

The Promises of God

A Lesson Presented to

The Old Union Baptist Ministers' School

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by

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Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 53

Text: Isaiah 53:12 *Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.*

I. Before the Beginning

The first promise mentioned in scripture were made by God the Father to his only begotten Son who has stood as *the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world* (Revelation 13:8). *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life* (John 3:16). In this Covenant of Redemption there were requirements that the Father placed on the Son and promises that the Son was to receive of the Father.

A. Requirements placed on and accepted by the Son, the Surety of the covenant and the Head of His people.

1. He must be born of a woman, assuming the human nature with its infirmities but without sin. He had to be a member of the human race to serve as their representative.

Gal 4:4 *But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,*

Gal 4:5 *To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.*

Heb 4:15 *For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

2. He who was far greater than the law had to place Himself under the law. This so He could pay the penalty for sin and to gain everlasting life for those given to Him by His Father.

Mat 5:17 *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.*

Mat 5:18 *For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*

Php 2:6 *Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:*

Php 2:7 *But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:*

Php 2:8 *And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*

3. Having gained the forgiveness of sin and eternal life for His people, through the operation of the Holy Spirit He was to renew their lives. This would consecrate their lives to God, which He claims as His.
Joh 17:19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.
Joh 17:20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;
Joh 17:21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.
Joh 17:22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

B. Promises to the Son from the Father.

1. The Father would provide His Son an appropriate body that was uncontaminated by sin.
Luk 1:35 And answering, the angel said to her, The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you, and for this reason that Holy One being born of you will be called Son of God.
Heb 10:5 For this reason, coming into the world, He says, "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but You prepared a body for Me.
Heb 10:6 You did not delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices concerning sins."
2. The Father would give Him the necessary gifts and graces to fulfill the promises he made; especially power to fulfill His Messianic offices by providing the Holy Spirit without measure. This was visibly fulfilled at His baptism.
Isa 42:1 Behold My Servant; I will uphold Him; My Elect in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit on Him; He shall bring forth justice to the nations.
Isa 42:2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause His voice to be heard in the street.
Isa 42:3 A bruised reed He shall not break, and a smoking wick He shall not quench; He shall bring forth justice to truth.
Isa 42:4 He shall not fail nor be crushed until He has set justice in the earth; and the coasts shall wait for His Law.
Isa 42:5 So says Jehovah God, creating the heavens and stretching them out; spreading out the earth and its offspring, giving breath to the people on it, and spirit to those walking in it.
Isa 42:6 I, Jehovah, have called You in righteousness, and will hold Your hand, and will keep You, and give You for a covenant of the people, for a Light of the nations;
Isa 42:7 to open blind eyes, to lead out the prisoner from the prison; those who sit in darkness from the prison.

Isa 61:1 *The Spirit of the Lord Jehovah is on Me, because Jehovah has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the meek. He has sent Me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to captives, and complete opening to the bound ones;*

Isa 61:2 *to proclaim the acceptable year of Jehovah, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;*

Isa 61:3 *to appoint to those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of the spirit of infirmity, so that one calls them trees of righteousness, the planting of Jehovah, in order to beautify Himself.*

3. The Father promised to support Him in the performance of His work. He would: (a) deliver Him from the power of death; (b) enable Him to destroy Satan; and, (c) enable Him to establish the Kingdom of God, See Isa 42:1-7 in I, B,2.

4. The Father will allow Him to send the Holy Spirit to empower His Church; to instruct it, to guide it, to protect it.

Joh 14:26 *but the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things and shall remind you of all things that I said to you.*

Joh 15:26 *And when the Comforter comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father, that One will witness concerning Me.*

Joh 16:13 *But when that One comes, the Spirit of Truth, He will guide you into all Truth, for He will not speak from Himself, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will announce the coming things to you.*

Joh 16:14 *That One will glorify Me, for He will receive from Mine and will announce to you.*

5. The Father promised Him great numbers of men. The Kingdom of the Messiah would eventually contain men from all nations and tongues.

Psa 72:17 *His name shall be forever; His name shall continue before the sun; and they shall bless themselves by Him; all nations shall call Him blessed.*

6. The Father would give Him all power in heaven and earth to rule the world and His Church.

Mat 28:18 *And coming up Jesus talked with them, saying, All authority in Heaven and on earth was given to Me.*

Php 2:9 *Because of this also God highly exalted Him and gave Him a name above every name,*

Php 2:10 *that at the name of Jesus "every knee should bow," of heavenly ones, and earthly ones, and ones under the earth,*

Php 2:11 *and "every tongue should confess" that Jesus Christ is "Lord," to the glory of God the Father.*

7. The Father would make Him Mediator, glorifying Him with the glory which He had before the world was.
Joh 17:5 And now Father, glorify Me with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the existence of the world.
- C. Christ claiming those promises.
Joh 17:4 I have glorified You on the earth. I finished the work that You gave Me to do.
Joh 17:5 And now Father, glorify Me with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the existence of the world.
 And the rest of John 17.

II. The Promises to Men

Only by claiming promises can men possess the riches of the covenant of God. Eternal life itself can only be obtained by “believing” the promises of God.

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Additionally, believers have an inexhaustible supply of wealth—the promises of God. The believer must learn to search out these promises to enrich himself with those treasures of heaven.

- A. The promises of God provided to the believer:
 1. All the weaponry (offensive and defensive) required to accomplish the mission that God has assigned (Eph 6):
 - 2, Every elixir that the faithful will need to maintain spiritual health and vitality in a sinful environment; these are supplied by the great Physician for His servants benefit, and have no undesirable “side effects:”
 3. A never-ending source of heavenly food (Joseph had great granaries full of food during the famine, the Ark contained a never rotting pot of manna; and the Master fed 5,000 men plus women and children with 5 loaves and 2 fishes);
 4. The absolute certainty of love and peace from God;
Rom 8:38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
Rom 8:39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord;
Eph 3:17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
Eph 3:18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
Eph 3:19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

5. Evidence of the magnificence of Our Lord; as holy men of old saw visions of the holiness of the God of heaven, so today the Holy Spirit reveals to believers the Son's glory.

Joh 16:14 *He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew unto you.*

B. Standing on the promises.

1. True religion is only substantiated with hope based on the promises of God. 1Co 15:19 *If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.*

2. This is the hope that maketh not ashamed.

Rom 5:1 *Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*

Rom 5:2 *By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

Rom 5:3 *And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;*

Rom 5:4 *And patience, experience; and experience, hope:*

Rom 5:5 *And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.*

C. Promises to those who overcome.

In Revelation 2, 3 Jesus instructs John to write specifically to each of the seven churches. These messages, specific to each church, end with promises to those that overcome.

1. Rev 2:7 *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.* (Ephesus)

That is access to Christ Himself.

2. Rev 2:11 *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.* (Smyrna)

Men may take your temporal life but your eternal life is secure.

Rev 20:14 *And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.*

Rev 20:15 *And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

3. Rev 2:17 *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.* (Pergamus)

The manna refers to the memorial pot of manna in the ark; the Bread of Life. Idolatrous feasts were used as a test of loyalty to the government. Pergamus' heretics were eating that meat offered to idols.

The white stone indicated God's approval and acceptance. Men may criticize and reject but intimate approval of God overcomes all of that.

4. Rev 2:26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

Rev 2:27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

Rev 2:28 And I will give him the morning star. (Thyatira)

This power is not punitive but corrective; not executive but instructive and declarative. The world will be judged according to how they received the Gospel preached to them by those who overcame.

1Co 6:2 *Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters?*

1Co 6:3 *Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?*

Peter and John—the Sanhedrin.

Paul—Gallio, Festus, Agrippa, and Nero.

Job and Peter—the Devil

The morning star points to coming of a glorious day.

5. Rev 3:5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. (Sardis)

They had not defied their garments. The personal holiness wrought in us by the Holy Spirit—regeneration and continual cleansing of sanctification.

Rev 19:8 *And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.*

(the marriage garment).

“I will in no wise blot out his name out of the book of life.”

The register of immortals. City citizenship could not be forfeited by infidelity to the city decided by a vote.

6. Rev 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. (Philadelphia)

The most imposing, ornamental, useful parts of the building were the pillars. Those who overcome will sit with Him in judgment.

7. Rev 3:21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

8. They that overcome shall inherit all things!
 Rev 21:1 *And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.*
 Rev 21:2 *And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*
 Rev 21:3 *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*
 Rev 21:4 *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*
 Rev 21:5 *And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.*
 Rev 21:6 *And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.*
 Rev 21:7 *He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.*
 Rev 21:8 *But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*

III. Seven Promises From a Departing Savior

- A. In John 14 the physically present Jesus began to prepare His disciples for His departure to return to heaven. This section concludes with Jesus' prayer for them in chapter 17.
- B. These seven promises are found in John 14:
 1. Future Home
 John 14:2--*In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*
 2. Future Reunion
 John 14:3--*And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*
 3. Future Achievements
 John 14:12--*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.*
 4. Future Resources
 John 14:13--*And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.*

5. Future Companionship

John 14:16--*And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;*

6. Future Legacy of Peace

John 14:27--*Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

7. Future Joy

John 14:28--*Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.*

C. The Lord's prayer.

Joh 17:1 *These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:*

Joh 17:20 *Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;*

Joh 17:21 *That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.*

IV. Final Promises

A. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise.

2Pe 3:3 *Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,*

2Pe 3:4 *And saying, Where is the **promise** of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.*

2Pe 3:5 *For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:*

2Pe 3:6 *Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:*

2Pe 3:7 *But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.*

2Pe 3:8 *But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.*

2Pe 3:9 *The Lord is not slack concerning his **promise**, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

2Pe 3:10 *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*

2Pe 3:11 *Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,*

2Pe 3:12 *Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?*

2Pe 3:13 *Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.*

B. Vengeance Promised

God prohibits men to take revenge, He reserves for Himself. But, He has promised not only vengeance upon those who reject His Son, but also upon those who persecute His children.

Rom 12:19 *Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.*

2Th 1:7 *And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,*

2Th 1:8 *In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:*

2Th 1:9 *Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;*

Rev 6:9 *And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:*

Rev 6:10 *And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?*

Rev 6:11 *And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.*