

# **57 – God's Promises and Mysteries**

- Everything God has done and will do for us is an undeserved gift. While we were still sinners, God sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for us (**Romans 5:8**). The most wonderful promise God has made to ALL of mankind is that if a person simply believes in his heart and confesses with his mouth that God Raised Jesus Christ from the dead, they will be saved (**Romans 10:9**). There are several other promises that God makes to believers listed below.
- From the beginning of time, God has kept certain things secret from particular generations and/or mankind as a whole. Almost all of these "mysteries" have been revealed to Christians in the New Testament and are listed below.



#### **Promises of God to Christians**

# Secure Salvation, Forgiveness of Sins, and Eternal Life

We will have everlasting life...God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, and anyone who believes in Him will not perish but will have everlasting life (John 3:16, 1st John 2:25, 5:13). Once we're a Christian, we can NEVER lose our salvation (John 6:37-40, 10:27-28). As Christians, we do still continue to sin and must therefore continually confess our sins and ask God to forgive us for them. God promises to always forgive us and to cleanse us from our unrighteousness (1st John 1:9).

#### He Will Supply all of Our Needs and Give Us Peace

God makes it very clear that He will supply all of our "needs"...This is not to be confused with all of our "wants" (Philippians 4:19). We are not to worry about our lives or about food or clothing because life is so much more when we let God lead us (Matthew 6:25). When we seek the kingdom of God, He makes sure that we have all of our earthly needs met accordingly (Matthew 6:31-34). We are not to be anxious or worry about things but instead we should pray and seek direction from God (Philippians 4:6-7). If we don't let our hearts be troubled, the peace of God will be given to us so that we may rest in God's strength and glory (John 14:27). God will give us wisdom liberally and without reproach if we ask (James 1:5).

#### **His Grace is Sufficient**

Grace is giving something to someone who doesn't deserve it. The magnitude of God's grace is beyond our comprehension. Not only are we saved by grace through faith (**Ephesians 2:8-9**) but God's grace is sufficient to cover all of our shortcomings (**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12:9**). We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ and through Him we also have access to this incredible grace by faith (**Romans 5:1-2**).

## **He Will Help Us Escape from Temptations**

Once we become Christians (justification), that doesn't mean our lives become perfect...In fact, it is much the opposite. God will put us through trials and tribulations in order to strengthen us and make us more like Jesus Christ (sanctification). God will always give us a route to escape any temptation that comes before us (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10:13). If we turn to God when we go through trials, He promises to comfort us and this will in turn give us the ability to comfort others as they go through trials (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1:3-4). We must remember that Jesus was tempted and suffered so He is able to aid us when we are tempted (Hebrews 2:18). James tells us that we should always consider it to be a joyful and good thing when we fall into diverse trials because it will make us patient and shows us God loves us (James 1:2-3). If we resist the Devil, he will flee (James 4:7-10).

#### All Things Work Together for Good for Those Who Love Him

This is an infinitely miraculous thing that is constantly occurring all around us. God is using both good and bad things, people, and events to work toward a good outcome for those who love Him (**Romans 8:28**). This is also true with respect to all individual Christians in that God has begun a good work in us and He will complete it one day (glorification) (**Philippians 1:6**). We need to rest in the work that Jesus did for us and not in our own works because His yoke is easy and His burden is light (**Matthew 11:28-30**). God's ways are not our ways (**Isaiah 55:8**).

# **He Will Return for Us**

When Jesus left the earth and was received into a cloud after commissioning the apostles, two angels noted that He would return in a "like manner" (Acts 1:11). There are two different encounters with Jesus that will take place in the future. The first will be the "Rapture" when all presently dead and living Christians will be called to meet Jesus in the clouds (1st Thessalonians 4:15-17, John 5:28-29). The second will be when Jesus returns to the earth on clouds and sets foot on the Mount of Olives in order to claim His kingdom (Revelation 1:17). He will reign on earth for a thousand years (Millennial Kingdom) (Revelation 20:4) and then the Great White Throne Judgement will take place for non-believers (Revelation 20:11-15).

## He Will Renew all Things and We Will Inherit Great Blessings

After the Great White Throne Judgement, all sin will be purged from the universe. God will destroy the current universe (heavens and earth) and create an all new and perfect heaven and earth (**Revelation 21:1-2**). God will wipe away all of our tears and there will be no more pain, death, sorrow, or crying (**Revelation 21:4**). We will inherit all of the incorruptible blessings that God has put in store for us throughout eternity (**Ephesians 1:3, 1**<sup>st</sup> **Peter 1:3-5**). These blessings will include rewards for our good works as well as gifts of grace (**John 14:1-3, 1**<sup>st</sup> **Corinthians 3:12-15**).

# **Revealed Mysteries of God in the New Testament**

A new revelation from God that had previously been kept secret (1st Corinthians 4:1)...

- 1) The mysteries of the kingdom of heaven/God hidden through parables. (Matthew 13:10-17, Mark 4:10-20, Luke 8:9-15)
- 2) The mystery of the partial blindness of Israel (Romans 11:25-36)
- 3) The mystery of Jesus dying for mankind's salvation, kept secret since the world began (Romans 16:25-27, Ephesians 3:1-13, 6:19, Colossians 1:24-29, 2:1-5, 4:2-6)
- 4) The mystery of the wisdom of God by the Holy Spirit (1st Corinthians 2:6-16)
- 5) The mystery that we won't all die "Rapture" (1st Corinthians 15:50-58)
- 6) The mystery of God's will to choose who He pleases for salvation (Ephesians 1:3-14)
- 7) The mystery of Christ and the Church as husband and wife (Ephesians 5:22-33)
- 8) The mystery of lawlessness and the anti-Christ (2nd Thessalonians 2:1-12)
- 9) The mystery of faith alone needed for salvation (1st Timothy 3:8-9)
- 10) The mystery of maintaining godliness for rewards (1st Timothy 3:16)
- 11) The mystery of the seven stars and golden lampstands (Revelation 1:20)
- 12) The end of all mysteries declared to God's servants and prophets (Revelation 10:7)
- 13) The mystery of Babylon the Great Harlot (Revelation 17:1-18)



