

Are You Standing On A Rock, Or Quicksand?

“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”, 2 Peter 1:4.

Which are you standing on – a rock, or quicksand? If you are standing on the Rock, you are standing on the promises of God. If you are standing on quicksand, you are relying on the promises of man.

The Merriam–Webster Dictionary defines a promise is: “A declaration that one will do or refrain from doing something specified...that gives the person to whom it is made a right to claim the performance or forbearance of a specified act”.

Some of God’s promises are made to just one particular family or person.

To Abraham and Sarah, God promised that Sarah would have a child. Isaac, a son of promise. “And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him“, Genesis 17:19.

To Elkanah and Hannah, God promised Hannah a son after she had poured her hearts out to the Lord. Samuel who was to anoint the first king in Israel. “And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.

Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him“1 Samuel 1:10 and 17.

To the Israelite Nation God Promised them their own land. “And the LORD your God, he shall expel them from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the LORD your God hath promised unto you“, Joshua 23:5

God, through so many of the Old Testament prophets had promised a Redeemer. Jesus came, and pronounced yet another Promise, “That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

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.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved”, John 3:15–17.

George Parsons of Middletown Bible Church is quoted as saying, “When God gives a command He says, “YOU WILL”; when God gives a promise He says, “I WILL”.

Not one man or woman in this world is exempt from believing that they can make a promise to themselves or another person without a guarantee.

Abraham and Sarah decided that they had everything necessary to sort the problem out.

As with most of men's ways, it did not work. What promises might have been made before the event, were certainly not seen after the event. It gave Abraham a son of lust, not a son of promise, and nothing good has come of it since that day, for Ishmael's descendants and Isaac's descendants have been warring ever since.

We, through a faith in the Promise of God have become reconciled to God. Jesus is a Son of Abraham through Abraham's grandson Judah. Jesus also said that those who do the will of His Father are His brothers and sisters. We, therefore, by faith in a promise are entitled to all the gifts God Promised to His Chosen Nation.

The writer of Hebrews wrote, "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee", Hebrews 13:5:

Normally they rarely say the first part of the verse, but it also happens to be the most important part if we wish to inherit the Promises of God, "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have..."