

"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 KJV*



When we think of something precious, we think of irreplaceable things. Love, loved ones, heirlooms, letters, gifts, and places all come to mind. We also think of gold, silver, diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds. I'm sure I've left out something. Precious things are one-of-a-kind, irreplaceable and priceless. The Apostle Peter uses three words to define God's promises, exceeding, great, and precious. Each word by itself is grand, but when added together they give us the infinite depth and scope of God's promises! First, they are exceeding – always increasing. Secondly, they are great. There is great, there is greater, and there is greatest, but God's promises are exceeding great – their greatness is beyond the mere standard of great. Thirdly, they are precious. One-of-a-kind, because they are the promises of the only true God. Irreplaceable, because they can forever be lost through unbelief, and are given by God only to His own. Priceless, because they cannot be earned or purchased – they are gifts from God. There is no promise more precious than a promise from God. There is no promise greater than a promise from God. No promise exceeds God's promises. The One who cannot lie has given us, not one, but many promises, in writing! "These things have I WRITTEN unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may KNOW that ye have Eternal Life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." What is more precious than immortality? I'm reminded of a chorus we used to often sing:

Ev'ry promise in the Book is mine;
Ev'ry chapter, ev'ry verse, ev'ry line;
All are Blessings of His Love Divine;
Ev'ry promise in the Book is mine. ~Pearl Spencer Smith

Children can be downright pesky when it comes to waiting. When a parent promises a child something, the child considers it as good as done, because they never doubt and eagerly anticipate the fulfillment of the promise. They do not do it well. Their excitement overrides their tact, and they will pester the daylights out of the promiser. Every five minutes they want to know, "Are we there, yet?" They believe so strongly in the promise they simply lose all patience. They literally sit on the edge of their seats, as if that somehow speeds up the process. The idea, "It might not happen!" never enters into the picture. Do you remember? Are we so full of the bitterness of men's broken promises that we let Satan's whispered reminders cause us to doubt God, also? We would have ever so much more joy in our lives if we would eagerly anticipate the fulfillment of the promises of Almighty Jehovah, considering them as good as done! Jesus said "A little while." Did your parents ever say that to you? Or, "Just a minute"? The length of time is relative to the parent, not the child. The Omnipotent has promised, "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." God is eternal. He deals in the chronology of events not the passage of time: Events will happen in His order not ours! We could learn some valuable lessons from children about trust. Anticipation is the essence of Trust! Do you anticipate God's promises, or do you watch with jaded eye for their fulfillment? "A double-mined man is unstable in all his ways. Let not

that man think he shall receive anything of the Lord.” Do you anticipate God’s Promises or have you abdicated them? When you doubt God, go out side and find a tree or a flower or a bird. “The heavens DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD; the firmament showeth His handiwork!” Then believe and doubt no more!

"[Abraham] staggered not at the Promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness." Romans 4:20-22 KJV

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