

# GOD'S

# PROMISES

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The promises of God make it easy to receive what has been provided in Christ Jesus. They also represent the Blood of Jesus Christ and His death. After Jesus' resurrection, He said that *"all power and authority had been given Him in Heaven and on earth."* And Paul tells us in Colossians 1:16,17— *"All things were created by him, and for Him; And He is before all things, by him all things consist."*

These promises tell us the conditions, the means, and ways by which we may obtain the deliverances and blessings we need; and just what steps to take. They are God's sign boards pointing us to our great Treasury in Heaven, for all we need spiritually, physically, financially, and all things; they are most valuable.

Peter tells us they are exceeding, great, and precious, which is the general form of their condition. These promises were given that we might first be partakers of the divine nature and it is no use to try to get any other part of our inheritance until we are first partakers the divine nature.

2 Peter 1:4, *"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."*

It is the divine nature in us that enables us to use the promises, which pertain to every part of our inheritance. One who has not the divine nature cannot see their inheritance, let alone receive it; they cannot understand anything about it. The divine nature must

come in to open our eyes to see our inheritance and also to strengthen us to stand against Satan to receive it. No one can stand without this divine nature; they cannot get down and pray through as the doubts and fears of Satan will overwhelm them, and they will go down in defeat.

The professing Christian is defeated before he begins. If you ask them why they do not ask God for deliverance out of trouble, they say—"I don't have enough faith to do that." Satan has them discouraged and defeated before they start, because he tells them they do not have enough faith and are not good enough. They cannot see that they can be made partakers of the divine nature, which will enable them to believe God's Word and receive the blessings provided in Christ Jesus.

We are to stand strong against the wiles of the evil one. Paul said we are to be *"strong in the Lord and the power of His might"*, which is only possible after receiving the divine nature.

This places us in a position to use all the promises and apply them just as they are written. We must then confess and forsake our sins, as the Word directs us, and believe God for the pardon and cleansing, which He says He does for us when we ask.

1 John 1:9, *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

This is a free gift in Christ Jesus because the Word says after we confess, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins; He grants us a full pardon and a perfect cleansing; they have been paid for, they are ours. Because as Romans 8:18 tells us, we are also *"heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ."*

Romans 12:1-2, *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."*

The moment we really and truly place these lives into God's hands to stay there. God takes possession of them, and we can believe, on the authority of His Word, that we have become partakers of the divine nature. We must then apply the promise in Romans 6:11, that we

are—*"dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

We must take this position and maintain it. That is a great step of faith, and nothing will take its place and it must be an absolute surrender. We must settle it when we start out that nothing is going to stand between us and God's will; that must be settled. For we will not be in God's will long before we will have things to meet from friends or relatives; they will do all they can to get us to put them ahead of God. It may be a spouse or a child, a parent, or even an employer asking us to do something which would defile our conscience.

It could even be a law. There are laws passed in this day, which insist that you take your children to a medical facility, or for one to be vaccinated, which is directly from the Pit, directly opposite to God's will and Word. That plan is just like the law passed by Nebuchadnezzar concerning the worship of the golden image—not a bit of difference—although the results are more dangerous in this life.

These are some of the things we may have to meet in this consecrated life; we will have to meet the laws of the land or disobey God; we may be compelled to meet the authorities perhaps, and our life and liberty will be at stake. Unless we settle it right to go God's way, we will not get very far before we compromise.

There will come a time in our Christian life where our money will be involved, where we will be compelled to make a choice whether we will put God first when it comes to our possessions; where we will put God ahead of our loved ones, ahead of our comfort and peace and ease in life.

That must be settled right, if it seems to take our peace; if we never have our own way, or never have any money, God shall be FIRST in every part of our life; spiritually, physically, financially, and in every way. Then we will reach the very bottom, self will surely die, and we will have some real faith and grace to meet things in God's way.

If there is a spirit of compromise in our hearts, or a possibility of compromising, that will cause trouble at once; and it has caused every trouble we have ever had. Satan's power is completely broken, when God's will is absolutely accepted in every detail of our life. We may

not prove this all at once; but, if our surrender is wholehearted, God will bring us to the place where we will have a divine nature, which will not only enable us to meet things in God's way and use His promises in every circumstance of life, but will make us victorious over Satan in every decision.

There is nothing difficult about this matter; it is just an attitude of the will; it is not a matter of ability, nor a matter of knowledge, but simply a matter of choice; a final choice to give God His place in our lives.

Satan would love to picture this as a hardship, that God will ask us to do things we cannot do and ask us to be something we cannot be. All these things he pictures to us, and they seem so real. We must keep our eyes close to God's Word, or we will believe everything he says.

However, we will prove just exactly the opposite—that Heaven begins here, instead of hardship—when the matter is settled right; that neither friend nor foe, neither men nor demons, neither relative or money is going to stand between us and the will of God. When this decision is made, we will prove that *“His yoke is easy and His burden is light.”*

There are two promises which tell us how to keep in this kind of life; the first is found in Philippians 4:6-7, *“Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God, And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

Instead of worrying about spiritual, physical, or temporal matters, past or future, we are to tell God all about them. We will never live a successful Christian life until we obey this Scripture. I do not think anyone has any difficulty in obeying the Scripture—*“Thou shalt not steal.”*

Why is it we have no difficulty in obeying that Scripture? Because we are firmly convinced, beyond all shadow of doubt, that it is wrong, that thieves are not pleasing to God. That if we would steal, we would go to the lake of fire. It is just as great a disobedience to worry as it is to steal; because worry is the foundation of all trouble which comes into a Christian's life.

Job was on the worry side; he had rest, and the *strangest* of things happened to him—trouble came.

(Job 3: 25,26) *“For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me. I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came.”*

Job did not have this Bible, which teaches us that worry is the beginning of all trouble; it is the beginning of everything Satan ever does to us. We worry about our spiritual condition, about our physical condition, about our financial affairs, and about many things. *Worry is just opposite to faith; worry is unbelief in action.*

The more the worry, the greater the unbelief. You get heavy-hearted and more discouraged and shortly you are ready to give up everything. To worry is just as much disobedience to God as stealing. God cannot help a soul who remains in this state, who persists in worrying; we must come to the place where we will obey Philippians 4:6,7, which is the only cure for worry.

The moment we find ourselves worrying about anything, the only cure is to tell God all about it; confess that worry to God, because it is a very serious thing; our union with Jesus Christ, our divine nature, our affiliation with the divine nature hinges right there.

Philippians 4:6-7, *“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

Our troubles and difficulties are to be made known unto God alone; we are to tell Him everything about the trouble, just what the condition and circumstance is. Victory comes when worry is laid aside, but that must come first.

*“And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

The peace of God is the divine nature, something which is real, something beyond understanding, through Jesus Christ. In reality it means a union with Jesus Christ; He is to stand between us and every worry. Satan tries very hard to get us to worry, and the moment we do we disobey God. Worry and the peace of God cannot exist together; the moment we take thought for tomorrow and worry about the past, or the future, we are not trusting God and are not resting in peace in the present, which God desires us to do.

We are to lay all these difficulties, troubles, and worries before God, with all our heart and claim His peace. As we do this, we will have a victorious Christian life every day; we will be able to use these promises as each circumstance arises.

The second general principle is that any battle or trouble we are in; we are never to seek a way of escape ourselves. Worry is a way of escape, a working of the flesh, a self-effort, and proves that self has not died. Worry is how the flesh tries to make a way of escape out of trouble, thinks it is better and easier and instead it makes it harder, which is only natural. We are to resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren.

1 Peter 5:8-9, *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”*

*“Whom resist steadfast in the faith,”*—The great danger in our growth and development in Christian life, comes when we get into a real battle, or a hard place and we start to make a way of escape for ourselves.

We do not have to do our own planning and worrying; God will attend to all that for us. For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; that is the divine nature—and all these things shall be added, unto you. We should let this truth sink deep into our hearts and really get hold of it that it may be an inspiration to our faith.

That is God's Word to us, and it means spiritually, physically, in our home-life, and in every part of our life.



[www.fcqchurch.org](http://www.fcqchurch.org)

PO Box 24283

Philadelphia, PA 19120

[info@fcqchurch.org](mailto:info@fcqchurch.org)

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