

MONDAY AUGUST 16

GOD'S GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES

2 Peter 1:4

I'm sure we have all given promises to others and we have in turn received promises. Of the hundreds of promises which are made, how many are kept? Unfortunately, people can be hurt by broken promises and broken promises lead to a lack of trust. One definition which the dictionary gives for the word promise is hopes; expectation, or that which afford expectation; that which is promised; fulfillment or grant of what is promised.

When we make or receive promises, there may not always be something required of us in return. Someone promises some material possession or giving of their time and we receive if it is carried out. Because of this and the fact promises aren't always kept, we often transfer these ideas over to God's promises and neither is correct. First of all, if God gives a promise, He absolutely 100% will carry it out...no doubt about it. He never has and never will break a promise. Therefore He is trustworthy. Second, God's promises are conditional in the fact that they usually require some act of obedience on our part. We do receive continual blessings from Him as long as we're walking continually in obedience to His Word.

God's precious promises which came through Jesus Christ have the sanctifying power to change us as we obey the conditional portion of each one. That is why Peter can say, "...so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desires." (2 Peter 1:4 HCSB)

In verse 3, Peter states that Christ's divine power has given us everything that is required for life and godliness. It is those promises that contain His power which in turn bring the nature and character of God into our lives.

Each of God's promises is a gift and they are not something we are able to obtain on our own. Therefore, we too should consider His promises precious and something of great worth while being grateful for them and what they can do in our lives. "For ever one of God's promises is "Yes" in Him. Therefore, the "Amen" is also (spoken) through Him by us for God's glory." (2 Corinthians 1:20 HCSB)