

Jesus and His Promises

Acts 2:36-41

Longer passages are not quoted in the study sheet, but they can be read in the accompanying transcript.

If I could stand on the highest hill and speak with the loudest voice, I would say, “God _____ His promises!” Today, we’re considering Jesus and His promises. A promise is only as _____ as the one who makes it and his ability to keep it. We love it when someone keeps a promise; but we’re unhappy when someone _____ a promise. You’ve probably suffered the heartache of a _____ promise, or you may have made a promise to someone and found that you couldn’t keep your _____. Those things disappoint all of us. People may be well intentioned, but we’re all _____ and forgetful. God, however, isn’t weak or forgetful; He _____ His promises. God is faithful, loyal, and trustworthy. You can _____ on Him. Moses explained, “God is not a man, that He should _____, Nor a son of man, that He should _____; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?” (Numbers 23:19). Moses went through lots of struggles in His life, but He never _____ _____ on God to keep His promises.

In the New Testament, the apostle Paul faced afflictions, struggles, conflicts, and even death; but he said about God, “He who calls you is _____; he will surely do it” (1 Thessalonians 5:24). He didn’t doubt, but he said, “But as God is faithful, our word to you is not yes and no. For the Son of God, Christ Jesus, who was preached among you by us—by me and Silvanus and Timothy—was not yes and no, but is yes in Him. For as many as may be the promises of God, in Him” (that is, Christ), “they are yes; wherefore also by Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us” (2 Corinthians 1:18-20).

Our reading today comes from words of Peter on the Day of Pentecost when he’s preaching to the Jews in Acts 2:36-41.

Joshua is one of my favorite characters in the Bible. The Scripture always speaks _____ of him, and he was a courageous and faithful leader in Israel. Joshua lived through the ten plagues; he crossed the Red Sea on dry ground; he led Israel into battle; he ascended Mount Sinai with Moses; he spied out the _____ land and gave a good report with Caleb; he stood beside Moses in all the wanderings; and he led the people into the promised land. He fought until the Israelites had conquered all the _____ that was promised to Abraham.

When he was an old man, he called all Israel together, and he said, “Now behold, today I am going the way of all the earth, and you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not _____ word of all the good words which the LORD your God spoke concerning you has failed; all have been fulfilled for you, not one of them has _____” (Joshua 23:14). Here is a man who saw God in _____ for many decades of his life, even when things seemed nearly

impossible! Yet he never wavered in his _____ that God would keep every promise!

We can trust God to keep His promises for many _____. First, God is all _____; and nothing is impossible for Him. God can _____ do things that you and I cannot do. Job said, “I know that you” (speaking about God) “can do all things, and that no _____ of yours can be thwarted” (Job 42:2). Jeremiah 32:17 says, ““Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too _____ for you.” I am reminded of Ephesians 3:20-21, which says “Now to him who is _____ to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the _____ at work within us, to him be glory in the _____ and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” Yes, God can and will _____ His promises!

Second, God loves us and _____ for us, His people. We only need to look at the _____ to know how much the Lord loves us. First John 4:10 says, “In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and _____ His Son to be the propitiation” (the atoning sacrifice) “for our sins.” God sacrificed His Son—and I tell you that this is no small or easy gift. Paul explained, “He who did not _____ His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?” (Romans 8:32). God is not _____ with His love and care for you and me!

Third, He is the God who cannot _____ (Titus 1:2). **Read how Hebrews describes the very character of God when He makes promises – Hebrews 6:17-18.** God’s _____ guarantees His oaths and promises. You can count on God!

So... let’s think about some promises that we have in Christ. It matters greatly whether we’re _____ Christ or _____ of Him. God’s promises are for those who love Him and _____ Him. First, Jesus promises those who love, believe, and obey Him to _____ their sins. Hebrews 8:12 says, “For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will _____ their sins no more.” Forgiveness is such a great blessing. Second Corinthians 5:19 says, “in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not remembering their trespasses against them.” When God forgives, He makes friends with us and no longer holds our sins against us.

When the guilty people at Pentecost asked what they _____ to do, Peter said to them, “Repent and be _____ every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the _____ is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself” (Acts 2:38). Ananias told Saul of Tarsus, “And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and _____ away your sins, calling on His name” (Acts 22:16). The atoning _____ of Jesus Christ will wash away our sins when we repent and are baptized. God promised it and God will do it! When we _____ God’s conditions, God keeps His promises.

A Christian will sometimes find himself still committing sins and still in _____ of forgiveness. First John 1:7 says to the Christian, “But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son _____ us

from all sin.” Cleansing comes to Christians who _____ in the light. John continues, “If we _____ our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). We must be _____ with God about our sins and confess them. God then responds by cleansing us from _____ unrighteousness—every sin. Jesus also stands by Christians with the Father. Christ doesn’t _____ us to sin, but He knows our weaknesses. **Read what John wrote in 1 John 2:1-2.** Oh, I’m thankful the Lord Jesus “always lives to make intercession” for me.

Fourth, Jesus promises that God will take _____ of us. The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 6:31-33, “Do not _____ then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father _____ that you need all these things. But seek _____ His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” If we’ll put God first, He’ll _____ our needs. David wrote in Psalm 37:25, “I have been young and now I am old, Yet I have not seen the righteous _____ Or his descendants begging bread.” Paul said, “And my God will supply _____ your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19). Hebrews 13:5 reminds us, “Make sure that your character is _____ from the love of money, being _____ with what you have; for He Himself has said, ‘I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you.’” God will take care of us.

Fifth, God promises to listen to our _____. **Read what the Lord Jesus said in Matthew 7:7-11.** God knows what we need even _____ we ask. He will indeed _____ our prayers!

Even in times of great stress and difficulty, we can _____ out to God. While he was bound with chains as a _____ and in danger of death, Paul wrote, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Let your _____ spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your _____ be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:4-7). When we call out to God, He _____ us! He’ll set a guard around our hearts and minds to give us that _____ that passes all understanding. Oh, that’s a powerful reason to rejoice!

Sixth, God’s _____ will never leave us. Romans 8:35-39 says, “Who shall _____ us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are _____ than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to _____ us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” No matter what has happened to you there’s never been one _____ when the Lord God didn’t love you. We can say with Peter, cast “all your anxieties on Him, because He

_____ for you” (1 Peter 5:7).

Seventh, Jesus will not give us more than we can _____. The Lord Jesus said, “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you _____. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30). The Lord gives us a livable _____ and a bearable _____. Christianity is not an impossible religion. You can live the Christian life and you can go to _____. Some people imagine God has no interest in saving them, but that’s simply not true. God wants all men to be _____ and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:3-4). God takes no delight in people losing their _____.

Last, Jesus has prepared a _____ for you. Jesus knew that when He died He would _____ to be with the Father who sent Him, according to John 7:33 and chapter 16:10. He promised, “Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s _____ are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you, for I go to _____ a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and _____ you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:1-3). We have _____ of eternal life and of living with God in heaven forever.

Ephesians 2:4-7 says, “But God, being rich in _____, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were _____ in our transgressions, made us _____ together with Christ (by grace you have been saved) and _____ us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing _____ of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.” God wants to save you and bring you home to heaven so He might _____ you for all eternity. This is our hope! What a marvelous promise!

The question for many of us is not whether God is faithful to us but whether we’re going to be faithful and _____ to Him. Many who start out strong in faith and attend church regularly grow _____ and fall away. They stop reading the Bible, praying, attending worship, giving to God, being kind to others, and avoiding sin. They meant to do right but _____ away from God. Hebrews 2:1-3 says, “Therefore we must pay much closer _____ to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For since the message declared by angels proved to be _____, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we _____ such a great salvation?” My friend, are you right with God?

God will forgive and redeem you only after you first place your _____ in Jesus Christ as the Son of God; second, _____ of your sins and follow the Lord; third, _____ your faith; and fourth, be _____ into Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Being baptized into Christ takes place when we’re immersed in water, and that means we’re baptized into His _____, and His blood washes us _____ from sin and gives us newness of life.