

God's Promises

- A. Without Faith in the right Person (John 3:16), Hope grounded in His plans (Heb 6:19) and Love because of what He has done (1 John 4:19), the only possible results are blind arrogance or unhealthy fear.
- B. Fear must be defeated for Peace to exist. John 20:19-21
- C. Fear is defeated by:
1. Facing the reality of the Sin Nature.
 2. Expanding thinking to include God.
 3. Accepting His Promises.
 4. Refocusing onto spiritual reality.

D. Face the Reality of the Sin Nature.

1. There is a battle going on between the Holy Spirit and the Flesh for your decisions. Gal 5:16-26

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. 17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. 19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. 26 Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

2. Identify the sin and confess it. 1 John 1:8-10
(Mental Attitude, Tongue, Overt)

If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

3. Seek to not sin. Heb 10:26-31

For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a certain terrifying expectation of judgment, and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay." And again, "The

Lord will judge His people." 31 It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God. **Heb 12:4-5** You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin;

E. Expand your thinking to include God:

(Fear is often a result of ignorance. Choosing to be ignorant of God is just another form of arrogance that says He is not worthy knowing, even though His Word is a written invitation.)

1. Because unhealthy fear is focused on the potential danger of an object and human devices to alleviate it.

(The distinguishing factor in whether or not the fear is beneficial or harmful is whether or not what we choose to alleviate the fear takes us closer to God or farther away from Him. If a real physical threat, change what you can or neutralize it.)

2. When you realize you are in His Presence. Rev 1:12-19

(would you hug Him or hide?)

12 And I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; 13 and in the middle of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His breast with a golden girdle. 14 And His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire; 15 and His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been caused to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. 16 And in His right hand He held seven stars; and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength. 17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as a dead man. And He laid His right hand upon me, saying, "**Do not be afraid**; I am the first and the last, 18 and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

3. When you suspect danger. Prov 3:19-26

The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens. 20 By His knowledge the deeps were broken up, And the skies drip with dew. 21 My son, let them not depart from your sight; Keep sound wisdom and discretion, 22 So they will be life to your soul, And adornment to your neck. 23 Then you will walk in your way securely, And your foot will not stumble. 24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; When you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. 25 **Do not be afraid of sudden fear**, Nor of the onslaught of the wicked when it comes; 26 For the Lord will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.

4. When you face imminent danger. John 6:16-21

16 Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, 17 and after getting into a boat, they started to cross the sea to Capernaum. And it had already become dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. 18 And the sea began to be stirred up because a strong wind was blowing. 19 When therefore they had rowed about three or four miles, they beheld

Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat; and they were frightened. 20 But He said to them, "**It is I; do not be afraid.**" 21 They were willing therefore to receive Him into the boat; and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

5. When people attack you. Psa 56:1-7

Be gracious to me, O God, for man has trampled upon me; Fighting all day long he oppresses me. 2 My foes have trampled upon me all day long, For they are many who fight proudly against me. 3 When I am afraid, I will put my trust in You. 4 In God, whose word I praise, In God I have put my trust; I shall not be afraid. What can mere man do to me? 5 All day long they distort my words; All their thoughts are against me for evil. 6 They attack, they lurk, They watch my steps, As they have waited to take my life. 7 Because of wickedness, cast them forth, In anger put down the peoples, O God!

6. When your nation has been invaded. Jer 42:10-12

10 'If you will indeed stay in this land, then I will build you up and not tear you down, and I will plant you and not uproot you; for I shall relent concerning the calamity that I have inflicted on you. 11 'Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon, whom you are now fearing; do not be afraid of him,' declares the Lord,' for I am with you to save you and deliver you from his hand.

F. Accept His Promises. (Know and Trust)

1. To Accept His Promises:

A. Search His Word. 2 Tim 3:16-17

B. Determine if it is applicable to you. (Who?)

C. Determine if there are any conditions. (If...Then)

D. Adjust to meet the Conditions. Rom 12:1-3

E. Trust Him to keep His word. Prov 3:5

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,

And do not lean on your own understanding.

F. Seek to remove any doubts. Luke 24:38-40

And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 "See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

2. Your Strategy for life should be to know all of His promises. Heb 4:1

Therefore, let us fear lest, while a **promise** remains of entering His rest, any one of you should seem to have come short of it.

3. A promise is an agreement between two or more persons whereby the first person pledges in the future to render some service or gift to the others or devotes something valuable now and here to his use. (Faith towards God involves trusting His decisions. Hope relates to what He will do. Love is the objective.)

4. The **assurance** of the promise is directly related to the **character** of the parties involved. Titus 1:1-4 (God will do what He promises no matter how you "feel" about it. Emotions have no IQ)

Paul, a bond-servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness, 2 in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, **promised** long ages ago, 3 but at the proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of God our Savior; 4 to Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

5. **God's promises are the chief combatants against fear and thus the only basis of true peace.** John 14:25-28

"These things I have spoken to you, while abiding with you. 26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you. 27 "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.

6. **Our faith is reasonable because of God's faithfulness to keep His promises.** Heb 11:11-12 (The Living Word is the Power of Faith.)

By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had **promised**; 12 therefore, also, there was born of one man, and him as good as dead at that, as many descendants as the stars of heaven in number, and innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.

7. **Our Hope is reasonable because of God's faithfulness to keep His promises.** Heb 10:23-25 (The Written Word is the Presentation of Hope.)

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who **promised** is faithful; 24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.

8. **Our love is reasonable because of His unchanging love for us.** Rom 8:35-39 (The Spoken Word is the Profession of His Love.)

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 Just as it is written, "For Your sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

9. **Promises from God are given because:**
- A. **The condition is personally met. John 3:16**
 - B. **The condition is met by someone else and you share the blessing. Gen 12:1-3**
10. **Godliness is often the condition. 1 Tim 4:7-9**
 But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; 8 for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds **promise** for the present life and also for the life to come.
11. **Realize that God keeps His promises in accordance with His timing and in His perfect way. Heb 6:13-18**
 For when God made the **promise** to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, "I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply you." 15 And thus, having patiently waited, he obtained the **promise**. 16 For men swear by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath given as confirmation is an end of every dispute. 17 In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the **promise** the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath, 18 in order that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we may have strong encouragement, we who have fled for refuge in laying hold of the hope set before us.
- A. **God's promises are designed as tests to grow our trust for Him. Rom 4:19-21**
 19 And without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; 20 yet, with respect to the **promise** of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully assured that what He had **promised**, He was able also to perform.
 - B. **They are not designed to instantly fix a given set of circumstances.**
 - C. **They are not designed to instantly fix things the way you want them fixed.**
 - D. **When you finally "get it right" it is not a guarantee that it will work out your way, but that it will work out for the best. Rom 8:28**
 - E. **God delays the manifestation of His promises for the purpose of alignment with Him in all things. 2 Pet 3:9**
 The Lord is not slow about His **promise**, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.
12. **Promises are there:**
- A. **To Comfort you through tough situations. 2 Cor 1:3-6**
 (It is not to necessarily relieve or remove the situation. Sometimes He calms the storm, but usually He doesn't.)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; 4 who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 5 For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ.

B. To Work for good. Rom 8:28

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

C. To Show His love for you. James 2:5-6

Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

D. To spiritually deliver you first. 1 Cor 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.

13. God's promises call for a righteous response. 2 Cor 7:1

Therefore, having these **promises**, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

A. They are not formulas by which one can manipulate God. Matt 7:21-23

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. 22 "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' 23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'

B. They must be wrapped in "not my will but Yours."

C. Commitment is an essential ingredient in conditional promises. (whether it be for a point in time or a lifetime)

14. Promises are received through faith. Gal 3:13-14

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us — for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree" — 14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the **promise** of the Spirit through faith. **Gal 3:22** But the Scripture has shut up all men under sin, that the **promise** by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

15. Promises can be for time as well as eternity. Eph 6:2-4

Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a **promise**), 3 that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.

16. One person cannot negate promises for others. Rom 9:3-5

For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh, 4 who are Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the temple service and the promises,

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- G. **Refocusing onto spiritual reality.**

1. **Stop being afraid of being forgotten by God. Luke 12:5-8**

"But I will warn you whom to fear: fear the One who after He has killed has authority to cast into hell; yes, I tell you, fear Him! 6 "Are not five sparrows sold for two cents? And yet not one of them is forgotten before God. 7 "Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear; you are of more value than many sparrows.

2. **Return to The Shepherd. 1 Peter 2:21-25**

For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, 22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; 23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; 24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. 25 For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

3. **Focus on the Lord. Heb 12:1-4**

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you may not grow weary and lose heart.

4. **Proceed down the new path. Rom 6:4-7**

Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin; 7 for he who has died is freed from sin.

5. **Adjust your life to partake of the Divine Nature through His precious promises. 2 Pet 1:2-11**

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; 3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent **promises**, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. 5 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge; 6 and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness; 7 and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins. 10 Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;

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 - 1. **Stop being afraid of being forgotten by God. Luke 12:5-8**
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- H. **Some Key Conditions and Promises:**
 - 1. **First we must realize that false teachers of the last days promise freedom but deliver corruption. 2 Pet 2:17-19 (A freedom without responsibility or accountability, otherwise known as anarchy)**

These are springs without water, and mists driven by a storm, for whom the black darkness has been reserved. 18 For speaking out arrogant words of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error, 19 **promising** them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved.

**2. God' has promised eternal life to those who believe in His Son.
1 John 2:24-25**

As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. 25 And this is the **promise** which He Himself made to us: eternal life. **John 3:16-18** "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. 17 "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him. 18 "He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. **John 3:36** "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." **John 5:24** "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. **John 6:37** "All that the Father gives Me shall come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. **John 6:40** "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him, may have eternal life; and I Myself will raise him up on the last day." **John 6:47** "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. **John 6:54** "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

3. The Indwelling Holy Spirit is the pledge of our eternal promises. 2 Cor 1:20-22

For as many as may be the **promises** of God, in Him they are yes; wherefore also by Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us. 21 Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, 22 who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge. **Eph 1:13-14** In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation — having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of **promise**, 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

4. The Holy Spirit will convict the world concerning sin, righteousness and judgment. John 16:8-12

"And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment; 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold Me; 11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

5. The Holy Spirit will guide into all truth. John 16:13

"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

6. Wisdom will be given to those who ask in faith. Jas 1:5-8

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea

driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, 8 being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

7. We have everything we need for life and godliness. 2 Pet 1:2-4
Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; 3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

8. Great inheritance is for those who love God by loving others. Jas 2:5-8

Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He **promised** to those who love Him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court? 7 Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called? 8 If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law, according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.

9. A Crown of Life is for those who persevere under trial. Jas 1:12

Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life, which the Lord has **promised** to those who love Him.

I. God's Precious and Magnificent Promises.

(God's promises are the demonstration of His Character in the Angelic Conflict, as well as His Truthfulness, Omniscience and Sovereignty. Satan and his workers promise things they cannot keep and often have no intention of keeping. If God says He will do it, He will.)

1. Blessings for Believers: 2 Pet 1:2-4

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; 3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

a. Promises for this life. Psa 84:11-12; cf Matt 6:25-34

"The Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord gives grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of Hosts, How blessed is the man who trust in You!" (note conditions that go with the promises)

b. Promises for the Troubles of this Life. Matt 11:28-30.

"Come unto Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am

gentle and humble in heart, and you shall find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My load is light."

c. Promises of Spiritual Blessings. Eph 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

d. Promises of Future Blessings. John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

2. Promises for Service.

a. Toward God. 1 Pet 2:4-6

And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For this is contained in Scripture: "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER stone, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

b. Toward Men. Heb 6:9-12

But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way. 10 For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints. 11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

c. Toward Self. Gal 6:7-10 (cultivation of Christian character)

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. 10 So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith. **Php 4:6-9**

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things. 9 The things you have learned and received and heard and

seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

3. Promises for the Church. Matt 16:18

"I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

4. Promises for Israel. Rom 11:25-29

For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery — so that you will not be wise in your own estimation — that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; 26 and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB." 27 "THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS." 28 From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of God's choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers; 29 for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

5. Promises of Christ's Return. 1 Thes 4:16-18

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

6. Promises that God will keep His promises. Deut 7:7-11

The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples, 8 but because the Lord loved you and kept the oath which He swore to your forefathers, the Lord brought you out by a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. 9 "Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments; 10 but repays those who hate Him to their faces, to destroy them; He will not delay with him who hates Him, He will repay him to his face. 11 "Therefore, you shall keep the commandment and the statutes and the judgments which I am commanding you today, to do them. **Psa 119:89-90** Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven. 90 Your faithfulness continues throughout all generations; You established the earth, and it stands. **Heb 6:17-20** In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath, 18 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us. 19 This hope we

have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, 20 where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. **Heb 10:23** Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; **2 Pet 3:7-9** But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. 8 But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. 9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. **Titus 1:1-4** Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness, 2 in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago, 3 but at the proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of God our Savior, 4 To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. **2 Pet 1:2-4** Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; 3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

I. Blessings for Believers: 2 Pet 1:2-4

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; 3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

1. Promises for this life. **Psa 84:11-12; cf Matt 6:25-34**

“The Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord gives grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of Hosts, How blessed is the man who trust in You!” (note conditions that go with the promises)

a. God blesses the righteous. **Psa 5:11-12**

But let all who take refuge in You be glad, Let them ever sing for joy; And may You shelter them, That those who love Your name may exult in You. 12 For it is You who do bless the righteous man, O Lord, You do surround him with favor as with a shield.

b. Those who pursue righteousness and loyalty will find life, righteousness and honor. **Prov 21:20-21**

There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise, But a foolish man swallows it up. 21 He who pursues righteousness and loyalty Finds life, righteousness and honor.

- c. **True rewards are promised to the truly righteous.**
Prov 11:18-19

The wicked earns deceptive wages, But he who sows righteousness gets a true reward. 19 He who is steadfast in righteousness will attain to life, And he who pursues evil will bring about his own death.

- d. **Failure is guaranteed to those who trust their riches.**
Prov 11:28

He who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like the green leaf.

- e. **Fear will leave with the Lord as your shepherd. Psa 23**

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. 3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. 5 You do prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

- f. **Godliness is a basis of great gain. 1 Tim 6:6-9**

But godliness actually is a means of great gain, when accompanied by contentment. 7 For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. 8 And if we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

- g. **Lord seekers will not be in need of any other good thing.**
Psa 34:8-10

O taste and see that the Lord is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! 9 O fear the Lord, you His saints; For to those who fear Him, there is no want. 10 The young lions do lack and suffer hunger; But they who seek the Lord shall not be in want of any good thing.

- h. **Lord lovers will have the abundant life. Psa 91:14-16**

14 "Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him securely on high, because he has known My name. 15 "He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him, and honor him. 16 "With a long life I will satisfy him, And let him behold My salvation."

- i. **Obedience to the Lord will prolong the quality of one's days. Prov 3:1-2**

My son, do not forget my teaching, But let your heart keep my commandments; 2 For length of days and years of life, And peace they will add to you.

j. Wisdom lets one enjoy life's blessings. Prov 3:13-16

How blessed is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding. 14 For its profit is better than the profit of silver, And its gain than fine gold. 15 She is more precious than jewels; And nothing you desire compares with her. 16 Long life is in her right hand; In her left hand are riches and honor.

k. Respect for the Lord begins the enjoyment of life's blessings. Prov 9:10-12

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. 11 For by me your days will be multiplied, And years of life will be added to you. 12 If you are wise, you are wise for yourself, And if you scoff, you alone will bear it.

l. Those who run to the Lord will be safe. Prov 18:10

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous runs into it and is safe.

m. Those who sit on His left will be stable. Psa 16:8

I have set the Lord continually before me; Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

n. Confidence in the Lord will keep you from the snares of life. Prov 3:21-26

My son, let them not depart from your sight; Keep sound wisdom and discretion, 22 So they will be life to your soul, And adornment to your neck. 23 Then you will walk in your way securely, And your foot will not stumble. 24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; When you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. 25 Do not be afraid of sudden fear, Nor of the onslaught of the wicked when it comes; 26 For the Lord will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.

o. Dwell in His shelter and be delivered from danger. Psa 91:1-4

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High Will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust!" 3 For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper, And from the deadly pestilence. 4 He will cover you with His pinions, And under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark.

p. Accept Him as Creator and you will walk securely. Prov 3:19-23

The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens. 20 By His knowledge the deeps were broken up, And the skies drip with dew. 21 My son, let them not depart from your sight; Keep sound wisdom and discretion, 22 So

they will be life to your soul, And adornment to your neck. 23 Then you will walk in your way securely, And your foot will not stumble.

q. Listen to the Lord and be secure. Prov 1:32-33

"For the waywardness of the naive shall kill them, And the complacency of fools shall destroy them. 33 "But he who listens to me shall live securely, And shall be at ease from the dread of evil."

r. Love His law and have great peace. Psa 119:165

Those who love Thy law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.

s. Acknowledge Him in everything and He will direct the paths of your life. Prov 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

t. Turning from evil is healing to the body. Prov 3:7-8

Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and turn away from evil. 8 It will be healing to your body, And refreshment to your bones.

u. The gracious will be remembered forever. Ps 112:5-6

It is well with the man who is gracious and lends; He will maintain his cause in judgment. 6 For he will never be shaken; The righteous will be remembered forever.

v. Righteous people will bless posterity. Prov 10:7

The memory of the righteous is blessed, But the name of the wicked will rot.

w. Die to self, serve the Lord and be honored by the Father. John 12:24-26

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 "He who loves his life loses it; and he who hates his life in this world shall keep it to life eternal. 26 "If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall My servant also be; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

x. Honor the Lord with your First Fruits and you will have plenty. Prov 3:9-10

9 Honor the Lord from your wealth, And from the first of all your produce; 10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

y. Don't embrace evil, produce with what you have and be prospered. Psa 1:1-3

How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. 3 And he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season, And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

z. Delight in Him and receive your desires. Psa 37:1-6

Do not fret because of evildoers, Be not envious toward wrongdoers. 2 For they will wither quickly like the grass, And fade like the green herb. 3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, and He will do it. 6 And He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your judgment as the noonday.

2. Promises for the Troubles of this Life. Matt 11:28-30.

“Come unto Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you shall find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My load is light.”

3. Promises of Spiritual Blessings. Eph 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

4. Promises of Future Blessings. John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

I. Some Key Unconditional Promises.

He has promised to shake the heavens once more. Heb 12:25-29

See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less shall we escape who turn away from Him who warns from heaven. 26 And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has **promised**, saying, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heaven." 27 And this expression, "Yet once more," denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, in order that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; 29 for our God is a consuming fire.