared in a vision (literally a dream) and promised him that he would have a child. The issue that has been argued for centuries are the words:

"And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness."

- Genesis 15:6

Traditional understanding is the God makes Abram righteous for believing.

(Romans, Galatians, and James)

Remember Abram is asleep!

Other interpretations are:

God is recognized by Abram as the one who is righteous for doing this thing.

Abram is righteous because he believes. (works righteous)

se·man·tics

/səˈman(t)iks/

noun

- the branch of linguistics and logic concerned with meaning.
- the meaning of a word, phrase, sentence, or text.

When we speak are our words negative or hurtful? Do they cause pain or suffering or do they promote faith, hope, and trust?

Without faith, hope and trust, there is no promise for the future, and without a promising future, life has no direction, no meaning and no justification.

Adlin Sinclair

Paul's letter to the Philippians from prison expresses faith, hope and trust even under dire and difficult circumstances. "Join in imitating me,…"

"Don't let the alligators get you down."

The Future Is As Bright...
As The Promises Of God

Jesus tells those warning him about Herod that he has work to do. This all sounds rather ominous and negative. It is not!

Jesus says that this work takes three days and the third day it is finished.

(τέλειος- Be perfected) This is a reference to the resurrection for our benefit reminding us of the promise and to hold fast.

Spend time
with people
that pour
water on
your fears
& doubts
and gasoline
on your dreams.

In spite of our lack of faith and in spite of all the negativity and our unwillingness, God still saves unconditionally and graciously!

Grace is
God's Love
Toward You.
To Do What
You Were
Created To Do.