

POWERFUL (and precious) PROMISES

OWLS RETREAT

Black Rock Bible Conference Grounds

October 4-6, 2005

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I. General Introduction to our Study

- A. By definition, a promise is a commitment to deliver. The ramifications are great
- B. In terms of character, a promise from a secured source is:
 - 1. precious
 - 2. purposeful
 - 4. powerful
- C. In the study of a promise these basic materials must be known:
 - 1. The source
 - 2. The content
 - 3. The recipient
 - 4. The provision(s)
 - 5. Related data with regard to time, etc.
- D. The helpful (?) study chart is an aid (for me) in the study of a promise

Promise Study Chart

1. Designations

personal	or	public
particular (item)	or	general truth
temporal matter	or	eternal implications
conditional	or	unconditional

2. Nature

reward	or	punishment
challenge	or	declaration
covenantal by God	or	covenantal by man

3. Origin or veracity

divine	or	human
certainty	or	variable
diabolic	or	self-induced.

Every promise in the Bible is...

2 Cor 1:15-24

(Can you see how we make the most simple things complicated? But the fact is that this material is needed if we are to understand the promise or be blessed, perplexed or discouraged by it. In our study this week we are concerned with the promises given by God for our assurance, strength, and blessing in His will. We may note some of the others for illustrative material as we pass by.)

13:5-8

II. The Messages

John 14:1-16
Romans 8

A. The Promise of His Presence Powerful and Precious

Matthew 28:20, Hebrews 13:5-6 based on the Old Testament notes of Genesis 28:15 and Joshua 1:5 and seen in the New Testament occurrences in Acts 7:54-60 and 2 Timothy 4:17

- 1. The Promise (and at this point I allow the listener to fill in the data or to manufacture it as may be needed)

I will never leave thee.

- 2. The Authority

*God Jesus
through
of the Spirit -*

- 3. The Reality,

*Christ in you,
The hope of glory*

Col 1:27

- 4. The Effect in our Lives... at least five items and you may add more!

*strength - help
peace -
encouragement -
companionship
assurance*

- 5 Conclusion: A Divine companion not only for life but for all eternity. It is powerful in that it assures strength and help and precious in that it is of inestimable value personally and corporately.

Ps 27:13-14
Prov 3:5-10
Condition
" of "

State
being
work
Hood

B. The Promise of Success: powerful and precious
1 Corinthians 15:58, 2 Peter 1:8, John 15:4-7

1. The Promise:
Your work in the Lord is not in vain! Note the condition that it is in the Lord...this is not necessarily a promise of secular success. With the New Testament Scriptures, consult Psalm 27 and Proverbs 3 and add the assured details of Colossians 3:23-25 and Ephesians 6:5-8. The text of 1 Corinthians 15 gives the most explicit promise.

2. The Authority *apostolic order: Pa, Peter, Ambrosius of Aut...*

3. The Reality *careful with observation*

4. The Effect: there are at least three major items
*stimulates commitment
invites innovation
wages complete effort*

5. Conclusion:
Your labor of love will not be wasted...there is a time factor to be considered but ultimately what is done for the Lord is done and will produce a fruit for the honor or the Lord and, I believe, the satisfaction of the worker.

1 Thess 1:3

C. The Promise Of Inheritance...both powerful and precious

An inheritance is something left to you out of the estate of another. It is not something for which you work but is a gratuitous affair in the broad sphere of things. In this it differs from a heritage--another matter. The promise of an inheritance with people is something not certain but with God this is an assured matter that should make us rejoice every time we think about it.

2. The Promise

- a. expressed as a fact but not described in a concrete way... 1 Peter 1:4-5
- b. expressed as a fact but not defined: Romans 8:17
- c. expressed as a truth to be fulfilled and given some definition Philippians 3:20-21
- d. expressed as a fact and defined in general terms
1 John 3:1-2, 1 Corinthians 15:51-54
- e. expressed as a fact and defined in a practical measure
Matthew 5:5

3. The Authority

4. The Reality:

- a. We presently groan... Romans 8
- b. But our position is "with Him"

5. The Effect:

- a. We value our stewardship 1 Corinthians 3, 4
- b. We commit, Romans 12:1
- c. We live *Rom 14:8*

- 6. Conclusion: Enjoy the life Christ gives you today and use it as a preparation for tomorrow when you will inherit with Him.

D. The Promise of Help: powerful and precious

Psalm 55:22, 57:4; Matthew 11:28-30, 1 Peter 5:7

This is especially for the men's section of the OWLS retreat. How quickly we are burdened! Family problems, economic stress, health, church work, etc. There is a legitimacy to these things and we cannot just wish them away. But when they are weighing heavily on us they should not overwhelm us if we take the Lord

1 Cor 13:1-14
1 Cor 5:10
1 Cor 14:10-12 ←

seriously in His promise to help. He does not suggest there will be no problems...in fact, He notes there will be more! But with that consideration He promises help.

1. The Promise: He will help with our load! In addition to the Scripture given, add Isaiah 30:45 and 40:31

2. The Authority *971. 23*

3. The Reality:

- a. The history of Israel
- b. The early church
- c. Our historical setting

106, 107

4. The Effect:

- a. Deliverance from frustration
- b. A sharing of the load
- c. Deliverance from guilt and failure

5. Conclusion: With the old Gospel song: Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

Mem!

III. Conclusion to our studies:

Master the promises and allow them to recondition your everyday life. Our hope is in the Lord (Psalm 39) Grip the promises firmly for your own comfort and encouragement and remember that the Lord has given them and He is the security on which we depend.

