

Pray The Promises of God

(From: Prayer changes everything, written by Bennie Mostert, published by Carpe Diem)

"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" (2 Cor.1:20). Read this verse carefully. All promises are YES in Christ, but they must become AMEN through us. Amen means; it is true and certain. We must take God at His Word because His Word is true and just and we must use those promises in faith when praying. We add the AMEN with our lives because a promise means nothing if we do not claim it for ourselves.

According to Everet E. Storms there are 7959 promises in Scripture made by God. If we use one promise each day it will take us 22 (twenty-two) years to use each of the promises once. Caleb lived 40 (forty years) on one promise. How may years can we live on 7959 promises? Armin Gesswein said: Promises predict the answers to prayer. They are the molds into which we pour our prayers. They foretell what to expect. They shape our praying. They motivate, direct and determine our supplication.. This makes Christian praying different! How? In a very real sense we pray from the answer.. with the answer in mind.. from the answer to it. This is the way of The Lord, the way of faith. He promises - we believe. We act on His Word. In this way answered prayer not only satisfies us; it delights the Heart of God by fulfilling His Own Word. And this is a most important thing with God."

We must go to God with His own promises. When we pray for revival or a person's salvation we must look in Scripture for God's Will and then look for any promise in that connection. Stand on those promises, add an AMEN to the promise. In Jeremiah 33:19-27 the Lord says that His promises (to David) are as steadfast as sunrise and sunset: "If you can break My covenant with the day and My covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time then my covenant with David my servant.. can be broken.." See what it says in Numbers 23:19 "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?"

To illustrate this thought more clearly we add the following quotation. The quotation is from an Armin Gesswein's School of Prayer pamphlet.

D L MOODY:

"Each word of God can be traced back to a kneeling form." "Tarry at a promise and God will meet you there." Change in thinking: Early in the ministry I had an experience which completely changed my understanding of prayer. What a transformation! I was called to start churches and had just discovered the "prayer meeting truth": in Acts. So I started a prayer meeting - the first one I ever attended.

In came an elderly Methodist one night. When he prayed I detected something new. "I have never heard praying like that," I thought to myself. It was not fervency - I had plenty of that. Heaven and Earth got no further apart - in fact, were moving along together! He had it taped or so it seemed to me. The Holy Spirit was right here, in action, giving him assurance of the answer even while he was praying! When I prayed God was "way out there",; listening in the distance somewhere. The answer too was in the distance, totally unreachable.

Discovery! Eager to learn his secret I went to see him one day. His name was Ambrose Whaley and everyone called him "Uncle Am". He was a retired blacksmith - also a Methodist lay preacher. I soon came to the point: "Uncle Am, I would love to pray with you". At once he arose, led me outside across the driveway into a red barn, up a ladder, into a haystack! There, in some old hay, lay two big Bibles - one open. "What is this?" I thought. I first prayed, as I recall it. I poured out my heart, needs, burdens, wishes, aspirations, ambitions to God. Then he prayed - and there was "that difference" again. There, in that hay, on our knees, at eye level, I said: "Uncle Am, what is it? You have some kind of secret in praying... Would you mind sharing it with me?"

I was 24 (twenty four, he was 73 (he lived to be 93) and with an eagle-look in his eyes, he said: "Young man, learn to plead the promises of God!" That did it! My praying has never been the same since. That word completely changed my understanding of prayer. It really revolutionized it! I "saw it" as soon as he said it. Saw what? Well - when I prayed there was fervency, ambition, etc. (The Lord does not put a perfect "squelch" on these either.) But I lacked faith. Prayer is the key to Heaven, but faith unlocks the door. There must be faith. Where does that come from? From hearing...the Word of God. Uncle Am would plead Scripture after Scripture, reminding Him of promise after promise, pleading these like a lawyer does his case - The Holy Spirit pouring in His Assurance of being heard. This man knew the promises "by the bushel". He did not seem to need those 2 Bibles in that hay! I soon learned that he was a mighty intercessor. He prayed "clear through". He prayed using the Bible as a basis on which his prayers were built. He taught me the secret of intercessory praying. How can I ever thank God enough for leading me to such a prayer warrior!

What happened? With this discovery, God really gave me a new Bible! I had not yet learned how to make the Bible my prayer book. It gave me a new motivation for Bible study. I began to "dig in". I would now search the Scriptures...meditate... mark its many promises... memorize, memorize, memorize! There are thousands of promises; a promise for every need, burden, problem, situation.

"Young man, learn to plead the promises of God!" These words keep ringing in my soul! A practical tip: Underline all the promises you read in Scripture with a blue pen/pencil. Doing this illuminates the promises and makes looking them up much easier.

Promises for different needs:

- **God keeps His promises**
 - God is not a man that he should lie, nor a son of man that He should change His mind (Num.23:19); Heb.10:23; Isa.46:11; Ps.89:34-36; Isa.30:18
- **God listens to our prayer**
 - For the Eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His Ears are attentive to their prayer (1 Pet.3:12) Ps.34:17; 1 John 5:14; 2 Cron.16:9; Ps.4:4; Ps.102:17.
- **God answers our prayer**
 - Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear (Isa.65:24). Jer.33:3; Mark 11:24; John 16:24; John 15:7; Isa.58:9; Eph.3:20; Matt.7:7
- **Promises about salvation**
 - For God did not send His Son into the World to condemn it but to save the World through Him (John 3:17). Rom.10:9-10; 10:13; Eph.2:8-9; 1 Tim.2:3-4; Heb.6:18
- **Promises about new life**
 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation, the old has gone the new has come! (2 Cor.5:17) John 10:10; 1 Pet.2:24; Gal.2:20; Rom.6:4; 1 John 3:9; 2 Cor.3:18; Ezek.36:26
- **Promises about freedom**
 - Then you will know the Truth and the Truth will set you free... So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed (John 8:32,36) Rom.6:14,22; Rom.8:1-2; 2 Cor.3:17; Acts 13:38
- **Promises about forgiveness**
 - If we confess our sins, He is Faithful and Just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9) Ps.32:1-2; Isa.43:25; Ps.103:12; 1 John 2:12; Eph.1:7; Rom.8:33.
- **Promises about justification**
 - God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God (2 Cor.5:21) Rom.8:10; 1 Cor.1:30; Rom.3:21-22; Rom.4:4-5; Rom.5:17.
- **Promises about the Holy Spirit**
 - If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in Heaven give The Holy Spirit to those who ask Him (Luke 11:13) Isa.44:3; John 14:16-17; John 16:7; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:38-39 Gal.4:6; Gal.3:14; 1 John 4:13; Matt.3:11; Ezek.36:27; Eph.1:13
- **Promises about faith in God**
 - Think of yourself... in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you (Rom.12:3) Eph.2:8; Heb.11:6; James 1:3; 1 Pet.1:7; Rom.1:17; 1 John 5:4; Mark 9:23; Eph.6:16; John 20:29; Matt.21:21-22; John 16:24

- **Promises about The Word**
 - All Scripture is God-Breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Tim.3:16-17) 1 Pet.1:25; Isa.40:8; Matt.4:4; Deut.29:29; Jos.1:8; Isa.55:11; Heb.4:12.
- **Promises about protection from the Evil One**
 - But The Lord is Faithful and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one (2 Thess.3:3) 2 Tim.4:18; Col.1:13; Col.2:15; 1 John 5:18; Rom.8:38,39; Ps.91:9-13; Heb.2:14-15
- **Promises about His presence**
 - And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age (Matt.28:20) Isa.43:5; James 4:8; John 14:15-16; Matt.18:20; Ps.23:4; Heb.13:5
- **Promises about Spiritual growth**
 - Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus (Phil.1:6) John 17:18-19; 2 Pet.1:3-4; 2 Cor.3:18; 1 Cor.1:8; Eph.3:17-19; Phil.1:9-10
- **Promises about Spiritual gifts**
 - God's gifts and His call are irrevocable (Rom.11:29) Rom.12:5-8
- **Promises about the Truth**
 - When the Counsellor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about Me (John 15:26) John 8:31-32; John 16:3; Eph.5:9
- **Promises about the Love of God**
 - But God demonstrates His own Love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Rom.5:8) Jer.31:3; Isa.54:10; 1 John 4: 9-10; John 15:9; 1 John 3:1
- **Promises about joy**
 - I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete (John 15:11) Ps.16:11; Rom.14:17; Isa.55:12; Isa.35:10
- **Promises about the Peace of God**
 - But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed (Isa.53:5) John 14:27; Rom.5:1; Phil.4:7 Rom.5:22
- **Promises about the Hope of the Christian**
 - For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope (Rom.15:4) Col.1:27; 1 Pet.1:3; Heb.6:18-19; Rom.5:2; Rom.15:13
- **Promises about eternal Life**
 - For God so loved the World that He gave His One and Only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal Life (John 3:16) 1 John 2:25; Rom.6:23; John 10:27-28; John 5:24; 1 John 5:11-13
- **Promises about the Second Coming of Christ**
 - In my Father's House are many rooms; if it were not so I would have told you. I am

going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you I will Come Back and take you to be with Me (John 14:2-3) John 14:28; Acts 1:11; 1 Thess.4:16-17; Col.3:4; Heb.9:28; Rev.1:7

- **Promises about Heaven**

- I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of Heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud Voice from the Throne saying: "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He will live with them. They will be His people and God Himself will be with them and be their God (Rev.21:2-3) 1 Pet.1:4-5; 2 Pet.1:10-11; 2 Pet.3:13; Luke 23:43

- **God promises power**

- He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak (Isa.40:29) Ps.29:11; Isa.26:4; Neh.8:10; Eph.6:10; Phil.4:13; Isa.58:11

- **We can trust in God**

- Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared (Prov.3:25-26) Prov.14:26; Isa.30:15; 1 John 3:21; 1John 5:14-15

- **God promises wisdom**

- To the man who please Him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness (Eccl.2:26) Prov.2:6-7; Prov.9:10; Job 12:13; Dan.2:20-22; 1 Cor.1:30;

- **The Lord will teach us**

- He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them His Way. All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful for those who keep the demands of His covenant (Ps.25:8-10) Ps.25:12-14; Ps.32:8; 2 Tim.3:16-17; Prov.15:33

- **The Lord will guide us**

- Whether you turn to the right or to the left your ears will hear a Voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it" (Isa.30:21) Ps.48:14; Ps.23:1,3; Ps.139:9-10

- **The Lord will make us prosperous**

- Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight. (Prov.3:5-6) Jos.1:8; 2 Chron.20:20; Prov.16:3; 2 Cor.3:5b; 1 Chron.22:12-13

- **God will comfort us**

- Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted (Matt.5:4) 2 Cor.1:3-4; 2 Thess.2:16-17; Isa.49:13; John 14:18

- **God will give us the desires of our heart**

- May He give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed (Ps.20:4) Ps.21:2; Prov.10:24; Ps.103:4-5; Mark 11:24

- **Promises about the family of the believer**

- The Lord blesses the house of the righteous (Prov.3:33) Prov.12:7; Deut.12:28; Isa.54:13; Ps.112:1-3; Prov.22:6; Ps.128:1,3; Deut.4:40; Eph.6:2-3

- **Promises about health and healing**

- By His wounds we are healed (Isa.53:5c) Jer.30:17; Deut. 7:12,15; Ps.91:5-6,10; 3 John 1:2; Jer.33:6; Ex.15:25-26; Ps.103:3; Mal.4:2; 1 Pet.2:24; James 5:13-14,16; Matt.8:16-17
- **Promises about the protection of God**
 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe (Prov.18:10) 1 Sam.2:9; Ps.125: 1-2; Ps.91:3-4,11-12; Ps.34:19-20; Ps.121:1-8; Prov.29:25
- **Promises about practical/physical needs**
 - And my God will meet all your needs according to His Glorious Riches in Christ Jesus (Phil.4:19) Matt.6:25-26,31-33; Deut.28:1,11,12; Luke 12:30-31; Deut.29:9; Ps.111:5; Isa.1:19; Zech.10:1; Lev.26:3-5
- **Promises for times of fear and doubt**
 - So do not fear for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with My Righteous Right Hand (Isa.41:10) Isa.41:13; Isa.43:1; 2 Tim.1:7; Luke 12:6-7; 1 John 4:18; Rom.4:21; Ps.112:7; Isa.58:9
- **Promises for times of depression**
 - Why are you downcast O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him my Saviour and my God (Ps.43:5) Ps.73:26; Ps.37:23-24; Ps.34:4-7; Isa.49:15; Heb.13:5
- **Promises in times of failure and helplessness**
 - Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; Trust also in Me (John 14:1) Isa.61:1-3; Ps.147:3; Rom.8:28; Isa.41:13; 2 Cor.12:9; Rom.8:26; Heb.13:6; 1 John 4:4
- **Promises in times of anxiety**
 - If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith...Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself (Matt.6:30,34) Phil.4:6-7; Luke 12:25-26; 1 Pet.5:6-7; Gal.5:1; Matt.11:28-30.
- **Promises in time of temptation and demonic attacks**
 - No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is Faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it (1 Cor.10:13) 2 Pet.2:7-9; Heb.4:14-16; 1 Thess.5:22-24; James 4:7; Gal.1:3-4; Rom.16:20; John 16:33; 1 John 4:4
- **Promises in suffering, difficulties and attacks from people**
 - The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; He is their stronghold in time of trouble. The Lord helps them and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them because they take refuge in Him (Ps.37:39-40) James 1:12; Rom.5:3; 1 Pet.1:4-7; Jer.15:21; Ps.27:1-2; 1 Pet.3:9; Rom.8:31; Ex.14:13-14; Matt.5:10-12; Luke 21:12-15; Rev.2:10
- **God gives power for His service**
 - This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit" says the Lord Almighty (Zech.4:6) Acts.1:8; Isa.40:31; Eph.6:13; Phil.2:13; Eph.3:16; Col.1:11

- **Promises about financial and material provision**

- Consider the ravens; They do not sow or reap, they have no store room or barn yet God feeds them and how much more valuable you are than birds! (Luke 12:24) Phil.4:19; Luke 11:9; Ps.84:11-12; Matt.6:32: Ps.37:3,25; Luke 12:30-31; Luke 6:38