

Sermon: *The Promises*

Text: 2 Peter 1:3-4

Series: Graces & Gifts Part 3

- ❖ Col. 3:1-4

- ❖ My design is to make you partakers of my holiness (Hebrews 12:10). I will be a constant spring of spiritual life to you (Galatians 2:20; John 14:19, 8:12, 10:10). The water that I shall give you shall be in you as a well of water, springing up into everlasting life (John 4:14). The seed of life that I shall put into you shall be so fed and cherished, and maintained by my power, that it shall be immortal (1 John 3:9; 1 Peter 1:23; Colossians 2:19). The unction that you shall receive from the Holy One shall abide in you and teach you all things necessary for you; and as it has taught you, you shall abide in him (John 14:16-17; 1 John 2:20,27).

- ❖ My holiness shall be a fountain of grace to you (John 1:16; 2 Peter 1:3-4). I am the God of hope (Romans 15:13), the God of love (2 Corinthians 13:11), the God of patience (Romans 15:5), the Author and Finisher of faith (Hebrews 12:2), the God of all grace (1 Peter 5:10), and I will give grace to you (Psalm 84:11).

- ❖ Jer. 31:33-34 -"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

- ❖ **But do you really love us?**
You are my possession (Ps. 135:4), My portion & heritage (Deut. 32:9), My treasured ones (Ps. 83:3), the apple of my eye (Zech. 2:8), My Beloved (Ps. Ps. 108:6, 127:2), you are engraved on My hands (Is. 49:16)

- ❖ **I know you are faithful but how will I remain faithful?**
I am holding and upholding you with my right hand (Ps. 109:31, 73:23). My hand is the strongest and I will not let go (Jn. 10:29)

- ❖ **What if there is danger?**
I will shelter you (Ps. 27:5), My "name" protects you (Ps. 20:1)
- ❖ **How close will you be in my pain?**
I keep your tears in a bottle (Ps. 56:8), I know the hairs on your head (Matt. 10:30), Even if you descend as far as Sheol I will be there (Ps. 139:8).
- ❖ **What if I never fulfill what you ask? What if I ruin my life?**
My eye is upon you for good (Ps. 33:18), I work all things for good to those who love me (Rom. 8:28).
- ❖ **But the world looks so bad...**
Yet there is to come "Fullness of Peace" - Is. 11:6-7, 54:13, 33:20-21
"Multitudes of Converts" - Is. 60:7-8, 66:8, 49:18-22
"Subjection of Nations" - Dan. 2:44, 7:26-27, Is. 60:6-9, Rev. 11:15, Is. 60:12
- ❖ **What can I do?**
Keep the pipes open, and apply the means which I have prescribed, and you shall flourish in the courts of your God (Proverbs 8:34; Psalm 92:13). Yes, I will satisfy your soul in drought and make your bones fat, and you shall be like a watered garden. Lo, I will be as the dew unto you, and you shall grow as the lily and cast forth your roots as Lebanon. Your branches shall spread and your beauty shall be as the olive tree (Hosea 14:5-6).
- ❖ **I will enjoy you no matter what!**
Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation...
- ❖ **"And will you promise to help me enjoy you?"**
Yes! - I the Lord, am your strength; I make your feet like the deer's; I make you tread on my high places. (Hab. 3:17-19).