PROMISES OF GOD for the CHILD OF GOD



PROMISES OF GOD

for the CHILD OF GOD

Dennis M. Rokser

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DEDICATED to the gracious believers of the DULUTH BIBLE CHURCH, whose desire to learn God's Word has been a constant source of encouragement.

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MATTERS OF FIRST IMPORTANCE

CRUCIAL QUESTIONS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Since God's grace has provided everything that each believer in Christ needs for both time and eternity, there are two crucial questions that we need to squarely face each day.

- 1. Will we learn the truths of God's Word so as to understand His perspectives, principles, precepts, and promises?
- 2. Will we respond to God's revealed truth by faith in Jesus Christ?

Ignorance and unbelief are not bliss, but are a serious blunder when it comes to the Christian life. The reasons for this are obvious. You cannot believe something you do not know. Furthermore, to know God's truth and to not respond by faith allows for no practical appropriation in one's life. Thus, the knowledge of God's Word and faith in God's promises are absolutely essential and delightful companions in every Christian's life.

THE SIMPLICITY OF SALVATION

Unlike religion which involves a meritorious system of good works which seeks to gain God's acceptance, true biblical Christianity involves a unique relationship with a Person—Jesus Christ. Because of His substitutionary and sacrificial death for our sins on the cross, salvation is offered as a free gift of God's grace to all sinners apart from their good, religious works and rituals. But like any gift of love, it needs to be received. Regarding this, the Bible is very clear that faith alone in Christ alone is all one must do to be saved from God's wrath and punishment of sin forever.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 3:16-18)

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law." (Romans 3:28)

"So they said, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved...'" (Acts 16:31)

THE RICHES OF GRACE

When a sinner receives Jesus Christ as their Saviour, they are instantaneously born again into the family of God (John 1:12-13). As a royal member of the God's forever family they are given "every spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ" (Ephesians 1:3). God now sees them as...

- chosen in Christ (Ephesians 1:4)
- unconditionally loved (Romans 8:35-39)
- accepted in Christ (Ephesians 1:6)
- redeemed through His blood (Ephesians 1:7)
- forgiven all trespasses (Colossians 2:13)
- eternally secured (John 10:28-30)

• permanently sealed by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13, 4:30)

This is a rather brief and partial listing of the believer's blessings in Christ. These blessings are given to the believing sinner totally at the moment of salvation on the basis of God's grace. Understandably, the normal response of "so great salvation" is a grateful heart or attitude of gratitude. In fact, the "love of Christ" is to become a primary motivation in living our lives for the glory of God in service to our wonderful Savior.

Two Extremes to be Avoided

Having been saved by God's grace, many a new believer begins their Christian life without any real clue as to "how" it is to be lived. Apart from an accurate and balanced learning of the Scriptures, two extremes are usually developed or embraced. Either the believer's walk becomes mechanical, or they embrace the mystical.

Regarding the former, the mechanical Christian life involves rigid obedience to certain rules and heartless compliance to "what is right." It may involve much "busyness" for the Lord, but it is usually spiritually barren of genuine fruitfulness. The believer sometimes may think he is spiritual by his works, entirely missing the grace of God. This mechanical approach leads to self-righteousness or despair, depending on how one thinks they are doing. It reeks of legalism.

On the other hand, some believers have embraced a mystical kind of Christian life. To them, the walk of the believer is "mysterious" or "deep." They sometimes search for "new blessings", failing to see that they've already been "graced-out" in Christ. Others fear a demon around every corner, or are seeking a certain spiritual gift to prove their spirituality. New "revelations" are frequently sought. Though the inerrancy of the Scriptures is embraced, the sufficiency of the Scriptures is denied in a practical way. Some have gone so far as to abuse the grace of God as if it was a license to sin. This is a ditch to be avoided at all costs.

THE "HOW" OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

So our question still remains: "How is the Christian life to be lived?" As simple and surprising as it may seem, the believer is to live from day to day in the very same manner they were saved – "by grace through faith" in Jesus Christ.

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." (Hebrews 11:6)

"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him." (Colossians 2:6)

"For we walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Corinthians 5:7)

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." (Galatians 2:20)

"For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith.'" (Romans 1:17)

"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God." (Psalm 20:7)

"He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But whoever walks wisely will be delivered." (Proverbs 28:26)

"Thus says the LORD: 'Cursed *is* the man who trusts in man And makes flesh his strength, Whose heart departs from the LORD. For he shall be like a shrub in the desert, And shall not see when good comes, But shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, *In* a salt land *which is* not inhabited. Blessed *is* the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit.'" (Jeremiah 17:5-8)

The biblically-based Christian life is neither mechanical nor mystical. It is relational. It is to involve an intimate, personal, vertical fellowship and love with God and Jesus Christ every day.

"But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." (2 Corinthians 11:3)

"For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh." (Philippians 3:3)

"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4)

God in His matchless grace has provided His Word and Holy Spirit to enable us to live wisely by faith in His strength. He has further provided His "exceeding great and precious promises" (2 Peter 1:4) and the fellowship of other believers (Acts 2:42) to encourage us on our way. But all of this is only enjoyed and

appropriated when we respond to the Lord by faith. And since "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God," we must consistently read and study the Scriptures.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING SCRIPTURE

Even the casual reader of the Bible should be struck with the incredible importance of understanding and grasping the truth of God's written revelation. Since "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable" (2 Timothy 3:16), it shouldn't surprise us to see numerous admonitions in the Bible emphasizing the need and value of learning the Word of God.

"As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby." (1 Peter 2:2)

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)

"But He answered and said, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."'" (Matthew 4:4)

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." (Joshua 1:8)

"For the commandment is a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction are the way of life." (Proverbs 6:23)

"Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, 'If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.

And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31-32)

"It is good for me that I have been afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes." (Psalm 119:71)

"I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary *food.*" (Job 23:12)

"Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For *it* is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them." (Hebrews 13:9)

"These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily *to find out* whether these things were so." (Acts 17:11)

"Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts." (Jeremiah 15:16)

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." (Colossians 3:16)

With all of these instructions and encouragements to learn the Word of God, isn't it time that we take seriously the daily reading, believing, and applying of the Scriptures?

WALKING BY FAITH

When the believer humbly opens the Word of God daily to seek the Lord and His will, the Spirit of truth

is free to impress upon them the person and promises of God. Walking by faith results in accepting God's perspectives, embracing God's priorities, acknowledging God's principles, obeying God's precepts, and claiming God's promises. The remainder of this booklet will primarily address the last-claiming God's promises.

Isn't it wonderful to know that amidst so much deception and discouragement in our world that God has given us His promises to support our hearts and provide us with the encouragement we need to face life's challenges? I am told that there are some 7,000 promises in the Bible given to us as believers in Christ. I am sure that many of them are not unique in themselves, but simply run parallel or reinforce the same truth or promise in different words. Understandably, the writer of the book of Hebrews warns his first century Jewish Christian readership about the danger of failing to enter into the "faith-rest" life.

"Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard *it*." (Hebrews 4:1-2)

The "them" of verse 2 is referring to the Exodus generation of Jews who came out of Egypt and wandered in the wilderness for forty years. Though they had the possibility of "rest," they failed to enter in because "the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it."

A simple principle emerges from their example that we need to note.

Knowing God's Promises

- Believing God's Promises

 = Enjoying God's Rest

Sad to say, too many believers today fail in their Christian lives because of the same reasons. However, this need not be true of you!

"There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Hebrews 4:9-12)

To encourage you to walk by faith in fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ and to "faith-rest" amidst the challenges of life's decisions and trials, the following pages are devoted to stating numerous promises of God. This listing is far from being complete. In fact, I would encourage you to search the Scriptures further to add to this list. But as you do, let me please put up a red flag of warning that you need to remember.

A WARNING TO REMEMBER

Faith is not a sophisticated synonym for superstition or presumption. Faith has to do with believing God's clear promises as revealed in His Word, regardless of our feelings. I hasten to write this because various

individuals have become disappointed with God because they have misinterpreted or misapplied Scriptural promises, or have expected God to fulfill His Word immediately. This has especially been true of people in the "name it and claim it / health and wealth" crowd that have misapplied God's promises of "physical" blessing to Israel in the Old Testament to grace-age believers in the church who have been promised "spiritual" blessings and simply "food and clothing" physically (1 Timothy 6:6-10). Rightly dividing the Word of Truth here will save you some unrealistic expectations and consequent disappointment with God due to misguided faith.

A FINAL ENCOURAGEMENT

The psalmist reminds us of the value of memorizing Scripture when he wrote.

"Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You." (Psalm 119:11)

I trust that you will take to heart this biblical encouragement and do likewise. Start to put to memory these precious promises of God's truth. And then, believe them! You'll be glad that you did!

PROMISES OF GOD FOR THE CHILD OF GOD

GOD'S PROMISES OF SALVATION

"And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue to* believe in the name of the Son of God." (1 John 5:11-13)

"And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world." (1 John 2:2)

"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 5:1)

"Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." (Romans 5:9-10)

"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (John 3:36)

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name." (John 20:31)

"So they said, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.'" (Acts 16:31)

God's Promises of Eternal Security

"What shall we then say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" (Romans 8:31-32)

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one." (John 10:27-30)

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life." (John 5:24)

"All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:37-40)

"Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has

begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (1 Peter 1:3-5)

God's Promises of His Goodness

"The LORD *is* good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him." (Nahum 1:7)

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11)

"For the LORD God *is* a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good *thing* will He withhold From those who walk uprightly." (Psalm 84:11)

"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!" (Matthew 7:11)

"I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living." (Psalm 27:13)

GOD'S PROMISES OF HIS UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: 'For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.' Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life,

nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:35-39)

"In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4:9-10)

"The Lord has appeared of old to me, saying: 'Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.'" (Jeremiah 31:3)

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)." (Ephesians 2:4-5)

"And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood." (Revelation 1:5)

GOD'S PROMISES OF HIS CONSTANT CARE AND COMFORT

"Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." (2 Corinthians 1:2-4)

"As one whom his mother comforts, So I will comfort you; And you shall be comforted in Jerusalem." (Isaiah 66:13)

"Behold, I *am* the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?" (Jeremiah 32:27)

"For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver *us*." (2 Corinthians 1:8-10)

God's Promises of His Faithfulness

"Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God..." (Deuteronomy 7:9)

"God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." (1 Corinthians 1:9)

"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it." (1 Corinthians 10:13)

"Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator." (1 Peter 4:19)

"He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it." (1 Thessalonians 5:24)

"But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one." (2 Thessalonians 3:3)

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful." (Hebrews 10:23)

"If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself." (2 Timothy 2:13)

"Through the Lord'S mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23)

God's Promises of Victory over Sin

"Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace." (Romans 6:11-14)

"I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." (Galatians 5:16)

"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." (Romans 8:37)

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might." (Ephesians 6:10)

"Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place." (2 Corinthians 2:14)

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit." (Romans 8:2-4)

"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith." (1 John 5:4)

God's Promises of Forgiveness

Positionally - For Every Believer

"To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins." (Acts 10:43)

"To the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved." (Ephesians 1:6)

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:30-32)

"He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities... As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us." (Psalm 103:10, 12)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

"He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 3:18)

"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." (Hebrews 8:12)

"When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, 'Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said to her, 'Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.'" (John 8:10-11)

"Indeed it was for my own peace That I had great bitterness; But You have lovingly delivered my soul from the pit of corruption, For You have cast all my sins behind Your back." (Isaiah 38:17)

PARENTALLY - WHEN BELIEVERS CONFESS THEIR SINS

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

"And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry." (Luke 15:20-24)

"I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins." (Isaiah 43:25)

"Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the Lord, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon." (Isaiah 55:7)

"I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' And You forgave the iniquity of my sin." (Psalm 32:5)

"He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy." (Proverbs 28:13)

GOD'S PROMISES IN TRIALS

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren." (Romans 8:28-29)

"And He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

"But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold." (Job 23:10)

"You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You." (Isaiah 26:3)

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

"My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." (James 1:2-4)

"Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him." (James 1:12)

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the Lord delivers him out of them all." (Psalm 34:19)

"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 1:6-7)

God's Promises in Decision-Making

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye." (Psalm 32:8)

"You will guide me with Your counsel, And afterward receive me to glory." (Psalm 73:24)

"For You are my rock and my fortress; Therefore, for Your name's sake, Lead me and guide me." (Psalm 31:3)

"Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, For in You do I trust; Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, For I lift up my soul to You." (Psalm 143:8)

"Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)

"You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (Psalm 16:11)

"For this is God, Our God forever and ever; He will be our guide Even to death." (Psalm 48:14)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." (Romans 12:1-2)

"If anyone wants to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority." (John 7:17)

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him." (James 1:5)

GOD'S PROMISES IN PRAYER

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!" (Matthew 7:7-11)

"And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive." (Matthew 21:22)

"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." (1 John 5:14-15)

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know." (Jeremiah 33:3)

"It shall come to pass That before they call, I will answer; And while they are still speaking, I will hear." (Isaiah 65:24)

"You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures." (James 4:2-3)

"Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." (James 5:16)

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you." (John 15:7)

GOD'S PROMISES WHEN AFRAID

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." (2 Timothy 1:7)

"I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." (Psalm 4:8)

"Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You." (Psalm 56:3)

"Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10)

"Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6)

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

"Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.' So we may boldly say: 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?'" (Hebrews 13:5)

"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?" (Psalm 27:1)

"'Do not be afraid of their faces, For I am with you to deliver you,' says the Lord." (Jeremiah 1:8)

"In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" (Psalm 56:11)

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me." (Psalm 23:4)

God's Promises When Anxious and Worried

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things." (Philippians 4:6-8)

"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." (Matthew 6:25-34)

"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all

things, may have an abundance for every good work." (2 Corinthians 9:8)

"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." (John 14:27)

"You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You." (Isaiah 26:3)

God's Promises When Discontented

"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

"Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." (1 Timothy 6:6-10)

"Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" (Hebrews 13:5)

"And he said: 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord.'" (Job 1:21)

"Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to

be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:11-13)

"And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

"In You, O Lord, I put my trust; Let me never be ashamed; Deliver me in Your righteousness." (Psalm 31:1)

"Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's." (Psalm 103:1-5)

GOD'S PROMISES WHEN DISCOURAGED

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Corinthians 15:58)

"Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given *us* ever-

lasting consolation and good hope by grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work." (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

"Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:" (Hebrews 10:35-36)

"And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." (Galatians 6:9)

"Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God." (Psalm 43:5)

GOD'S PROMISES WHEN IMPATIENT

"Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass." (Psalm 37:7)

"Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:" (Hebrews 10:35-36)

"Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!" (Psalm 27:14)

"My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him." (Psalm 62:5)

"It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the Lord." (Lamentations 3:26) "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

God's Promises When Sensing Your Inadequacy

"Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life." (2 Corinthians 3:5-6)

"So he answered and said to me: 'This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," Says the Lord of hosts.'" (Zechariah 4:6)

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

"For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure." (Philippians 2:13)

"Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:6)

"Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever." (Hebrews 13:20-21)

"He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:29-31)

"Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid, 'For YAH, the Lord, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.' Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation." (Isaiah 12:2-3)

"He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it." (1 Thessalonians 5:24)

GOD'S PROMISES WHEN LONELY

"Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" (Hebrews 13:5)

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you." (Isaiah 43:2)

"Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20)

"Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6)

"God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1)

"I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread." (Psalm 37:25)

GOD'S PROMISES WHEN TEMPTED

"Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death." (James 1:13-15)

"But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts." (Romans 13:14)

"Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You." (Psalm 119:11)

"I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." (Galatians 5:16)

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

"Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." (James 4:7)

GOD'S PROMISES WHEN WRONGED

"Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord. Therefore 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:19-21)

"Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand." (James 5:7-8)

"But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you." (Matthew 5:44)

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:30-32)

"Then Peter came to Him and said, 'Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his

servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him. saying, "Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all." Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, "Pay me what you owe!" So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you all." And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?" And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."" (Matthew 18:21-35)

"Looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled." (Hebrews 12:15)

"So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God." (James 1:19-20)

"'Be angry, and do not sin': do not let the sun go down on your wrath." (Ephesians 4:26)

"A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger." (Proverbs 15:1)

"He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city." (Proverbs 16:32)

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28)

"But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good..." (Genesis 50:20)

God's Promises When You Don't Know What To Do

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind." (James 1:5-6)

"And Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.'" (Exodus 14:13)

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matthew 6:33)

"Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)

"For the Lord God will help Me; Therefore I will not be disgraced; Therefore I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed." (Isaiah 50:7)

God's Promises for the Carnal Believer

"If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear." (Psalm 66:18)

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, And He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the Lord upholds him with His hand." (Psalm 37:23-24)

"For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world." (1 Corinthians 11:31-32)

"Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it." (Hebrews 12:11)

"Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: 'Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, "They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.' So

I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest."' Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God." (Hebrews 3:7-12)

"And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account." (Hebrews 4:13)

"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." (Galatians 6:7-8)

"He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy." (Proverbs 28:13)

"But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out." (Numbers 32:23)

"There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death." (Proverbs 14:12)

"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." (1 John 2:15-17)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but

be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." (Romans 12:1-2)

"Then He said: 'A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me." So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."" And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry." (Luke 15:11-24)

GOD'S PROMISES FOR THE FUTURE

"For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words." (1 Thessalonians 4:15-18)

"Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ." (Titus 2:13)

"O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?' The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:55-57)

"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." (Revelation 21:4)

"For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing." (1 Thessalonians 5:9-11)

GOD'S PROMISES WE DON'T USUALLY LIKE TO CLAIM

"For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake." (Philippians 1:29)

"Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution." (2 Timothy 3:12)

"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." (Galatians 6:7-8)

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad." (2 Corinthians 5:10)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Dennis M. Rokser (M.Div., D.Min., Grace Biblical Seminary) has pastored Duluth Bible Church since 1985. The focus of his teaching has been the Gospel of God's grace as it relates to salvation, eternal security, the believer's identification/position in Christ, and living by grace through faith-resting in Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

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All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. (2 Timothy 4:2-4)

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