

Genesis: Back to Obedience  
Hills and Valleys  
Genesis 21:1-21

In a message based on Deuteronomy 11:11, the Scottish preacher George Morrison said, “The Christian life is a land of hills and valleys.” Of course, that is true of every life because we live in a world between the worlds. Heaven is a place of unending joy; hell is a place of unending suffering. While we are here on earth, we can expect both joy and sorrow, laughter and tears.

1. By faith we experience the power and promise of God.
2. By faith we endure the struggle between spirit and flesh.
3. By faith we engage the interaction between grace and law.
4. By faith we enjoy the presence and provision of God.

Too often in the trials of life we fail to see the divine provisions God has made for us, and we forget the promises He has made to us. We open our hands to receive what we think we need instead of asking God to open eyes to see what we already have. We need to ask God to open our hearts and minds to the grace, mercy, and peace offered freely through the sacrifice of Christ and His cross.