PROMISES MADE – PROMISES KEPT 2020

June 7, 2020
God does not lie -- He keeps His promises

Numbers 23:19 (NIV) (19) God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?
WHAT GOD SAYS HE WILL DO -- HE WILL DO

▪ When God Makes A Promise -- He Always Keeps It

▪ He Is The Original Promise Keeper

For God’s People – For All Time -- God Has Kept His Promise!
GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

Psalm 12:6 (NLT2) (6) The LORD’s promises are pure, like silver refined in a furnace, purified seven times over.

- We Can Place Our Confidence In Him
- We Can Know That God Is Faithful
- We Can Be Sure That God Has A Plan

What God Has Promised Has Been Fulfilled In Christ -- Emanuel – God With Us
5 PROMISES FOR THE CHRISTIAN:

- God's Presence
- God's Protection
- God's Power
- God's Provision
- God's Plan
Hebrews 10:23 (NIV) (23) Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NIV) (20) For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God

A Promise From God Is A Statement We Can Depend On With Absolute Confidence
WE CAN DEPEND ON THE PROMISES OF GOD

- Nothing Is Too Difficult For God
- There Is Not Anything That Can Negate The Promises Of God
- God’s Promises Are Solid -- We Need To Stand On Them
- Our Role: Believe in God’s Promises!
God’s Covenant with Israel

- The Torah (Hebrew) & The Pentateuch (Greek) Introduces & Builds A Foundation For God’s Covenant To Abraham

- The Principle Of Covenant Is Spelled Out In Scripture

- A Covenant Is A Formal, Binding Agreement Between Two Parties

- A “Life Agreement” Which The Parties Pledge To One Another
**THE COVENANT THAT GOD HAD MADE WITH ABRAHAM**

- **Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV)** (1) The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. (2) "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. (3) I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

- **A Land**
- **A Nation**
- **A Blessing**
ON THE WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND AT MOUNT SINAI -- GOD SPOKE WITH MOSES TO RENEW THE COVENANT w/ABRAHAM

- Exodus 19:5-6 (NIV) (5) Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, (6) you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."
The covenant is based on God’s laws and promises for the people and on the people’s faithfulness and obedience to God.

As long as the people lived by the guidelines and commitments of their “life agreement” with God, they would enjoy a special relationship with him and experience the life and purpose he intended for them.

God’s ultimate goal was to bring the Messiah (i.e., the “Anointed One,” Savior, Christ) into the world through the covenant people.
GOD CARES FOR ISRAEL

- **Zechariah 2:8 (NIV)** (8) For this is what the LORD Almighty says: "After he has honored me and has sent me against the nations that have plundered you--for **whoever touches you touches the apple of his eye**—

- **Zechariah 2:12 (NIV)** (12) The LORD will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land and will again choose Jerusalem

- **Ezekiel 5:5 (NIV)** (5) "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: This is Jerusalem, which I have set in the center of the nations, with countries all around her."
THE TIME OF WRATH WILL BE A TIME OF UNPARALELLED TROUBLE

- Jeremiah 30:7 (NIV) (7) How awful that day will be! None will be like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but he will be saved out of it.

- IT IS ALSO A TIME OF GRACE

- Jacob’s trouble will finally end when Christ returns to establish his kingdom on earth and reign with his people over all nations for a thousand years.
Zechariah 13:1 (NIV) (1) "On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity.

Because of his great mercy and desire to forgive, God will open a spiritual fountain of his grace—his undeserved favor—that will cleanse the Jewish people from their sin.
GOD HAS A PLAN TO RE-ESTABLISH ISRAEL IN THE COVENANT OF ABRAHAM

Three Perspectives To Consider:

- Promises (Prophecies) Already Fulfilled
- Promises (Prophecies) That Are Current
- Promises (Prophecies) To Be Fulfilled In The Future
PROPHECIES MADE THAT HAVE BEEN FULFILLED

PROPHECY FULFILLED #1 -- DISPERSION

▪ Deuteronomy 28:64-67 (NIV) (64) Then the LORD will scatter you among all nations, from one end of the earth to the other.

▪ Leviticus 26:33 (NIV) (33) I will scatter you among the nations and will draw out my sword and pursue you. Your land will be laid waste, and your cities will lie in ruins.
PROPHECY FULFILLED #2 – PERSECUTION

- Deuteronomy 28:65-67 (NIV) (65) Among those nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot. There the LORD will give you an anxious mind, eyes weary with longing, and a despairing heart. (66) You will live in constant suspense, filled with dread both night and day, never sure of your life. (67) In the morning you will say, "If only it were evening!" and in the evening, "If only it were morning!"--because of the terror that will fill your hearts and the sights that your eyes will see.
PROPHECY FULFILLED #3 – DESOLATION

▪ Leviticus 26:33 (NIV) (33) I will scatter you among the nations and will draw out my sword and pursue you. Your land will be laid waste, and your cities will lie in ruins.

▪ Deuteronomy 29:23 (NIV) (23) The whole land will be a burning waste of salt and sulfur—nothing planted, nothing sprouting, no vegetation growing on it. It will be like the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah
PROPHECY FULFILLED #4 -- PRESERVATION

\textbullet \textit{Jeremiah 30:11 (NIV)} (11) I am with you and will save you,' declares the LORD. 'Though I completely destroy all the nations among which I scatter you, I will not completely destroy you. I will discipline you but only with justice; I will not let you go entirely unpunished

\textbullet \textit{Isaiah 66:22 (NIV)} (22) "As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me," declares the LORD, "so will your name and descendants endure
PROMISES MAKE ARE PROMISES KEPT

- *This Is His Character ... These Are His Ways w/ His People*

- *When God Says “I Will” -- He Will!*

- *When God Makes A Promise -- He Keeps It*
HOW GOD’S PROMISES ARE BEING FULFILLED IN ISRAEL TODAY

ISRAEL WILL BE REGATHERED

- Isaiah 11:11-12 (NIV) (11) *In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of his people...* (12) *He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; he will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth.*

- Ezekiel 36:24 (NIV) (24) "*For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land.*
THE STATE OF ISRAEL WILL BE REESTABLISHED

- Isaiah 66:8 (NIV) ...Can a country be born in a day or a nation be brought forth in a moment? Yet no sooner is Zion in labor than she gives birth to her children.
THE LAND WOULD BLOOM AGAIN

- **Ezekiel 36:35-36 (NIV)** (35) They will say, "This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited." (36) Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the LORD have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.'

- **Isaiah 35:1-2 (NIV)** (1) The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; (2) it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.
THE HEBREW LANGUAGE WOULD BE REVIVED

Zephaniah 3:9 (TLB) (9) "At that time I will change the speech of my returning people to pure Hebrew so that all can worship the Lord together.
THE WORLD WILL BE BLESSED THROUGH ISRAEL

▪ The Covenant With Abraham In Genesis 12

▪ In Our World Today Many Blessings Have Come To Us Thru This Little Set-Apart Nation Of Israel
THE JEWS WILL REOCCUPY JERUSALEM

- Luke 21:24 (NIV) (24) They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

- Zechariah 12:2 (NIV) "I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling."
ISRAEL WOULD HAVE A STRONG MILITARY

Zechariah 12:6 (NIV) (6) "On that day I will make the leaders of Judah like a firepot in a woodpile, like a flaming torch among sheaves. They will consume right and left all the surrounding peoples, but Jerusalem will remain intact in her place."
ISRAEL WOULD BE THE CENTER OF ATTENTION TO THE WHOLE WORLD

Zechariah 12:3 (NIV) (3) On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.

Zechariah 14:1-4 (NIV) (1) A day of the LORD is coming when your plunder will be divided among you. (2) I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city. (3) Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations, as he fights in the day of battle. (4) On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.
When God Announces His Intentions It Is As Good As Done

His Word Is His Promise It Can Be Depended On. It Is Our Faith In God's Promises That Activates Them

What He Says He Will Do, He Will Do!

God Calls Us To Respond By Faith To His Promises.
- God Is Faithful To His Word
- His Word It True And Reliable
- And When He Promises -- He Delievers

- 2 Peter 3:13 (NIV) (13) But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.
Two Essential Responses For All Of Us: 1) **Live Holy** -- 2) **Tell Others About Christ!** -- We Will Be Ready -- Others Ready Too

- **We Must Receive Him Now**
- **We Must Trust Him Now While The Offer Of Eternal Life Is Open To Us**
- **We Can Say Along With The Early Church, “Maranatha -- Come Quickly Lord Jesus!”**