

Promise Preserved through Trials

Genesis 26

January 22, 2023 | Jason Finley, Lead Pastor for Equipping

BIG IDEA: Trust God's promises through trials.

I. Trials of need (vv. 1-5)

God promises His presence and provision.

Genesis 12:1-3 | 1 Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Psalm 34:9-10 | 9 Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack! 10 The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Galatians 3:13-14 | 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Romans 8:28 | And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

II. Trials of fear (vv. 6-11, 24)

God promises His protection.

Proverbs 29:25 | The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe.

"When Isaac stopped fearing God and putting obedience to God first, he started fearing everyone else. As long as he was fearing God, he had nothing to fear from any man or woman, and so he was free to go out and serve others with boldness."

- Iain M. Duguid

Psalm 34:8 | Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Psalm 56:3-4 | 3 When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. 4 In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

Genesis 15:1 | After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

Genesis 22:15-18 | 15 And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven 16 and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

III. Trials of friction (vv. 12-35)

God promises His peace.

Hebrews 11:9-10 | 9 By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Revelation 21:2-3 | 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

Romans 12:17-18 | 17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

John 16:33 | I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

Benediction

Psalm 34:8 | Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!