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Standing on the Promises

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Series: God's Living Legends II

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Little Joey had a way with words. Though he was only six years old, he could take and twist his mother around his little finger and make her feel as though she were the villain, and he was the hero.

One such occasion was a Monday evening, early in June, when Joey simply decided he had had enough of this “eat everything on your plate routine.” He was willing to eat his desserts, and about a third of the meat that put before him, but the extraneous stuff such as salads and veggies was just not his style. One thing he had learned, however, in his short career as a pint-sized con man was that this apparently losing struggle to make him eat the “whole thing” was a wedge in his hand that he could effectively use to extract promises from his frustrated mother.

For instance, a long face and a series of various grunts and groans usually would cause a desperate mother to respond, “Joey, if you’ll just eat your spinach, Mommy will take you to the park on Friday,” or “Joey, if you’ll eat your fish, I’ll let you have an extra scoop of ice cream.” This, of course, was not a good move for Mom to make, but Joey had made a mockery of her Psychological Handbook for Modern Mothers, and she was at the stage where it really didn’t matter what the book said, she was going to do whatever it took.

On this particular day, Joey rolled his eyes half way up into his brain at the mere sight of a plate that had among other undesirables, a small helping of carrots perched on the upper right hand corner. Joey groaned a distinguishable groan. “Not carrots, Mom!” he exclaimed, “carrots are for rabbits.” What Joey needed, of course, was a helping of Mother’s hand across the base of his problem, but instead, Mom came back with her usual, I’m whipped, here’s-my-peace-offering reply.

“If you’ll eat those carrots,” she began, “you can play with Daddy’s video game.” “Promise?” Joey responded, his eyes lighting up with enthusiasm. “Yes,” Mom answered, “I promise. But I don’t mean one carrot...I mean eat ALL those carrots.” With that, Joey

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retreated for a study of the numerical value of the stack of carrots that rested on his plate to determine if even an hour with Daddy's Electric Football game was worth that. He decided to try plan B. "Okay, Mom," he answered. As Mom left the room, he proceeded to eat the top carrot on the stack and carefully scraped the rest into the garbage container beneath the sink.

Supper over, Mom eyeing the empty plate, thought to herself, "Well, it worked for tonight; I wonder what it will take tomorrow... maybe the title to the car." With that she sent Joey to the TV game, and she proceeded to wash the dishes. It was only when she began to scrape the pots and pans into the container under the sink that she realized she had been had.

"I told you ALL the carrots!" she boomed at Joey, jerking the TV game form his hand so hard the wire that held it to the game came off into her soapy hands. "You said I had to eat my carrots," the cagey six-year old responded, "that ALL stuff was added later. I stuck by the original statement, so should you."

"You promised!" Joey shrieked at the top of his lungs, knowing full well that if any trick in his bag would work, the old "you went back on your promise," routine was his ace in the hole. It was his way of taking his responsibility for obedience and trading it for a dose of false guilt in momma's court. Once again, she melted. "Well, maybe you didn't hear me say 'ALL'," the defeated mom responded, and with that she tried to tape the broken wire back on the TV game and apologized to Joey for losing her cool.

You say, what a bad scene. Joey needs a hot hand to his backside, and Mom needs a lesson on child-raising. Correct on both counts. But the illustration wasn't given as an example of right and wrong discipline for six-year olds, though there are certainly some applications. The purpose for the illustration was to show us how we often treat God as we take His promises given for our good, and try to use them to manipulate Him into doing what WE want done. By refusing to read the fine print in the contract, we think we can extract promises from His Word with fewer conditions than He intended, and then if He doesn't deliver, try to blame the outcome for the whole thing on Him.

We often don't want to eat the carrots He places on our plate, but we want to "claim the promises" we think He made, so we throw a temper tantrum, and taking the promises out of their total context, we hold them up in His face and say, "You promised,

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God.” And that approach to claiming the precious gifts He has bestowed upon us simply denies us the power that is rightfully ours. We have a wealth of promises that are ours to claim. We can stand on those promises and watch the enemy flee, but only if we stand on them correctly.

So the title for today’s lesson is “Standing on the Promises.” We are taking over where we left off in our last study of David as he laid hold of God’s amazing promise in II Samuel, chapter 7.

I- THE AWE

When we left David he had made an amazing discovery. It all began when he attempted to solve what he thought was a problem that God had. David now had rest from the warfare that had been his trademark for his young life and had been anointed king over all Israel at last. In the process, he had come to rest quite comfortably in his new house made of cedar.

But when David looked around, he noticed that God had been so busy, He hadn’t had the time to build Himself a house; for the ark of God still resided in a tent. David, with all good intentions, took this need of God’s as he saw it, quite personally, and began to make plans to do something about it. He called in Nathan, the prophet, and informed him of his concerns, and Nathan encouraged him to press on.

That night, however, God appeared to Nathan with a loving message for Nathan to deliver to David. It said, basically, God is doing quite well thank you without a house, and this is not the time, and David is not the man to build one anyway. So tell David, God informed the prophet, that he’s not going to build ME a house; I’m going to build HIM one... and it won’t be a house made with hands, either. It will be an eternal house, a kingdom that shall go on and on, long after David is gone. His son, Solomon, will build a house, God went on, but not David. I am going to build for him a kingdom that will never end. Tell that to David. It’s a promise.

So Nathan faithfully delivered the message to David. And David, man of God that he was, fell on his face before his wonderful God and graciously accepted God’s incredible offer. The manner in which he laid hold of that promise is serving as a backdrop for us as we look at the concept of standing on the promises of a loving, caring God.

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What we studied in our last lesson was the *posture* of claiming the promises. As we watched David respond to God's amazing declaration of what would be his, we saw the King of God's Kingdom fall on his face in a spirit of total unworthiness and cry out, "Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house that thou hast brought me hitherto?"

David responded with awe that the great God of eternity would choose to give to the likes of him a promise such as this. He bowed before God in humble submission and saw God as He was: incomparable, supreme, eternal; and thus saw himself as he was: a sinner, undeserving of such great and precious promises. Yet quietly he acknowledged that, though undeserved, he was indeed the recipient of God's divine grace. This promise was one example of that grace.

Having chosen the posture of humility to receive the promise, David then went on to *claim* the promise. And that is what we will view as we return to II Samuel, chapter seven. It is there that we view the PROCESS for claiming God's promise.

II- THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We have looked at the awe that David experienced as he bowed before God in utter amazement at His grace. But even then, David was not ready to lay hold of the promise. The next four verses are David's acknowledgment that further prepares David's heart to receive the promise. As we have studied together before, there is a pattern in Scripture, particularly in the Psalms, for acknowledging the wonder of God. Over and over and over again, the Psalmist worships God for His word, for His worth, for His works, and for His ways. This is a pattern that will give us a track to run on as well, when we are seeking to worship Him. We worship Him for who He is, for what He's said, for what He's done, and for how He's done it. *His Word, His Worth, His Works, and His Ways.*

In verse 21, David honors God for His Word. He says this:

For Your word's sake, and according to Your own heart, You
have done all these great things, to make Your servant know
them.

(II Samuel 7:21 NKJV)

When you bow to receive a promise from God, first of all be sure that promise is a clear statement from His perfect word. Then bow and worship God that His word IS perfect, and that

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the reason for His honoring this promise is not your works, or your worth, or your ways, but HIS word, a word that is infallible, immutable, eternal, and applicable. One beautiful verse to worship with is Psalm 119:89. It says:

Forever, O, LORD, Your Word is settled in heaven. (NKJV)

Another is Psalm 119:105 which adds:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my pathway. (NKJV)

A good thing to do before claiming any promise might be to meditate through Psalm 119, worshipping God as you come across passage after passage that honors His marvelous Word.

In fact, what a great thing to do every morning before you begin reading His Word, lest you take it for granted, or presumptuously read it without awareness of its great power and magnitude. Why not precede your quiet time with a time of worshipping God *just for the miracle of his marvelous word*.

Notice David is not demanding anything from God. David is in awe of who God is, and David is acknowledging who God is, first by acknowledging the perfectness of His Word, and that by that Word this promise was given.

Then in verse 22, David worships God for His Worth. For WHO He is. He returns to the attitude of verse 18 and exclaims:

Therefore You are great, O Lord GOD. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears. (II Samuel 7:22 NKJV)

That's a good verse to memorize. You worship Him because of His worth...only He is worthy to be worth-shipped. One thing you might do is to take your concordance and look up the word "glory" and "give glory" and use it to begin unfolding a chain of verses with which to worship.

I Chronicles 16 is but one of many of such passages. Listen:

Sing to the Lord, all the earth; Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.

Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples.

For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised; He is also to be feared above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols, But the Lord made

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the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before Him; Strength and gladness are in His place.

Give to the Lord, O families of the peoples, Give to the Lord glory and strength.

Give to the Lord the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

Tremble before Him, all the earth. The world also is firmly established, It shall not be moved.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; And let them say among the nations, "The Lord reigns.

Let the sea roar, and all its fullness; Let the field rejoice, and all that is in it

Then the trees of the woods shall rejoice before the Lord, For He is coming to judge the earth.

Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel From everlasting to everlasting! And all the people said, "Amen!" and praised the Lord.
(I Chronicles 16:23-34,36 NKJV)

Learning to claim the promises of God includes learning to worship the nature of God. When you exalt the Word of God and worship the Worth of God, you are not in a position to demand *anything* of God. You are rather ready to assume the posture David did, one of total wonder and praise.

Then in II Samuel 7:23 and 24, David stood in awe and acknowledged the Works of God and the Ways of God. He recited in amazement just a few of the wonderful things God had done for His people and the marvelous ways in which He had done them.

I know you get tired of hearing this question, but I'll ask it again. Do you keep a record of the marvelous things your God has done for you? How often do you simply stop to worship Him for what He has done, not just for what He has given you in the physical realm, but for what He had given you in the spiritual realm. He has rescued you from the gates of hell, lifted you up, redeemed you, given you a new name, a new life, a new Spirit, a new future, a new perspective, a new hope, a new set of priorities.

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He has made a new you. He has parted life's seas for you. He has brought water from life's rocks for you. He has destroyed your enemies before your very eyes. He has protected you, provided for you, had mercy on you, and enabled you to become increasingly, supernaturally, what you were designed to be. Do you thank Him regularly? Do you even remember what He did in that seemingly impossible situation a year ago? Do you ever stop to worship Him for His ways? Thanking Him that they are higher than yours?

How often do you thank Him for unanswered prayers, prayers that had He answered according to YOUR ways would have brought you certain disaster? He lovingly listened to your complaining and then patiently did what He knew you needed rather than giving you what you wanted. In retrospect now, you understand that His ways are higher than yours. At the time you didn't. Have you gone back to thank Him? Before you go to claim His promises, acknowledge His Word, His Worth, His Works, and His Ways. His Word is immutable, His Worth is immeasurable, His Works are innumerable, and His Ways are incredible. They are past finding out, the Scripture says. Oh, what a God we have. And He has chosen to give to us, promises, wonderful promises, exceeding great and precious promises, by which He imparts to us His very nature.

So David begins by demonstrating awe. Then he acknowledges the Word, the Worth, the Works, and the Ways of God. And now, finally, having wondered, and worshipped, he comes to the place of claiming the promise. And even then, the way he does it is so meaningful. Look at verse 25:

“Now, O Lord God, the word which You have spoken concerning Your servant and concerning his house, establish it forever and do as You have said.

(II Samuel 7:25 NKJV)

David, having established his position in relation to God and having worshipped God for all that He is, honors God by accepting the gift He has given him. He begins by acknowledging that it was His Word that promised it; he then acknowledges the nature of the promise, and he concludes by graciously bowing before God and saying, “Do as thou hast said”. In other words, in verse 25, David is saying, LORD, I humbly claim the promise you have made.

Now listen to verse 26. Having claimed the promise, David

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reminds himself in God's presence *why* God has given such a gift to him.

So let Your name be magnified forever, saying, 'The Lord of hosts is the God over Israel.' And let the house of Your servant David be established before You."

(II Samuel 7:26 NKJV)

David prays, "Lord, thank you for giving me this incredible promise. It is not for my glory, but for yours. May your name be magnified through the receiving of it and through the demonstrating of it." AH! There is the mind of God at work. God gives us the promises that He might be glorified; for as He is glorified, we are changed! He does it for our benefit. We accept it for HIS. What a decided difference that makes in the process of claiming promises.

Now in verse 27, David reminds God that the only basis he has for claiming this promise is the fact that a God of grace specifically offered it to him.

For You, O Lord of hosts, God of Israel, have revealed this to Your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house. ' Therefore Your servant has found it in his heart to pray this prayer to You.

(II Samuel 7:27 NKJV)

Do you see why David is a man after God's own heart? Sure, he has failed and will fail again, but *his heart understands the supremacy of God*. He knows the majesty, the power, the sovereignty, and the awesomeness of his Master. It never dawns on him to exalt himself to the position of God, thus bringing God down to the position of man. That is the cardinal sin. That is the sin that plagues my life and yours in a thousand ways day after day after day. To David, God was God. He could do what He wanted, and what He wanted to do was best. Period. Gain that perspective, and all of life falls into its proper place. David said, "Lord, I claim this promise, but I only have one basis to do so. You asked me to. You graciously made this promise to me. I humbly accept it."

Now in verse 28, David, having laid hold of the promise, exalts the worth of God and the Word of God once again, by acknowledging once again that this promise had to come true because of the nature of the one who promised it and the immutability of His Word.

"And now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are

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true, and You have promised this goodness to Your servant.”

(II Samuel 7:28 NKJV)

In verse 29, David concludes with a benediction of praise that again states the promise, and again gives all the glory to the promisor.

Now therefore, let it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever; for You, O Lord God, have spoken it, and with Your blessing let the house of Your servant be blessed forever.

(II Samuel 7:29 NKJV)

Now the promise belongs to David! The process included his being in awe in the presence of God; his acknowledging before God that His word is immutable, His worth immeasurable, His works innumerable, and His ways incredible. Then you can capsulize verses 25-29 with this simple little poem. In essence they said this:

God now I claim (verse 25)
What you've offered to me (verse 26)
Just as you promised (verse 27)
So shall it be (verse 28)
Humbly I give *all* the glory to thee (verse 29)

Would you like to claim the promises of God? Beloved, that's the mind of God where the promises of God are concerned. They are designed to exalt HIM, to confirm HIS word, to bring glory to HIS name, and to further HIS purposes. In the process, we will be blessed. But the question of questions is, "When you go to claim a promise, is *your basic concern what will bring the most glory to him?* Or what will give you what you think you deserve or need? *The reason for the promises is to exalt his name and make us like him.* That makes the things we are asking for take on a decidedly different slant.

Reread II Peter 1:3,4 (NIV)

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them [the promises] *you may participate in the divine nature* and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

God has imparted to us a measure of Himself by giving us

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precious, priceless promises. Through the receiving of them two things happen. We participate in His glory. We honor Him. And we, by rightfully receiving them, are actually becoming participants in the divine nature. We are being changed into His very own likeness! So the purpose behind the promises is not to grant us the privilege of determining God's will and exercising our power to control the mind of God. The purpose of the promises is to bring our lives into harmony with His purposes, thus glorifying Him and changing us, freeing us from the corruption that is in the world through lust. The purpose of the promises is spiritual. The goal of the promises is transformation into the divine likeness. Godliness. Period.

Sure, you can misuse that power; but you will miss the blessing. He may give you your request; but it may mean leanness to your soul. *The purpose of God in the promises of God is the mind of God in the child of God and the glory of God through the plan of God.*

NOW! Let's learn to stand on the promises, not to get us what we want, but to allow God what HE wants. Step one in claiming the promises of God is learning to determine the mind of God in the particular area in question. To do that, we must gather together *all of the promises that deal with that area.*

Here is where the greatest blessing occurs; and here is where the greatest abuses occur. Before we are through, I want us to look at five things. They are:

- 1 - Consolidated Promises
- 2 - Conditional Promises
- 3 - Limited Promises
- 4 - Reverse Promises
- 5 - Personal Promises

And then with excitement we are ready to look at the Possibilities of the Promises. We will look at these and maybe accept a little assignment for next week.

1 - Consolidated Promises

First of all, and perhaps most importantly, let's look at consolidated promises. By that I mean the total mind of God in one area, where a promise is concerned. To do that, we'll take just two simple promises and elaborate.

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One promise so many love to claim is John 14:13,14:

And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. (NKJV)

That is a powerful promise, powerful indeed. But so many misuse and abuse that promise and end up confused and discouraged. They want a new house, or they want someone rescued from the circumstances in their life that have them surrounded. So they “pray in the name of Jesus that such and such will happen. Dear Lord, I claim John 14:14, Amen.” But often it does not happen the way they planned. Why? Because they have not honestly searched the Word of God for the mind of God first. To do that, you must consolidate the promises of God. You take a concordance, or a topical Bible, and you list ALL of the promises where asking is concerned. You write them out, and you list them, underlining the conditions or provisions in each. THEN you have something to claim.

For instance, take the word ASK. You have to add to John 14:14, Matthew 21:22.

And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive. (NKJV)

2 - Conditional Promises

Now the promise is conditioned by faith. Then you add Matthew 7:7,

Keep on asking and it will be given you; keep on seeking and you shall find... (Amplified Bible)

Now the promise is conditioned on diligence and patience and the timing of God. Then you add John 15:7,8.

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. (NKJV)

Now the promise is conditioned on relationship. Now add I John 3:22.

And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. (NKJV)

Now the promise is conditioned on obedience. NOW add

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I John 5:14,15.

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

(NKJV)

NOW the promise is conditioned on the will of a Sovereign God.

Yes, you have the right to claim the promise of John 14:14. But it does not stand-alone. You must first ask yourself these questions:

- 1- Are you praying in faith?
- 2- Are you praying in fellowship?
- 3- Are you praying in obedience?
- 4- Are you praying diligently.
- 5- Are you praying according to His will?

When you have answered these questions, you have determined if a) this request will glorify God and b) this request will transform you into His likeness. Having determined that, you bow before a Holy, Sovereign God and worship, acknowledging that you do not deserve such marvelous Grace. You acknowledge His Word, you accept His will, and you claim the promise, humbly, patiently, joyfully. But you must first consolidate the promises before you can claim the promises. Otherwise you are taking one line out of a contract without reading the lines following that define that line. You are being like little Joey, hollering at God, "God you promised!" when you, intentionally or otherwise, refused to listen to the conditional clause that was added, "eat ALL your carrots". We just hear what we want to, then expect God to do what we want Him to, and we call that claiming the promises of God.

Another example is peace. It's popular to claim John 14:27:

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, neither let it be afraid.

(NKJV)

That's a beautiful promise from a loving God, a God who wants His children to rest in Him. But so often, you'll see agitated, anxious Christians who are angry at God because they claimed that promise, and still they have no peace. What went wrong? What went wrong was they did not consolidate the promises so

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they could pray right. They did not consider the whole counsel of God to be sure they had the mind of God. God has promised the believer peace. Make no mistake about it. You and I ought to lay claim to that promise until it is ours. IF we do, we will have become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. But John 14:27 only states the promise. It does not delineate its conditions. To do so, we must, for instance, add Philippians 4:6,7. There we have some of the essentials for claiming John 14:27,

Be anxious for nothing [Don't worry about anything, the Living Bible says.], but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God;
(Philippians 4:6 NKJV)

And then...

the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
(Philippians 4:7 NKJV)

AHA! Peace is ours. But it is conditional. Yes, Jesus gave it to us in John 14. Now He amplifies the procedures for receiving it in Philippians 4. We CAN have continual, unbelievable peace...*if...* we refuse to worry. And, if every time we are tempted to worry, we instead begin to worship; then having worshipped we begin to intercede, then having interceded we begin to praise. That will be inevitably followed by peace. The peace promised in John 14:27.

Will that be permanent, unending peace? Not according to Isaiah 26:3. There we read,

You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.
(NKJV)

So the continuation of that peace is predicated on abiding, on remaining in a state of absolute resting in the giver of the peace. Where does our motivation come from to do that? Psalm 119:165 tells us. It says,

Great peace have those who love Your law, And nothing causes them to stumble.
(NKJV)

But all of that peace is conditional on your being *in Christ*. If you are not a Christian, peace is not even available to you. You ask who said that? God did in John 16:33a for example.

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace.
(NKJV)

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So to stand on the promise of God that guarantees you peace, you must a) be a Christian; b) stop worrying; c) instead of worrying, learn to worship, intercede, and be thankful; d) keep your eyes focused only on Him; and e) you must love His Word. Those are some of the essentials to claiming the promise of God for peace. It is a bona fide promise that you can claim. You don't need to be an agitated, weary-from-worry saint any longer. Peace is yours, all yours, if you learn to claim it God's way. You approach Him in awe. You acknowledge the wonder of His Word, His Worth, His Works, and His Ways, and then you quietly lay hold of the promise, praying something like this: "God, now I claim what You've offered to me; just as You promised, so shall it be. Humbly, I give ALL the glory to thee." BUT, before you do that, you make sure that you have searched the Word until you have *consolidated* the promise. Then you know you have the right to *claim* the promise.

3 - Limited Promises

In our next study, I want us to look at how to determine what is or isn't a conditional promise; what is or isn't a limited promise (by that I mean a promise limited to a group, nation, a time in history, etc.) Obviously, the promises for peace are conditional promises, and they are limited promises. They are conditional in that in order to claim them, certain conditions must be met, and they are limited in that they are made only to Christians. Then, we'll look, Lord willing, at reverse promises. I want us to see if we're interested in claiming II Timothy 3:12 for instance.

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. (NKJV)

4 & 5 - REVERSE AND PERSONAL PROMISES

That's a promise. And there is a time and a place where claiming that promise will turn your perspective around and give you such joy you'll burst at the seams. It happened to Paul. It can happen to us. You don't hear much these days about claiming reverse promises. And then Personal promises. Specific words from God about specific decisions. Can the word speak just to you? Some say yes, some say no. We'll look at that, too. And finally, we'll look at the possibilities that are ours as we begin to unleash the power of the promises in our own lives.

What excitement! What encouragement! What enthusiasm!

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God has given to US exceeding great and precious promises, not to please us, but to glorify Him, and in the process to give to us *His very own nature*, allowing us to literally bypass the lusts that would consume us were it not for those promises.

But for this week, I would like to simply ask you to consider doing a little project with me. Let's take one subject—the subject of peace. Peace is a part of God's divine nature. When we accurately appropriate it, we are able not only to behave as God does, glorifying Him in the process, we are able to actually be changed as His divine nature in us allows us to escape the corruption that is in the world: the corruption of worry, fear, anger, desperation. He has given to us perfect peace. Let's claim that peace this week; just that one thing. One at a time is all most of us can handle. To do it, let's do the following:

1- Take a concordance or topical Bible and list every passage that includes the word peace or a synonym for peace.

2- Then eliminate all those that deal with national peace or peace with God, and leave those that deal with the peace OF God, that beautiful inner tranquility that is unaffected by outer circumstances.

3- Underline the conditions that each passage lists that, if kept, will guarantee peace.

4- Set about to meet those conditions.

5- Then approach God, as David did, humbly, in awe at His grace, that the King of Eternity, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, has given to you the very same peace that He has.

6- Worship Him, acknowledging His Word, His Worth, His Works, and His Ways.

7- Then quietly claim as your very own the marvelous, miraculous, transforming peace of God. Take it. It's yours.

8- Keep a checklist through the week to be sure you are continually meeting God's conditions for peace, so you can continually appropriate God's promise of peace.

9- Praise Him all the while in deep humility for giving to you a promise such as this.

Stand on His promise of peace. It is beyond human understanding. But it is ours because we have a God who by these precious promises wants to give to us Himself.

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OH, THE GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISE

Oh, the great and precious promise
God has offered to release
He has offered ME, what Glory
He has offered ME HIS peace.

Oh, dear Lord, I don't deserve it
Oh, dear Lord, what matchless grace
Oh, dear Lord, such peace you've promised
Those who constantly behold your face

Those who turn away from worry
Casting full their every care
Those who, worshipping and praising,
Lay their burdens down in prayer.

You have offered us, your children
Peace this world cannot contain.
You have given us a promise
We can stand upon and claim.

Oh, dear Lord, we claim no merit
Yet you've promised it shall be.
So in love, we humbly take it
Giving all the praise to thee.

Peace, oh, Jesus, peace you've given
Ours to claim till life is through
More and more in grace becoming
More and more and more like you.

Standing on the Promises

Assignment On “Claiming God’s Promise Of Peace”

1- Take a concordance or topical Bible, and list every passage that includes the word “peace” or a synonym for peace. (Examples: Philippians. 4:6,7; Isaiah 26:3, etc.)

2- Eliminate those that deal with national peace or peace with God or peace with men, leaving only those that deal with inner peace “tranquility of spirit that is unaffected by circumstances.

3- Underline the conditions in each passage that, if kept, will allow you to claim the promise of peace.

4- Set about to meet those conditions.

5- Then approach God as David did; humbly, in awe at His grace.

6- Worship Him acknowledging: His Word, His Worth, His Works, His Ways

7- Then quietly claim that miraculous, marvelous promise. Stand on God’s promise for peace.

8- Keep a checklist throughout the week to be sure you are continually meeting God’s conditions, so you can continually appropriate God’s promise of peace.

9- Praise Him all the while in deep humility for giving to you a promise so amazing and wonderful as this.

Peace: a promise to claim, conditions to meet

<u>PASSAGE</u>	<u>CONDITIONS</u>
1- _____	_____
2- _____	_____
3- _____	_____
4- _____	_____
5- _____	_____
6- _____	_____
7- _____	_____
8- _____	_____

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