

Standing On The Promises



Abraham is 100 years old and Sarah is 90. There is no earthly reason for them to believe that they could have a son – but God promised that it would happen and they expected Him to fulfill that promise just because he said it :



Romans 4:18-24

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹ Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. ²⁰ Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. ²² This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” ²³ The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, ²⁴ but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

The prophet Isaiah prophesied to a nation in trouble. The “big boys’ of the middle East nations- Egypt, Babylon, Assyria were fighting each other and little Israel was caught in the middle. Isaiah spoke during the time when the northern kingdom had been destroyed by the Assyrian King Sennaherib and the southern kingdom was also under attack. And yet, Isaiah told them that the greatest danger they faced was not the foreign invaders, but taking God for granted – they had been just going through the motions of religion and were ignoring their sins and God was displeased with them. They were under stress of all kinds , and yet in the midst of all this, Isaiah brings a message of hope from the Lord:



Isaiah 40:1-5

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

⁵ And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

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There was no reason for Isaiah to think that that with the war going on and the rebellion and sin against God by the people, that there would be any hope at all for the nation – but yet he expected God to act on behalf of His people just because He had promised ;

In the same way, there is no reason for us in our complicated, sinful, fallen world to do anything but expect the worst possible outcome for our lives – no reason except one – that our God has given us the promise of salvation, of His presence with us no matter what the situation, and His help, comfort, strength, forgiveness, and eternal life. We believe God's promises and we expect Him to do what he said - just because He promised that he would !

Hebrews 10:23

Let us hold unswervingly to the
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Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done."

Genesis 8:20



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Genesis 8:20











Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he (Christ) will crush your (Satan's) head, and you (Satan) will strike his (Christ's) heel."

Satan struck Christ's heel by the crucifixion – but Christ crushed Satan's head by the resurrection.

1 Corinthians 11:26

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death **until he comes.**



The gospel consists of facts to be believed, commands to be obeyed, warnings to be heeded, and promises to be enjoyed. Do our lives show that we believe that we have a God who keeps His promises?



**"We are called to stand on the Promises,
not to merely sit on the premises."**

Acts 2:38-39

Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

John 14:1-3

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”

Romans 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The promises of God are promises that a person can depend on, can build a life on, can found a family on, can grow the church on – they are promises to live and die on. They are promises given by our God who always does what He says. They do not depend on earthly power or reasoning, but on the power of the One who created the universe. And those promises are sealed and assured by the sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. They are as the scripture says in [Colossians 1:27](#) **‘the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.’**



The world can throw so much negative at us that it leads to despair and hopelessness -



But the promises of God will never fail and nothing this world can dish up can take away our hope and assurance



The Lord has promised that all who will obey the plan of salvation given in the scriptures will find forgiveness and gain eternal life. The Bible says that we must:



Hear

• Romans 10:17



Believe

• Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16



Repent

• Acts 17:30



Confess

• Matthew 16:16



Be Baptized

• Acts 2:38

But there is one more promise – and it is promise to those who know what to do, but refuse to obey God’s plan for our forgiveness –



Just as there are unbreakable promises to the obedient, there are unbreakable promises to those who have not obeyed:

2 Thessalonians 1:6-9

God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you ⁷ and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. ⁸ He will
punish those who do not know God and do not
obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ They will be
punished with everlasting destruction and shut
out from the presence of the Lord and from the
glory of his might



Promises
made.....

Promises
kept



2 Peter 3:3-12

Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. ⁴ They will say, “Where is this ‘coming’ he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.” ⁵ But they deliberately forget that long ago by God’s

word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶ By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. ⁷ By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.



1 Peter 3:20-22

.....God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.



JESUS SAYS
COME
TO ME

