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Promises from a Loving Father to His Children



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #81 ~

Life is not easy, and you know that. You have personal problems, job stresses, health issues, physical pain, relational conflicts, temptations, financial difficulties, pressures from the world, children to raise, trials, extreme trials, family disputes, church problems, concerns for others, the storms of life, and an adversary who hates you. Then you read this blog post about the end times, about birth pains, the Antichrist, persecution, and great difficulties in the days ahead, and you wonder how you are going to make it.

The answer is always God. As a Christian, you have the grace, power and strength of God; you have the love, kindness and mercy of Jesus Christ; and you have fellowship, a close relationship with the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 13:14). You have a church family and good friends. You

have a God-given future, His perfect plans for your life. You also have the promises of God, and this is what I want to talk about today. These promises are not just optional features, spiritual add-ons. They are essential – you need them so you can fully experience the glorious life God has for you.

God's promises are in His Word, and they are personal, from God to you. These promises bring God into the picture, into your life, and speak of what He will do for you. *"God has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them, you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust"* (2 Peter 1:4). Unbelievers lust after things that have no value, and are very harmful. But as a Christian, you are to trust God's promises, for they are a primary means by which you can receive what is truly good. They are His guarantee of His grace for you, for today, for the near future, and for the far-distant future. Promises give you hope, a hope in your heart, a confidence of God's gracious working in your life, in the church, in this age, and in the ages to come.

These promises help you to be holy, motivate you to do what is right, encourage you to endure, sustain you when you are tired, and enable you to get through the tough times of life. Hebrews 11 tells us that promises were one of the main ways the saints of old kept going for God. They believed what God said about His future plans for them. Consider Moses' example: *"By faith Moses... choosing rather to endure ill-treatment along with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, considering the reproaches of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward"* (Hebrews 11:24-26). It was God's promises that kept Moses going through that dangerous desert with those difficult Jews for those forty years. Psalm 136:16

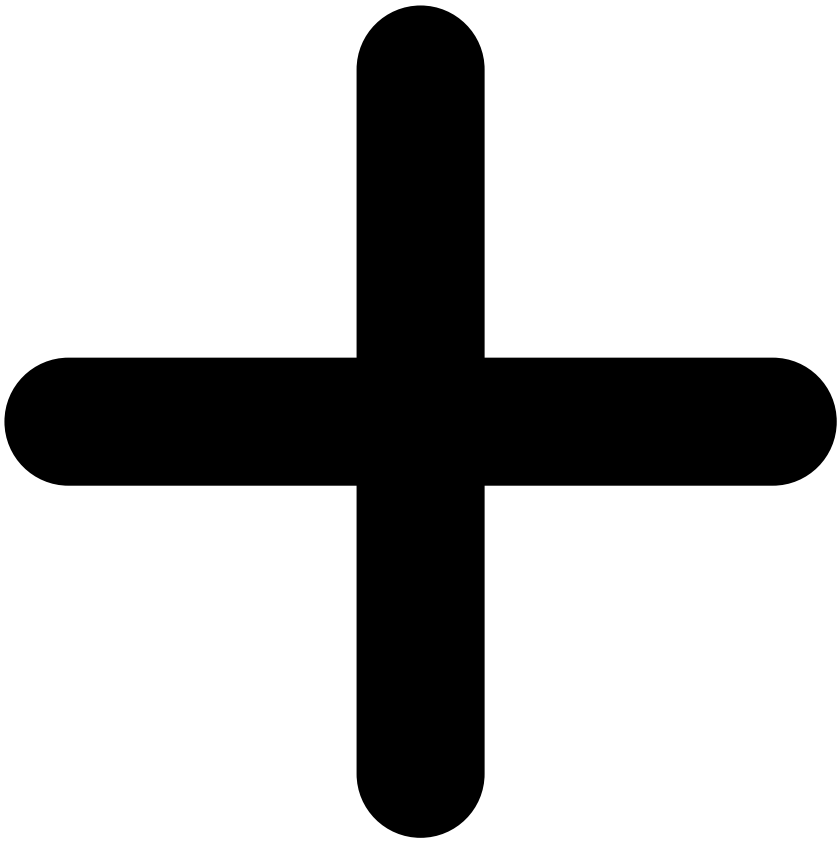
What are some of God's promises? **Psalm 32:8** – *"I will lead you in the way you should go. I will counsel you with My eye upon you."* **Isaiah 41:10** – *"Do not fear, for I am with you... I will strengthen you, surely I*

will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." **Romans 8:28** – *"We know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God."* **2 Corinthians 4:17** – *"Momentary light affliction is producing for you an eternal weight of glory."* **John 14:3** – *"I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may also be."* **Psalm 23:6** – *"Surely, goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."* **2 Timothy 4:18** – *"The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom."* **Philippians 4:19** – *"My God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."* **Psalm 27:5** – *"In the day of trouble, He will keep me safe in His dwelling."* **Matthew 11:28** – *"Come to Me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest."* **2 Corinthians 12:9** – *"My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness."* **Proverbs 3:5-6** – *"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."* **Proverbs 8:17** – *"I love those who love Me, and those who seek Me will find Me."* **Jude 24-25** – *"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory, blameless with great joy."* **Revelation 22:7** – *"Behold, I am coming soon!"* These are some of my favorite promises. Take these and find others, and get them in your head and in your heart. Believe them, and hang on to them, for they will help you to know God, and the love, joy, peace, and purpose that He has for you.

You can't live without God, and you can't live without His promises, these guarantees of God's grace for your life. In all things and at all times, they will stir up your spirit, and strengthen your soul. They will enable you to keep going, to keep fighting until you die or are raptured, and are with the Lord in heaven. Unlike men, God will not fail you or forget you. He will be faithful to keep all His promises. **1 Corinthians 1:8** – *"He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

P.S. An article that directly relates to this post is "You Have to Have

Hope,” for without God’s promises you can’t have hope. As you probably know, I love lists of verses, and my all-time favorite one is found in the article, “Encouraging Verses that Express the Love, Grace and Peace of God.” This last article contains over 100 different truths and promises that, I guarantee you, will help you live the life God has for you.



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