

# RECEIVING VIA GOD'S PROMISES

## Pt 2

S370R 0626 24W

Part one on this message of "RECEIVING VIA GOD'S PROMISES", reminded us that Adam and Eve's initial sin of disobedience to 'God's Word', after believing Satan's lies, was the one act that has been the cause of all the trouble which has ever been in this world. God had planned that our deliverance shall come through reversing that process, laying aside suggestions, doubts, lies, and fears from Satan, and, shutting ourselves into the Word of God. We lost our blessings through laying aside His Word, and we receive them back through accepting that Word. [Jesus' Name is "The Word of God", we are told (Rev.19:13).]

In the so-called Christian world, a great ignorance prevails concerning that Word. They are absolutely ignorant of its truths, its promises, its principles, and plans; they do not understand it, nor receive the benefits of it. It is so easy to lay the Word to one side and try to get along on strength of our past experience, our feelings, or something else; but prayers are to be answered through praying according to the Word. (Jesus is the Word of God!)

The Word of God always causes us to look away from ourselves, but to look toward GOD, and it will always speak of deliverance (not of defeat). When we lay the Word aside, it allows Satan to fill our mind with various doubts and suggestions to hinder our faith, such as "Just look weak you are; how ignorant you are; how little faith you have; how bad a shape you are in; God surely would not hear and answer your prayers; you are not good enough; you have not faith enough; you are not delivered from your disease, and you know it."

Unfortunately, people listen to such suggestions, as if they were positively the truth, and if they ever did have any faith, it leaves them at once. However, when they go back to the Word of God (which always says just the

opposite to what Satan suggests), they discover that God has made a great provision, one which fits every case to deliver and bless people who need it, to heal sick people and lift the burdens of those who were burdened and crushed with heavy loads. Whenever He found a wicked, sinful, sick, weak, and burdened person, He immediately began to work for them, to save, heal, and lift their burden.

The people God is most interested in, are the people who need Him and His Word of Promise. When you or I need Him and His help, we have a ticket of admission to His power (through Jesus' Blood). Many times, we have entirely lost sight of that, and have believed that falsehood of Satan, that God does not do anything except for "good" people. The Bible tells us just the opposite. Brethren, if we have not come to that place yet, we will be compelled to come to the place where we will have to come to God just as we are, and will be compelled to trust Him for every bit of change which is to be made in us (whether spiritual, physical, or other-wise); so what is the use of our waiting, for in the end God must do it all; all things are of Him and everything comes from above.

Another very important thing about His Promises is, they always have "YES" at the end of them. How easily we forget that Satan likes to come to us, and to tell us that every promise has "NO" at the end of it. As an illustration, he comes at us saying, "Your prayer is not going to be answered yet." And that means the promise has "NO" to the end of it. "It may be so some time, but you are not yet good enough. "Again, there is that "NO" to the promise, or "You have not faith enough." Again, adding "NO". But if we listen, the Word of God says: "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen." (2 Cor.1:20). And, "YES" is also on the face of God's Promises, and it is expressed exactly that way.

In most dealings among humans, a written promise (or word) is always trusted or required, rather than a spoken word, (especially when money was involved), as they would rather have it written. So, if a written word is stronger than a spoken one among men, how must it be so with God. If His written Word tells us that He would positively hear and answer every prayer, how many would believe it? Most all of us would, and, God has made just such a

promise as that if we will turn to (1 John 5:14,15). "And 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, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him."

That Promise comes right down to us when we ask God for spiritual blessings, for healing, for a job position, or any other desired blessing, if we will truly believe His Promise. His Promise takes hold of us and takes us on the side of victory. And we should take notice that it says, "if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." That is a plain statement, "And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." (Is there any room for us to doubt? When it states clearly that God hears, and if He hears, we know we have what we have asked for!)

We need to get down in prayer to God, settle it in our hearts to BELIEVE that God did and does answer each one's prayers. So, those who were sick are to leave their pains at the Cross; put the crutches aside and leave them aside; those who had stomach trouble are to go home and eat whatever they found on the table for a meal. (Several members were instantly healed as they accepted the written words of (1 John 5:14,15), and without depending on sight or feeling.

One man soon after testified, saying, "I had suffered with stomach trouble for quite a few years, when I took that Promise and was determined to start out to eat anything that we had to eat (and I admit that I was on the fence), of shall I eat, or shall I not? He said, "I finally got off on the right side, on 'God's side', and with no other evidence than His Word that I was healed of that stomach trouble. I really only gave God just half a chance, and He healed me (and I had no trouble at all after eating)."

A woman was at that meeting, who had throat trouble, and she began to sing (not loud, but did the best she could). She was quickly delivered and discovered that the promise did have "YES" to the end.

(In another instance) "there was a man up in Scranton who had a very trying attack in his body. This man had committed sin, and he knew it, but he took a chance thinking that he

could get away with it (although he had been warned). One night we received a message to come visit him, as he said, 'he thought he was dying'. The physical problem had gone on to some more extent. When we asked him if he had lived 'as he had promised to God he would', he said: "Fairly well."

We knew where the trouble was, as "Fairly well" does not please God. The man was just trying to let himself down easy. We told him he would have to 'settle that matter right with God', or there would be no use of us praying. He promised to do that, and so he was anointed and prayed with (after which we said): "Brother, in Jesus' Name you are well. Get up and walk around. "

He said, "You don't know how bad I am; I cannot move in bed; cannot turn myself; cannot move the covers; I cannot wipe my mouth; I have to be fed like a baby." We asked: "If God stood at your bedside and told you that you were well (just like He did the man brought to Him through the roof), would you believe it?" "Oh, yes, anybody would," he said.

We said, "Which is stronger, a spoken or written word?" He agreed that in business or legal matters where money was involved, men considered it much stronger to have it black and white. We then added that if men considered a written word stronger, it was the same with God, and we directed his attention to God's written Word, (James 5:14,15). "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he has committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." This means the same as if God Himself stood at your bedside and told you that you were well, and to get up. (Which means that we can have immediate deliverance through faith)

Again, brethren, "the Word was God", "the Word was with God" "and the Word was made of flesh and dwelt among men" (which was Jesus Christ, God's Son). That is one of God's Names, "the Word of God".

('God's Word' had proved to that man that he should be delivered), and the dear man said: "If you will help me, I will get up." His wife and I took hold of him, and we said: "In the name of

the Lord Jesus Christ, step out." (It was a feeble step), but he got stronger with each step, and walked around the bed a couple times.

We told his wife to let go, and finally I also let go, and in a very short time he was delivered. Why? Because there was no sight that he was healed, no feeling that he was healed, no manifestations; he just took that stand of God's Word and he was healed (which proved again that there was a "YES" to the end of God's Promise).

Generally, when one reads that promise of God, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he has committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. (The devil will then try to tell us it will be sometime or somewhere (any time but the present moment)). "That is Satan's interpretation and we may readily accept it).

However, That Promise means the same as if God Himself stood at your bedside and told you that you were well, and to get up, for God's Word has told us: "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up."

Satan also has another interpretation: 'Is any sick among you? call for the doctor to help you: one of the many kinds of doctors; and if they can't help you (the Pastor said), 'just before you die you would be told to send for the Elders of the church and to give divine healing a try; you are going to die anyhow'. (And aside from that), 'it is a 'sort of pious thing' to do'. 'Perhaps the prayer of faith will bring you a little comfort, and you will pass away with just a little clearer conscience.' (Most professing Christians will follow that wrong translation, but while forgetting that 'every promise of God has "YES" to the end of it.'

That Promise, however, positively states that 'the prayer of faith SHALL save the sick', 'and the Lord SHALL raise him up', and although he has committed sins, they SHALL be forgiven him. There is no 'shadow of a doubt; about the whole Promise, and all the Promises are the same. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my

name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." (John 16:23,24).

It does not matter whether you need work, you need money, or you are sick (or whatever the difficulty may be), if there is a real willingness in our heart, there is a deliverance (unless we discount the Promise). To have a long drawn-out battle or unanswered prayers, we must be accepting Satan's suggestions in place of the living Word of God. As we take that Word and stand on it, 'deliverance is ours'.

(Matthew 13 tells us) that four classes of people heard the Word. 'Satan robbed the first class before they started out;' 'the seed was sown by the wayside, and Satan came and stole it away' (took it right out of their hearts). How often have we been robbed in that way? (We will get down to pray according to the Promise, asking in Jesus' Name; but Satan at once makes his suggestions, "Look at yourself; you are not delivered." And we may think "I guess that is right, I am not." Or, Satan will say "You are not going to be delivered now, perhaps sometime, somewhere, but not now." (So, what have we done?) 'Just like Adam, we have (at times) laid aside God's Word, and accepted Satan's word.' (the same as those people in the first class of whom Satan stole the word right out of their hearts).

The second class accepted the Word, 'saying, that sounds good to me!' Then Satan began to aggravate symptoms or problems and they said: "I never thought I would find it like this; I did not expect this, or I would not have accepted divine healing or trusting God for my needs. I am sorry I ever tried.' When temptation arises (because of the Word) 'they fall away from faith through having no root within themselves.' (vs.21 says) "It has struck no root, however, within him. He continues for a time, but when suffering comes, or persecution, because of the Message, he at once stumbles and falls."

It is better if you never start out, if you do not intend to go through with God (the Pastor noted). As it is impossible to experiment with God in anything. When Satan aggravates symptoms and is fighting hard, and things seem to be getting worse, if ever there was a time when we need to hold on and believe God, that is just the time. The Word says: "But the God of all grace, Who hath called us unto his eternal

glory by Christ Jesus, after that you have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." (1st Peter 5:10)

The third class is (we are told vs.22) "He who has received the seed among the thorns, is the man who hears the Message, but the cares of the present age, and the delusions of riches quite stifle the Message, and it becomes unfruitful."

The fourth class received the Word and held on to it, and that Word brought forth thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold of fruit and blessing. (Matt.13:23) "But he who has received the seed on good ground is he who hears and understands. Such hearers give a return, and yield one a hundred for one, another sixty, another thirty."

The contrast is that they received it in an honest heart; which does not mean a good heart, as there is no good heart that comes to God; they are all evil when they come to Him. There could be a sincere, honest heart; but in this instance it means people who were willing to consider and accept the Word at its face value, for then God's Spirit could teach, guide, and lead them into full faith and righteousness, to be prepared by Him for Eternal Life.

They accepted the Word of God for just what it was worth, and also REALIZED Satan's word for what that was worth (absolute falsehood), The very moment that we weigh God's Word and Satan's word in the just balance, we will discover that God's Word is TRUE and Satan's word is totally deceitful and FALSE.

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