

The Abundant Life Series Session 3 – The Abundance of Promises

John 10:10 (KJV) – *The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly*

I. Introduction/Review

A. This passage reveals the nature of the enemy in contrast to the nature of God

B. Abundant – something more than – superabundant in quality and quantity – exceeding above – to the fullest measure – very highly beyond measure

C. Genesis 17:1 (KJV) – *And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, “**I am the almighty God**”; walk before me, and be thou perfect.*

El Shaddai = the all sufficient one – The God who is more than enough

D. The language used to describe God and what he does

E. Whatever God is doing, it is always more than enough

F. The Abundance of Grace

1. Grace is the entry point to the abundant life
2. Everything that we receive from God comes through Grace
3. Faith takes what Grace Makes

II. The Abundance of Promises

A. How many promises are there in the Bible?

1. It Depends on who you ask.
 - a. Bibleinfo.com – 3573

- b. Bible Q – The Bible is so full of promises that it is impossible to count them all. Some count as few as 3000 while others have counted 7000.
- c. The book, “All the Promises of God” claims a list of 8000 promises.
- d. Regardless of the specific number of promises we can all agree that there is an abundance of promises.
- e. There is a promise for every need that I have!
Spiritual, physical, mental, family, finances, home, peace, joy, warfare, needs, disasters, sickness, everything!

B. Why so many promises?

1. God works through covenant and covenant works through promises
2. A covenant is only as good as its promises

When we take communion, we are reminded of the covenant promises

3. The abundant life is to live the covenant life
The more than enough, blessed, favored life that God has made available to us only comes through the power of His covenant promises.
 - a. You must KNOW the promises
*You can never partake of what you don't know you have.
My people are destroyed for the lack of knowledge*
 - b. You must use your faith to receive what the promises declare is yours.
You can have an abundance of promises but until faith is mixed with the God's word, you can never experience the fruit of the promise for yourself.

C. Scriptures to Consider

1. **2 Peter 1:1-4 (KJV)** – *¹Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: ²**Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of***

Jesus our LORD, ³According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: ⁴Whereby 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.**

- a. **2 Peter 1:1-4 (NIV)** – Everything we need for a godly life – the godly life is the Abundant life – he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.
- b. **Corruption** – destruction – to shrivel or wither away – to be corrupted as to be destroyed or to perish
- c. Peter says through the knowledge of the great and precious promises we can escape this corruption that is in the world **CORRUPTION IS IN THE WORLD! At work all around us every day.**
 - 1) Jesus said the thief comes to steal, kill and to destroy but I have come that you might have the abundant life.
 - 2) The abundant life that Jesus spoke of would be in contrast to a life that is being destroyed or overtaken by corruption. CORRUPTION is the opposite of the Abundant Life.
 - 3) Peter states that by the precious promises of God we partake of the new/divine nature of God which allows us to ESCAPE corruption.
*While we live in a world that is filled with corruption there is an ESCAPE for the people of God!
That escape comes through a knowledge of the promises of God!*
 - 4) We have been taught the significance of being saved/new birth, but little teaching has been done on the power of the Word /Promises of God to release the Abundant life into your life.

I was saved for years, but until I discovered the power of the word/promises of God and faith I did not live the abundant life although it was available to me.

d. Exceeding, Great and Precious Promises – Superlative language
Peter could have said, “The Lord has given us his promises”

1) **Exceeding Great** = Superlative of great/ The greatest
Precious – Held in high esteem / of high value / valuable / of a high price / extremely valuable

2) Many who are born again are not experiencing the abundant life because they have never discovered the VALUE of God’s word/promises.

They do not esteem the Promises/Word of God!

A life without the word of God is a life without.

- Without Power
- Without Peace/Joy
- Without Healing/Health
- Without Victory
- A life overtaken by corruption
- Health devoured by corruption
- Mind devoured by corruption
- Family devoured by corruption
- This is not the plan of God
- This is not the abundant life

3) **Galations 6:8 (KJV)** – *For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.*

2. **Matthew 7:24-27 (NKJV)** – ²⁴*“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.²⁶“But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:²⁷and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”*

- a. This passage is written to Christian/Covenant people who are qualified to receive the Abundant life.
 - 1) Jesus is speaking to followers/ believers in him
 - 2) He is speaking on how the kingdom works and how the kingdom blessings are released into your life
 - 3) It is possible to be in the kingdom but live like you are not in kingdom. *Col 1 – we have been translated from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of His dear son.*
 - 4) *The key to living the kingdom life/the Abundant life is to found in the Word of God/Promises of God*
- b. Storms will Come
 - 1) This is a fallen world filled with corruption
 - 2) **1 John 5:19 (NKJV)** – *We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one*
1 John 5:19 (NIV) – *We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.*
- c. Storms do not affect everyone the same
 - 1) Those who are securely founded upon the promises of God will stand strong through the storm
 - 2) Those who are not securely founded upon the promises will fall – great is the fall – great destruction
 - 3) The choice is left to us!
 - Jesus says, I have given you my sayings
 - You have a choice to hear and follow my saying or to ignore them
 - Victory is in your hands!

III. Closing Thoughts: The Word of God Serves Two Major Purposes in the Life of the Believer. Pillars and Pillows

- A. Pillar** – A firm support – foundation – provides needed strength to stand.
1. The word of God is my foundation!
 2. When the Storm comes/my house stands because my foundation is strong
 3. My foundation is not on shifting sand but upon the solid rock of the Word of God.

4. **Hebrews 1:3 (KJV)** – *Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:*

God has power/ is power

God doesn't hold things together by his power but by the Word of his power! He sends HIS Word!

- a. When my life is built upon His Word/Promises, my life is built upon the Word of His power
- b. No Word of God is void of power
- c. Every Word of God is filled with power
- d. Power over storms, sickness, disease, pandemic, disasters, etc.
- e. **My Pillar** = *When there wasn't enough blood in my body to sustain strength or life – The WORD of HIS POWER took over and sustain me/ taking the place of the blood I needed*

B. Pillow – Pillows are for rest!

1. **Mark 4:38-41 (KJV)** – *³⁸And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? ³⁹And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? ⁴¹And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?*
2. **Mark 4:35 (KJV)** – *And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.*
3. **When you have the Word of God as your PILLAR you will be able to use the Word of God as your pillow**
 - a. Personal/The ambulance ride
 - b. REST/The Lord's Word to me.
 - c. Daniel

- d. **Peter in prison/asleep** when scheduled to be executed

John 21:18 (NIV) – *Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go."*

Peter was resting upon the pillow of the promise he had received.

C. An Abundance of Promises means I have an abundance of;

Strength/ Peace/ Joy/ Hope/ Health/ Breakthrough/ help/miracles/etc.

Extra Illustrations: Elisha's servant / There be more with us than with them / I pray that your eyes would be opened / Elisha knew according to the promises / The angels were encamped around him / 1000, would fall at his side