

## #2958 0711 21A

The promises of God are available to anyone—anytime—and all the time—it is *faith* in Him that gives *access* to these promises. God is *loving*; He is *giving*; He is *faithful*; and He is *waiting*, so we should be *praying*, *asking*, and *enjoying* what He has promised. Matthew 7:7 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

The Bible is meant to bless us whenever reading it or hearing it. The Holy Spirit will open our heart and will enable our mind to see something *new*; something *interesting*, and something *encouraging*—that we may not have realized before. Romans 10:17 "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

God promises many things to His children and all are received through faith. When David was troubled, he wrote *psalms* and played *music*. Psalm 34:4 "I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears."

God is no respecter of *times*, *places*, or *persons*; and He *cannot* change from what He *was* and *did* in Bible times to what He *is* and will *do* today. What He did for David *then* He would have to do for us *now*. It is our *choice* and our *privilege* to get on our knees and to *pray* for God to deliver us. Acts 10:34 "I clearly see," the apostle said, "*that God makes no distinctions between one man and another*." Malachi 3:6 "I am the LORD, I change not."

Reading about the deliverances, healings, victories over enemies, protection from harm, and

even escapes from prison those in the Bible received, inspires *us* to believe in faith that God will do the same for us because Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."

Today's Christian world has drifted so far from the *Word*—where the inspiration of faith has its *source*—that they do *not* actually trust God in faith for anything. Satan will do anything possible to keep us away from the Word because he knows the Word is the source. He has *used* that strategy for centuries to rob people spiritually. Matthew 13:19 *"When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart."* 

If anyone, who is professing faith in Christ, is not receiving answers to prayer for divine healing or finances or other life issues, it is because they either do *not know*, or have drifted *away from*, faith in the *Word* and *promises* of God—it will eventually rob them of the benefits of living God's Truth.

The Word says God is *willing* and *ready* to heal us—He is responsible for that being accomplished if we will meet His easy conditions of faith and trust on Him—*not* on something else. If answers to prayer are *not* being received, there is a spiritual *reason* why not, and it is time for repentance—and asking God for spiritual enlightenment.

The warning Hebrews 13:9 "Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings [doctrines]"—that are everywhere today. We are to not listen to, nor allow ourselves to be influenced by, their wrong doctrines—any teaching that does not include any *faith* or *trust* on God for anything.

We have a *loving God* and a *perfect Atonement*—which provides anything anyone could need—and with such a clear explanation in the Word about how to receive answers to prayer, then it places the responsibility on us—never upon God—to *want* His Truth and to understand *how* to enjoy His promises by faith—they are always available!

It is not possible to trust *God* and to trust on something *else* simultaneously! It is one or the other! We have to be honest about this *faith in God*, and never to *say* one thing but *do* another. We are either trusting *God*, or we are trusting a *plan* of the world. Luke 16:10 *"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much."* 

Being faithful to God in what is *least*, is trusting God in faith for what is *small*—like money issues or changing an attitude. If we can do *that*, we will be able to trust Him for *major matters* like divine healing, employment issues, peace in our homes, and everything else.

Everything received from God is to come through the promise of the Word. Psalm 107:20 God "Sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions." The promises of God should be as *real*, *relevant*, and *applicable* to us as if God spoke them personally to us. When we *know* that He is speaking directly to *us*, we can easily accept His *Word*—which has life and power.

The rebellious nature we started with does not like to trust an *unseen* God because it has always trusted a *seen* power, plan, or person. The *old plan* received by *sight*; but the *new plan* receives by *faith*. Hebrews 10:38 "*The just shall live by faith*."

There is not one promise—of the many hundreds in the Bible—which does not point us directly to God for help. The Word and promises of God shut out all human help and do not permit any dependence on anyone, or anything, but God alone. We are not to be upset or troubled about anything, but to maintain a thankful heart while *claiming* the promises—Philippians 4:6 "*Let your requests be made known unto God.*"

Concerning money—we are *not* allowed to go into debt, and *not* permitted to even borrow five cents if we need that amount but do not have it. The Word teaches that we are *not* to owe anyone anything, but to trust God for the money. Romans 13:8 "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law."

The principle of truth involved is that trusting in the smallest anything is as much idolatry as worshipping a statue in a Buddhist temple. Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; you cannot serve both God and Money." You either trust the divine power of God to provide the finances in a scriptural way, or you trust the idolatrous ways of the world to get the money in an unscriptural way.

Accepting some type of surgery or medical procedure means we have more confidence in modern medicine than in the power of God. <sup>1</sup> Corinthians 2:4-5, "My speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith [trust] should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."

Promises in the *Word* point us directly to *God*—just as Israel had to trust on the Word and the promises of God when they crossed the Red Sea—leading into a wilderness area. These promises still take us into a desert—as far as human help or government resources are concerned. We move to an area where only *God* lives—where only *He* can help us.

From a human viewpoint this seems unreasonable or difficult, but from a divine viewpoint every promise is a sure thing, through the Atonement Blood of Christ. It is important that we accept these promises at their face value. 2 Corinthians 1:20 "For all the promises of God [whatever their number] in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us." If we pray apart from these promises—our prayers and the promise will surely be hindered.

We are absolutely *sure* we are going to have the prayer answered because it is a *fact*—and God has already said "Yes." If there is a *delay*, we are promised spiritual *light*. And James 1:5-6 "*If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.*"

We are to have no *doubt* as we pray in real *faith*. We are to be sure that God will answer the prayer because the shed Blood of Christ has paid for it. Hebrews 10:19-21 "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh [by means of His death]; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

If we were ready to pay for some items at a store, we would *not hesitate* nor *waver* because of not being sure if the checker would allow us to purchase and leave with those goods. The store is in business to *sell* goods, and we have the cash to *pay* for them, so we shop in confidence that everything was conducted correctly.

*That* is similar at God's store of *promises* everything He has is *ours* for the selecting and receiving as the shed Blood of Christ has already paid for them. We have to *request* them in prayer, however, and have to *believe* in faith that we already have them.

The value is paid, so the answer is given. 1 Peter 1:18-19 "Knowing, as you do, that it was not with a ransom of perishable wealth, such as silver or gold, that you were set free from your frivolous habits of life which had been handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ—as of an unblemished and spotless lamb."

We must allow these promises of God to really enter our mind and heart; because each promise has "*Yes*" stamped on it. We should ask God for *wisdom* to understand the reality of these promises, and to *know* that we *have* them through faith in Christ.

Whatever we ask for in prayer, and we believe in faith, God says, "*Amen*" or "*Yes, let it be so.*" There is no need to wait to *see* that we have received the deliverance or answer to prayer, because God has promised Mark 11:24 "*You will have them.*"

One of the spiritual *conditions* to be met in receiving them, is, Mark 11:25-26 "When ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."

Meeting the divine conditions of forgiving everyone from the heart, of anything they ever said *about us*, or anything they ever did *to us*, or *to a loved one*—enables God to promise the following: 24 "*Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.*" Faith in the Blood of Christ makes every promise a sure thing.

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