MAGNIFICENT PROMISES

Part 3 of 3 (chapters 9-14)

9. THE PROMISE OF VICTORY

So often we feel that victory is something we need to win. The fact is that Jesus has already won the victory, and now He promises to give that victory to all who will, by faith, receive it.

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Corinthians 15: 57)

You may ask, Is victory something we simply take by faith? Yes indeed! Just as one receives salvation by simply trusting the LORD, we must receive His victory by faith. Our faith itself is not the victory, but it is our faith that trusts YHWH to give the victory. And faith trusts the Lord to bring about the victory in His own way and time. No matter what the battle may be, we must overcome by faith.

"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)

Some battles are long and protracted, but the promise is, He gives the victory. In the meantime, while the Master is working it out, the situation is a test for us, so that we will continue in faith, and grow stronger in faith

Sometimes we will trust the Lord for victory over external forces - but we feel that internal temptation is just too strong.

Two promises for us to believe and appropriate here, are:

"Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and stand he will, for the Master is able to make him stand." (Romans 14:4)

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

To avail of the Lord's provision, we must use our decision-making capacity, and **choose the way out** that He provides. If you simply stand in the middle of the road and call to the Lord to save you from the rushing traffic, you can expect to be hit. You've got to get off the busy road!

But you say, I started to cross the road, and the suddenly there were vehicles coming from every direction.

Well it may be you didn't look before you leapt. Regarding temptation, it may be that you find circumstances all around which do not seem to allow a way of escape. Well, God says He will provide that way - so ask Him and trust Him. It may be that He will "slowdown a car, to allow you to cross safely."

On our part, with temptation, we need to burn our bridges behind us. And we need to cut off sources of temptation if we possibly can. If your TV is a source of temptation to you and your family, axe it. If friendships are a source of temptation, terminate them. If some private goal or object is a temptation and hindrance to you, yield it up to the Lord. Put it on His altar, and let Him burn it up.

And if there seems to be nothing you can do, then simply **trust** the Almighty for the way

out. But don't play with temptation, and with tempters, temptresses, and with objects or modes of temptation. Remember Samson!

But call on the Most High. He's waiting for your call.

"Keep watching and praying, that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matthew 26:41)

"The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation." (2 Peter 2:9)

10. THE PROMISE OF DELIVERANCE

Sin is a cruel taskmaster! All around we see lives bound by sinful habits; men and women, boys and girls, caught in a quagmire, in pits of enslaving vices.

Satan's strategy, of course, is to infiltrate a person's habits, to warp his decision-making capacity, and to influence his moral choices. The person's life is thus brought into bondage

Some people are afflicted or possessed by demons, and they exist in a constant state of torment. Sometimes the bondage is so total, that it would seem there is no hope whatever for the person - apart from a miracle.

And there is the answer! The Lord Jesus is still able and willing to perform miracles today. And He is doing it, day after day - thousands of miracles every day. Lives are being touched by His power, as people call out to the Master in faith. The deliverance of sin-bound and demon-afflicted people is taking place all the time. In fact, all the world could be delivered from darkness and bondage, IF the people would only trust the Lord Jesus. But alas, as in the days when Jesus walked Galilee, it could be said of today's majority population:

"And He did not do many miracles there because of their unbelief." (Matthew 13:58)

But, as Jesus said to Martha, "If you believe, you will see the glory of God." (John 11:40)

The fact is that Jesus became a man so that He might deliver those who are held captive by sin:

"Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is the devil, and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives." (Hebrews 2: 14-15)

Another magnificent promise is:

"God ... who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us; He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us." (2 Corinthians 1:10)

Another promise:

"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:28)

Pontius Pilate once asked Jesus, "What is truth?" (John 18:38). But if He had waited for the answer, it would have been the same reply as given to Thomas . . .

"I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me." (John 14:6)

Truth is Jesus, and Jesus sets people free! So claim His promise, and trust Him to bring it to pass.

11. THE PROMISE OF PRESERVATION

Many believers have doubts about the ultimate end of their lives. They have given their lives to Jesus, and trusted in Him as their Saviour. They have known the work of God in their lives, and have experienced His Salvation. But they have a nagging fear that before their life on earth is over, they may loose their grip upon God and upon His Salvation.

The sad fact is that they have failed to realize that our Salvation does not depend on our ability to "hang on." It is the all-powerful hands of the Lord who securely holds His people. If we have been born again, we are kept by the power of the Almighty.

The Lord Jesus promised:

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand ... and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand." (John 10:27-28)

The Apostle Paul was "convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, not powers, 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 8:38-39).

He was absolutely convinced that the Saviour "is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day." (2 Timothy 1:12)

Now Paul assures us . . .

"You are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who shall also **confirm you to the end,** blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." (I Corinthians 1:7-9)

And in case these promises are not enough, do catch hold of this one that the Apostle Peter throws to you, my reader;

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are **protected by the power of God** through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (I Peter 1:3-5)

You will never get assurance by doubting. Simply trust God. He said it! You believe it!

12. THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Y'shua the Messiah promised that His people would receive the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, the Helper, the Spirit of Christ, who would indwell their redeemed personalities for ever.

"And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you." (John 14:16-17, 26)

At the time Y'shua spoke, the Holy Spirit had not yet been given as the Indweller. The Holy Spirit was with the disciples, but was not yet within them. (John 14:17). The outpouring of the Spirit, that is, the coming of the Spirit to indwell the church, took place at Pentecost. The initial sign of "tongues of fire" upon all the believers was an indication

that each one had received the Comforter.

Subsequently, other groups of believers received the Spirit and were added to the church often with some supernatural evidence. Thereafter, as people received Christ as Saviour, they automatically received the Holy Spirit. His indwelling Presence was evidenced by, "There's been a wonderful change in me."

Indeed, "if any man is in Christ he is a new creature." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

The Holy Spirit in the believer is the seal of ownership which shows we belong to God;

"In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth the gospel of your salvation - having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of Promise." (Ephesians 1:13)

"Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge." (2 Corinthians 5:5)

"And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'" (Galatians 4:6)

"If any one does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him." (Romans 8: 9)

The Holy Spirit is also the power of God, and He is the one who must fill our lives with God's dynamic life, love, wisdom and power. Here is a promise:

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

When we receive the Holy Spirit (and that's when we receive Jesus as our Saviour), we also receive His power. But in order to live in the power of the Spirit, we must both surrender our lives totally to Him, and walk **by faith** - trusting the Messiah for the flow and fullness of His Spirit within us.

"If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water'." (John 7:37-38)

And here's another promise to act upon:

"Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to **the power that works within us."** (Ephesians 3:20)

13. PROMISES TO TRUST FOR OTHERS

It is a mistake to think we must trust God only for ourselves. We can and should trust the Lord for the needs of others.

Remember the four men who brought the crippled man on a stretcher, and let the stretcher down from the ceiling into the presence of Jesus? It is recorded:

"And seeing **their** faith, He said, 'Friend, your sins are forgiven you'." (Luke 5:20)

Throughout Scripture we are exhorted to pray for others. And when we pray, we must do so with faith. There are a few specific promises which we may lay hold of, claim, and believe, on behalf of other people.

"Train up a child in the way he should go. *And* even when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6).

"I will save your sons." (Isaiah 49:25)

"For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are set apart." (I Corinthians 7:14)

"And the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and Master will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."

(James 5:15-16)

"The Master is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9)

Claim the promises for your loved ones now. Time is running out!

14. MANY PRECIOUS PROMISES

A Promise when faced with Danger

"Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you. Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. Look! All those who are angered at you will be shamed and dishonoured. Those who contend with you will be as nothing, and will perish. You will seek those who quarrel with you, but will not find them. Those who war with you will be as nothing, and non-existent, for I am YHWH your God, who upholds your right hand, who says to you, do not fear, I will help you." (Isaiah 41:10-13)

A Promise for the Worn-out

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, YHWH, the creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary, or tired His understanding is inscrutable. He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might He increases power. Though youths grow weary and tried, and vigorous young men stumble badly, yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary." (Isaiah 40:28-31)

A Promise for times of Severe Trial

YHWH says: "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, nor will the flame burn you." (Isaiah 43:2)

A Promise for the Unjustly Persecuted

"Therefore YHWH longs to be gracious to you, and therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For YHWH is a God of justice. How blessed are all those who long for Him." (Isaiah 30:18)

A Promise when Forsaken

YHWH declares: "Can a woman forget her nursing child, and have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but **I will not forget you.** Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands. Your walls are continually before Me." (Isaiah 49:15-16)

A Promise when financially or otherwise, in Need

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

Promises of Provision for Ministry

"Now this I say, he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully. Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed; as it is written, 'HE SCATTERED ABROAD, HE GAVE TO THE POOR, HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ABIDES FOREVER.' [Psalm 112:9]

"Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food, will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness; you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only fully supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing through many thanksgivings to God." (2 Corinthians 9:6-12)

A Promise of God's Absolute Control

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

Promises of being with the Heavenly Master

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:3)

"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But I am hard pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better." (Philippians 1:21-23)

Promises of ultimate and Eternal Joy

"And He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." (Revelation 2:14)

"And there shall no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His bond-servants shall serve Him; and they shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads." (Revelation 22:3-4)

"Surely goodness and lovingkindness with follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of YHWH forever." (Psalms 23:6)

A Promise of mighty things

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

God will bring you through

"And after you have suffered for a little, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you." (1 Peter 5:10)

Promises of a Crowns of Reward

"And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory." (1 Peter 5:4)

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

"In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who

have loved His appearing." (2 Timothy 4:8)

For times of Sorrow

"You will weep no longer. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when He hears it, He will answer you." (Isaiah 30:19)

Yahweh gives more Grace

"But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE." (James 4:6)

"My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

God will not leave you

"I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you, so that we confidently say, 'THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT SHALL MAN DO TO ME?' " (Hebrews 13.-5-6)

The Lord will bring you Home Safely

"The Lord will deliver me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen." (2 Timothy 4:18)

"For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day." (2 Timothy 1:12)

Promises of Protection

"But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one." (2 Thessalonians 3:3)

"The Angel of YHWH encamps around those who fear Him, and rescues them." (Psalms 34:7)

A Promise when Afflicted

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but YHWH delivers him out of them all." (Psalms 34:19)

A Promise when on a Sickbed

"YHWH will sustain him upon his sickbed. In his illness, You restore him to health." (Psalms 41:3)

A Promise when Falsely Accused

"No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of YHWH, and their vindication is from Me, declares YHWH." (Isaiah 54:17)

Promises for times of Uuncertainty

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

"For such is God, our God forever and ever; He will guide us until death." (Psalm 48:14)

A Promise of Fruitfulness

"Those who sow in tears shall reap with joyful shouting. He who goes to and fro weeping, carrying his bag of seed, shall indeed come again with a shout of joy, bringing his sheaves with him." (Psalm 126: 5-6)

A Promise for your Journey

"YHWH is your keeper; YHWH is your shade on your right hand. The sun will not smite you by day, nor the moon by night. YHWH will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul. YHWH will guard your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forever." (Psalm 121:5-8)

A Promise for the Storm

"They ... were at their wits' end. Then they cried to YHWH in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distresses. He caused the storm to be still, so that the waves of the sea were hushed. Then they were glad because they were quite; so He guided them to their desired haven." (Psalm 107:27-30)

SEARCH, FIND, TRUST!

Reader, the above are a few of God's magnificent promises. Now we come to the end of this booklet, but we do not come to the end of the promises, nor to the end of the grace of Y'shua the Messiah. I urge you therefore, search and find the precious jewels in the Word of God. Mark them with colours pencil as we have done in "The Psalms." (I use green for promises). Believer, trust in the promises. They are yours if you really want them, and if you will trust the Almighty to fulfil them.

"For as many as may be the promises of God, in Him they are yes; wherefore also by Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us." (2 Corinthians 1:20)