

# Principles of Prayer and Promises

Advanced Seminar

**“The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” Psalm 27:1.**

## PPP: Lesson 12:

Living by the Precious Promises

A Dozen Special Promises to learn.

1. **“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: Matthew 7:7.**
2. **“By the Word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. 9 For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.” Psalm 33:6, 9.**
3. **“If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?” Luke 11:13.**
4. **“.. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. John 16:23.**
5. **“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.” John 14:26.**
6. The A B Cs of Prayer are: A - Ask – **“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:” Matthew 7:7.** B - Believe – **“Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.” Mark 11:24.** C - Claim, Receive or, collect – **“And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.” Matthew 21:22.**
7. **“For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.” Romans 12:3.**
8. **“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.” James 1:5.**
9. **“Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,” Ephesians 3:20.**
10. **“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” James 5:16.**
11. **“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33.**

**12. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27.**

Important Bible facts:

1. Jesus is coming again. **"And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be." Revelation 22:12.**

2. He's coming for those whom He calls, 'Chosen', **"....and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful ."** Revelation 17:14. He is coming for the righteous and the holy. **"....he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And behold I come quickly and my reward is with me to give every man according as his work shall be." Revelation 22:11.** He is coming for those individuals because they won't sin any more. A man that is righteous is not sinning for **"all unrighteousness is sin."** 1 John 5:17.

3. They will have been chosen in a furnace of affliction. **"Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction."** Isaiah 48:10.

4. This is called, 'the time of trouble', or 'the time of Jacob's trouble'. **".... and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time;" Daniel 12:1.** **".... it is the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it."** Jeremiah 30:7.

5. Jacob was delivered out of his time of trouble because he learned the prayer of reception. **"Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed: and he divided the people that was with him, and the flocks, and herds, and the camels, into two bands; And said, If Esau come to the one company, and smite it, then the other company which is left shall escape. And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the LORD which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee: I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan; and now I am become two bands. Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children. And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude." "28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed."** Genesis 32:7-12, 28.

6. His time of trouble and deliverance represents the time of trouble and deliverance of the people of God in the last days. **". . it is the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it."** Jeremiah 30:7. People living just prior to the coming of the Lord will have gone through the tremendous refining process in a furnace of affliction. Notice that they will be saved out of it because they have learned the prayer of reception which Jacob learned and which guided him through his time of trouble. Jacob took God's immutable, eternal promise and in humility and utter selflessness, presented to God the promise that He had made.

Jacob said, "Lord, you promised me You would stick by me when I left home. When I slept on that pillow of stone and You showed me that ladder extending from heaven to earth, again You assured me that you would go with me and see me through. Lord, You told me You would not

forsake me, but promised me that my seed would be as the stars of the heavens, and You promised me I would be able to return home.”

This is how Jacob succeeded. He did not merely pray a prayer of penitence in declaring his unworthiness, but he prayed a prayer of reception by which he asked God to do something he believed God would do because He had promised, and then he returned thanks to God that He had done it! This is the prayer of reception: returning thanks to God for receiving the thing that God has promised. How important that we stretch our faith to include this miracle of prayer. Jacob didn't stand before God at the end of that night of wrestling when the angel said, "Let me go, for the day breaketh..." and say, "... if it is Your will to bless me, then bless me..." That would have been a prayer of commitment.

Christians today have completely missed the mark as far as the prayer of reception is concerned. They have confused it with the prayer of commitment. Jacob needed more than the prayer of commitment that night, he needed power and victory. He needed a new life! He must have it or else perish! Tenaciously he clung to the Mighty Deliverer and cried from the depths of his soul in agony, **"I will not let Thee go, except Thou bless me."** In other words he said, "I will not let Thee go except Thou give to me the thing You have promised me and for which You have come."

God said, "Let me go..." Jacob held on. Again he cried, "I cannot let Thee go.... You must give that for which You have come .... I want it, Lord." "Alright", God said, "no longer are you Jacob. From here on you are Israel. You're a prince; you're a victor. You have found deliverance. You have received what you have asked for."

7. These people will stop sinning for they have learned the philosophy of **1 John 3:9, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God."**

Jesus came to take our place and while here on earth, He had no enabling power to use to resist sin and temptation that we do not have available to us. They use the formula for victory that Jesus used, the power of the Word of God; hiding the Word of God in the heart. It is a new experience, **"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." 1 Peter 1:23. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17.**

They have read texts like **John 15:3, "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."** They have read promises like **2 Peter 1:4, "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."**

Deliverance is promised to those who have learned the philosophy of accepting the life of Jesus Christ in His word, and receiving Him in His word. They will pass through the time of trouble victoriously, triumphantly!

These people have learned the viewpoint of **1 John 3:9. "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God."**

God's life is in His Word, and when they let the Holy Spirit plant that Word, and hold and retain that Word, and feel it, they will have stopped sinning, because God's immutable, eternal word declares they will be holy still. I want to belong to that group! I determine to belong to that group! I believe I CAN belong to that group. I believe we all can belong to this group.

7. The result: They will be like Jesus Christ Himself. **"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." 1 John 3:1-3.** God Himself will declare that they are without fault. **"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy," Jude 24.**

Think of it - God will present us faultless! God Himself looks upon His children in the last great day when He comes for them and Jesus presents them to the Father and says, "Father, here they are. There's not one fault in them.

I feel like singing the song: "Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marching in". Don't you? When we can say, "Lord, I plan to be in that number when the saints go marching in.... or "Lord, You promised to help me, and because You promised, I know I am going to be in that number..." Then I won't fail.

Bible Facts About Faith:

1. Jesus is coming for those who have faith. **"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. Revelation 14:12.**
2. God is pleased with people who have faith, and displeased with those who don't. **"But without faith it is impossible to please God: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Hebrews 11:6.**
3. Faith comes by my observing God through nature. **"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:" Romans 1:20, 21.**
4. Faith increases by bringing it into contact with God's word. **"So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17.**
5. God has given every soul a measure of faith. **"God hath dealt to every man a measure of faith." Romans 12:3.** It is our privilege to increase that measure of faith. This pleases God.
6. To get answers from God, we must mix our faith with His words. **"Let us therefore fear, lest a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: (the children of Israel) but the word preached did not profit, not being mixed with faith." Hebrews 4:1, 2.**
7. Someday, if we so chose, each one of us can be among those who say; **"And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation. Isaiah 25:9.**