

Precious Promises From God's Word

April 06, 2022

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:1-15

Summary: God's Word records many great and precious promises made to all those who will come by faith in Jesus Christ.

Some of these promises are directed to you.

They are yours for the claiming if you will take them.

God's promises become effective when we read about them, accept them as our own, and appropriate them for ourselves.

However, we all know that talking about inner peace and actually experiencing that peace are two completely different things.

This is why the Holy Spirit saw fit to include a tried and true, well proven formula for implementing the free gift of peace.

I. Phil. 4:4-7

4 Rejoice in the Lord always: *and* again I say, Rejoice.

5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

- a. Rejoice in the Lord. (vs. 4)**
- b. Be of a gentle nature. (vs. 5)**
- c. Renounce anxiety. (vs. 6a)**
- d. Develop a healthy prayer life. (vs. 6b)**

e. If you do these things you will come to know the real power of the promise of peace and serenity.

II. Real and lasting peace can only be found in Jesus Christ. (Phil. 4:7).

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

1. Nothing on this earth can overcome the child of God but what we let overcome us.

2. Justice William O. Douglas used to tell of the time his father was to have surgery which turned out to be fatal. Before the operation he told his wife: "If I live it will be grace and if I die it will be glory."

3. Once the peace of God grips our hearts then life will always be grace or glory.

4. The peace of God is not unlike salvation.

Salvation is there for any sinner who will accept it and the peace of God is there for any Christian who will accept it.

5. And both come through faith.

III. STRENGTH IS PROMISED.

A. Isa. 40:31

31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

B. There are times when we grow weary in the service of the Lord. It seems that everywhere we look, we see sin on the increase.

1. We pray, we study, we give, we worship and we witness.

Still crime, drug abuse, abortion, immorality, wickedness and sin abounds.

2. We try to teach our little ones in Sunday School one hour a week while the public schools and T.V. has the rest of the week to undo what the church tries to do. It seems that everything is against us.

3. We want to say, "What's the use? One is saved and a thousand are lost." And we ask, "What can I do? I am only one person."

4. We might be surprised to know how far our teachings have reached and how many lives we have changed through our one hour of effort.

5. One teacher might change one little life that in turn changes hundreds. And who is willing to place the value of a human soul? We must not despair, weaken, or tire; for each soul is priceless.

6. We need God-given strength, spiritual strength just to keep on keeping on.

C. We must learn to depend on God for strength.

If it is strength to teach a class or study my Sunday School lesson or get dressed for Wednesday night Bible study or choir practice.

(Psa. 27:1) -- "...the Lord is the strength of my life..."

1 (A Psalm of David.) The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD *is* the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

IV. SECURITY IS PROMISED.

A. Isa. 41:10

10 Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

B. People seek security in the silliest things; money, property, jewels, etc.

1. Remember David and Goliath? The Philistines placed all their faith, the very security of their nation, in the giant. But for all his great size he was still just a man and he was killed by a rock thrown from the sling of a shepherd boy.

2. The fool Jesus spoke of placed his very soul's security in this barns full of produce.

C. But at the hour when you really need help, be it surgery, sickness, accident, or death;...wealth, dishonor, pride, jewels, or even the power over other men is insufficient comfort.

1. Isa. 41:13

13 For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

2. The security that only God can give is yours, promised to you by God Himself. Will you take it?

CONCLU. There are many promises in the Bible that God has made to the human race but these four are the most important for this life. They are yours for the claiming.