



## Standing On The Rock 4 – So Many Individual Promises

### Review:

“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.” **Matthew 7:24-27**

1. We have taught:
  - a. The Word and sanctification, conquering sin.
  - b. The Word and prayer.
  - c. The Word and good works toward men.
  - d. The Word and obedience toward God.
2. We will cover other remaining areas of the purpose of God’s Word.

### A. Before Time God Planned And Wrote Answers To Our Problems

“Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them. How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; when I awake, I am still with You. Oh, that You would slay the wicked, O God! Depart from me, therefore, you bloodthirsty men.” **Psalm 139:16-19**

1. God made plans for you while you were in your mother’s womb.
2. God also made plans for you before the foundation of the world.

“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

**1 Corinthians 10:13**

3. God made plans for you into eternity.
4. Any problem that comes your way, you can handle. God will not allow more to come than you can handle.

“Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.” **Romans 8:30**

## **B. The Definition Of God's Promises**

1. They are His will toward His people to bestow good and remove evil.
2. Each promise reveals God's love and desire to deliver you from evil.  
"Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." **2 Corinthians 7:1**  
"By which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." **2 Peter 1:4**
3. The promises do not make up the entire Word. The rest is warnings, testimonies, instructions, and revelations of the future.
4. There are two types of promises:
  - a. Conditional (requires obedience).
  - b. Unconditional (a gift).
5. Three parts to God's promises:
  - a. God's purpose in making the promise.
  - b. Making known that purpose to us.
  - c. Then the fulfilling of the promise.

## **C. The Purpose Of A Promise Is For Our Peace And Rest**

"But without a parable He did not speak to them. And when they were alone, He explained all things to His disciples. On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him. And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, 'Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?' " **Mark 4:34-38**

1. We too, like Jesus, can sleep through a storm on a promise.
2. Each promise is a pillow for us to rest on through a storm.

## **D. Faith In The Promises And Patience**

"And He said, 'The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how.' " **Mark 4:26-27**

1. The promises (except for new birth) are for believers only.  
"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." **2 Corinthians 1:20**
2. The children of God are called "children of promise" (**Romans 9:8**).
3. As sinners, we were separated from the promises of God.  
"That at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise..." **Ephesians 2:12**
4. The greatest promise we have is the promise of eternal life.  
"And this is the promise that He has promised us – eternal life." **1 John 2:25**

5. The promises need to be worked at (studied, believed, acted on).  
“...the soul of the diligent shall be made rich.” **Proverbs 13:4**  
“Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life...” **John 6:27**
6. We have been given the same Gospel and plan of salvation that was available throughout the Old Testament.  
“Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.” **Hebrews 4:1-2**
  - a. If there were no promises, there would be no faith.
  - b. God’s plans are worked out in our lives by the development of His promises.
  - c. Other parts of the Word build faith to mix with the promises.
7. God has provided the Old and New Testament promises for us.
  - a. Much of the Old Testament is not for the physical Jews only but can be applied to our lives today.
  - b. The Old Testament is for our example and instruction.
  - c. But we are not under the laws and customs given to Israel.
    - i. Animal sacrifices
    - ii. Dietary laws
    - iii. Feast and fast days
  - d. Yet many laws are for us and quoted in the New Testament.  
“I will never leave you nor forsake you.” (**Hebrews 13:5; Joshua 1:5**)  
“Love your neighbor as yourself.” (**James 2:8** – “royal law”; **Leviticus 19:18**)
8. Yet some of the Old Testament is for Israel only.
9. There are still many prophecies in the OT yet to be fulfilled.