

WK4D3

Welcome to Gods Promise, I'm Dr. Kiley and I'm here to help you apply God's promise to your life.

This week we are looking at The Promises of God's Written Word. Yesterday we looked into God's Identity and how His character is the basis for the promise. Today we are going to look at My Identity and how the promise relates to our position as a child of God.

We as modern people search for an anchor by which to ride out the storms of our time, a chain by which to secure ourselves to something in this world that seems the most solid and immovable. These efforts at self-preservation and identity-seeking are noble but ill founded. The Bible teaches us that there is only one thing enduring enough to anchor the identity of humanity.

Read Job 14:1-2, *"Mortals, born of woman, are of few days and full of trouble. They spring up like flowers and wither away; like fleeting shadows, they do not endure."*

In the play Les Misérables, author Victor Hugo posed the questions, "Alas, who are we ourselves? Who am I and who are you? Whence do we come?" These and similar questions of identity occupy the thoughts of every human being. They surface in our minds because of the seeming vain and temporariness of life.

Job certainly had these examined the circumstances questions in mind as he of his life, "assisted" by his friends in the extended discourse of Job 3-37. His summary statement in 14:1-2 brings a sadness to the questions asked above. Because of Job's predicament, the questions of permanence linger for many readers of Job. What can we cling to in this ever-changing and unpredictable world?

The apostle Peter gives us the answer as he leads us to the one permanent, unchanging element of life and shows how it becomes the anchor of our identity (1 Peter 1:23-25). He first mentions the transitory nature of human glory by quoting Isaiah. "But," we might say to Peter (and to Isaiah and Job), not everything is as fleeting as the glory of humans. What about the pyramids and other man-made edifices that have survived for thousands of years? What about the mountains and valleys, carved out by glaciers hundreds of thousands of years ago?" But we know that even these seemingly permanent earthly fixtures will one day crumble before the plan of God.

Not so the Word of our God, which Peter says, "endures forever." And 1 Peter 1:23, it is by the Word of God that humans find answers for their questions of identity. For through that Word men and women are born again. Peter says God's Word is an imperishable seed, not a perishable one like those giving rise to grass and flowers. What the Word of God bears lasts forever!

So "Who am I and who are you?" If we are "born again ... through the living and enduring word of God," then our glory will last forever. It is true, "like a flower, human life comes forth and withers; it also flees like a shadow and does not remain." But those who are born again by the imperishable Word of God will themselves never perish; instead, they will have everlasting life.

**God's Promise: In His truth you will have identity forever.**