

A Scriptural Study On God's Promises

God Has Made Promises To You



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The Promise

Promises To Abraham

Acts 7:4 (NIV) "So he left the land of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. After the death of his father, God sent him to this land where you are now living.

Acts 7:5 (NIV) He gave him no inheritance here, not even a foot of ground. But God promised him that he and his descendants after him would possess the land, even though at that time Abraham had no child.

Acts 7:17 (NIV) "As the time drew near for God to fulfill His promise to Abraham, the number of our people in Egypt greatly increased.

Rom 4:13 (NIV) It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.

Rom 4:14 (NIV) For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless,

Rom 4:15 (NIV) because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

Rom 4:16 (NIV) Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring--not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.

Rom 4:17 (NIV) As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in Whom he believed--the God Who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.

Rom 4:18 (NIV) Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

Rom 4:19 (NIV) Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead--since he was about a hundred years old--and that Sarah's womb was also dead.

Rom 4:20 (NIV) Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God,

Rom 4:21 (NIV) being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

Rom 4:22 (NIV) This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness."

Rom 4:23 (NIV) The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone,

Rom 4:24 (NIV) but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness--for us who believe in Him Who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

Rom 9:6 (NIV) It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.

Rom 9:7 (NIV) Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."

Rom 9:8 (NIV) In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.

Rom 9:9 (NIV) For this was how the promise was stated: "At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son."

Rom 15:8 (NIV) For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs

Rom 15:9 (NIV) so that the Gentiles may glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: "Therefore I will praise You among the Gentiles; I will sing hymns to Your name."

Rom 15:10 (NIV) Again, it says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people."

Rom 15:11 (NIV) And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to Him, all you peoples."

Rom 15:12 (NIV) And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, One Who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in Him."

Rom 15:13 (NIV) May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

2 Cor 1:20 (NIV) For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through Him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.

2 Cor 1:21 (NIV) Now it is God Who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us,

2 Cor 1:22 (NIV) set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

2 Cor 6:14 (NIV) Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

2 Cor 6:15 (NIV) What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?

2 Cor 6:16 (NIV) What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."

2 Cor 6:17 (NIV) "Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you."

2 Cor 6:18 (NIV) "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

2 Cor 7:1 (NIV) Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

Gal 3:15 (NIV) Brothers, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case.

Gal 3:16 (NIV) The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, Who is Christ.

Gal 3:17 (NIV) What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise.

Gal 3:18 (NIV) For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on a promise; but God in His grace gave it to Abraham through a promise.

Gal 3:19 (NIV) What, then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to Whom the promise referred had come. The law was put into effect through angels by a mediator.

Gal 3:20 (NIV) A mediator, however, does not represent just one party; but God is one.

Gal 3:21 (NIV) Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law.

Gal 3:22 (NIV) But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

Gal 3:23 (NIV) Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed.

Gal 3:24 (NIV) So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith.

Gal 3:25 (NIV) Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.

Gal 3:26 (NIV) You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus,

Gal 3:27 (NIV) for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Gal 3:28 (NIV) There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gal 3:29 (NIV) If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Gal 4:21 (NIV) Tell me, you who want to be under the law, are you not aware of what the law says?

Gal 4:22 (NIV) For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman.

Gal 4:23 (NIV) His son by the slave woman was born in the ordinary way; but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a promise.

Gal 4:24 (NIV) These things may be taken figuratively, for the women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar.

Gal 4:25 (NIV) Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children.

Gal 4:26 (NIV) But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother.

Gal 4:27 (NIV) For it is written: "Be glad, O barren woman, who bears no children; break forth and cry aloud, you who have no labor pains; because more are the children of the desolate woman than of her who has a husband."

Gal 4:28 (NIV) Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise.

Heb 6:10 (NIV) God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them.

Heb 6:11 (NIV) We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure.

Heb 6:12 (NIV) We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Heb 6:13 (NIV) When God made His promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for Him to swear by, He swore by Himself,

Heb 6:14 (NIV) saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants."

Heb 6:15 (NIV) And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised.

Heb 6:16 (NIV) Men swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument.

Heb 6:17 (NIV) Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of His purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, He confirmed it with an oath.

Heb 6:18 (NIV) God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged.

Heb 8:1 (NIV) The point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, Who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,

Heb 8:2 (NIV) and Who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by man.

Heb 8:3 (NIV) Every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices, and so it was necessary for this One also to have something to offer.

Heb 8:4 (NIV) If He were on earth, He would not be a priest, for there are already men who offer the gifts prescribed by the law.

Heb 8:5 (NIV) They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."

Heb 8:6 (NIV) But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which He is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.

Heb 8:7 (NIV) For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another.

Heb 8:8 (NIV) But God found fault with the people and said : "The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.

Heb 8:9 (NIV) It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not remain faithful to My covenant, and I turned away from them, declares the Lord.

Heb 8:10 (NIV) This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put My laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be My people.

Heb 8:11 (NIV) No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

Heb 8:12 (NIV) For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

Heb 8:13 (NIV) By calling this covenant "new," He has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear.

Heb 9:1 (NIV) Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary.

Heb 9:2 (NIV) A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand, the table and the consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place.

Heb 9:3 (NIV) Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place,

Heb 9:4 (NIV) which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant.

Heb 9:5 (NIV) Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now.

Heb 9:6 (NIV) When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry.

Heb 9:7 (NIV) But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.

Heb 9:8 (NIV) The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still standing.

Heb 9:9 (NIV) This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper.

Heb 9:10 (NIV) They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings--external regulations applying until the time of the new order.

Heb 9:11 (NIV) When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, He went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation.

Heb 9:12 (NIV) He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His Own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.

Heb 9:13 (NIV) The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean.

Heb 9:14 (NIV) How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Heb 9:15 (NIV) For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance--now that He has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

Heb 10:19 (NIV) Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus,

Heb 10:20 (NIV) by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His body,

Heb 10:21 (NIV) and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

Heb 10:22 (NIV) let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

Heb 10:23 (NIV) Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He Who promised is faithful.

Heb 10:24 (NIV) And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

Heb 11:8 (NIV) By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

Heb 11:9 (NIV) By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

Heb 11:10 (NIV) For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

Heb 11:11 (NIV) By faith Abraham, even though he was past age--and Sarah herself was barren--was enabled to become a father because he considered Him faithful Who had made the promise.

Heb 11:12 (NIV) And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

Heb 11:13 (NIV) All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth.

Heb 11:14 (NIV) People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.

Heb 11:15 (NIV) If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.

Heb 11:16 (NIV) Instead, they were longing for a better country--a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

Heb 11:17 (NIV) By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son,

Heb 11:18 (NIV) even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."

Heb 11:19 (NIV) Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.

Heb 11:39 (NIV) These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised.

Heb 11:40 (NIV) God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Promise Of The Holy Spirit

Luke 24:48 (NIV) You are witnesses of these things.

Luke 24:49 (NIV) I am going to send you what My Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Luke 24:50 (NIV) When He had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands and blessed them.

Luke 24:51 (NIV) While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.

Acts 1:4 (NIV) On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about.

Acts 1:5 (NIV) For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2:32 (NIV) God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.

Acts 2:33 (NIV) Exalted to the right hand of God, He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.

Acts 2:38 (NIV) Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:39 (NIV) The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Gal 3:13 (NIV) Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

Gal 3:14 (NIV) He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Eph 1:3 (NIV) Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Eph 1:4 (NIV) For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love

Eph 1:5 (NIV) He predestined us to be adopted as His sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will--

Eph 1:6 (NIV) to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the One He loves.

Eph 1:7 (NIV) In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

Eph 1:8 (NIV) that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

Eph 1:9 (NIV) And He made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ,

Eph 1:10 (NIV) to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment--to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

Eph 1:11 (NIV) In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of Him Who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will,

Eph 1:12 (NIV) in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of His glory.

Eph 1:13 (NIV) And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

Eph 1:14 (NIV) Who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of His glory.

Eph 2:11 (NIV) Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)--

Eph 2:12 (NIV) remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

Eph 2:13 (NIV) But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Eph 3:6 (NIV) This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

1 Tim 4:8 (NIV) For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

2 Tim 1:1 (NIV) Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

The Promised Messiah

Acts 13:22 (NIV) After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.'

Acts 13:23 (NIV) "From this man's descendants God has brought to Israel the Savior Jesus, as He promised.

Acts 13:32 (NIV) "We tell you the good news: What God promised our fathers

Acts 13:33 (NIV) He has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm: "'You are My Son; today I have become Your Father.'

Acts 13:34 (NIV) The fact that God raised Him from the dead, never to decay, is stated in these words: "'I will give You the holy and sure blessings promised to David.'

Acts 13:35 (NIV) So it is stated elsewhere: "'You will not let your Holy One see decay.'

Acts 13:36 (NIV) "For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers and his body decayed.

Acts 13:37 (NIV) But the One Whom God raised from the dead did not see decay.

Acts 13:38 (NIV) "Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.

Rom 1:1 (NIV) Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God--

Rom 1:2 (NIV) the gospel He promised beforehand through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures

Rom 1:3 (NIV) regarding His Son, Who as to His human nature was a descendant of David,

Rom 1:4 (NIV) and Who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

Titus 1:1 (NIV) Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness--

Titus 1:2 (NIV) a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, Who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time,

Titus 1:3 (NIV) and at His appointed season He brought His word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior,

The Promised Return Of Christ

Acts 3:19 (NIV) Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

Acts 3:20 (NIV) and that He may send the Christ, Who has been appointed for you--even Jesus.

Acts 3:21 (NIV) He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as He promised long ago through His holy prophets.

Heb 10:32 (NIV) Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you stood your ground in a great contest in the face of suffering.

Heb 10:33 (NIV) Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated.

Heb 10:34 (NIV) You sympathized with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.

Heb 10:35 (NIV) So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.

Heb 10:36 (NIV) You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised.

Heb 10:37 (NIV) For in just a very little while, "He Who is coming will come and will not delay.

Heb 12:25 (NIV) See to it that you do not refuse Him Who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from Him Who warns us from heaven?

Heb 12:26 (NIV) At that time His voice shook the earth, but now He has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens."

Heb 12:27 (NIV) The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken--that is, created things--so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

Heb 12:28 (NIV) Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that CANNOT BE SHAKEN, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,

Heb 12:29 (NIV) for our "God is a consuming fire."

Heb 13:1 (NIV) Keep on loving each other as brothers.

James 1:12 (NIV) Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.

James 2:5 (NIV) Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom He promised those who love Him?

2 Pet 1:2 (NIV) Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the KNOWLEDGE of God and of Jesus our Lord.

2 Pet 1:3 (NIV) <u>His divine power</u> has given us everything we need for life and godliness <u>through our knowledge of Him</u> Who called us <u>by His Own glory and goodness</u>.

2 Pet 1:4 (NIV) THROUGH THESE He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that THROUGH THEM you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world <u>caused by evil desires</u>.

"Through these" is talking about "His Own glory and goodness. "Through them" is talking about "His very great and precious promises." So, we have:

Through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, grace and peace [becomes ours] **in abundance** and through this **knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord** we ALSO get **His divine power** [that then gives] **us everything we need for life and godliness.**

God has **called us by His Own glory and goodness** and through **His Own glory and goodness He has given us His very great and precious promises**, **so that through His very great and precious promises we may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.**

2 Pet 1:5 (NIV) For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge;

"For this very reason" is talking about the fact that all the above benefits come **through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.`** Since that is true, we need to **make every effort** to add the things listed below these words. **"Make every effort"** is talking about wanting, studying, praying, believing, loving, and taking faith-action.

"Make every effort to add to your" is then going to give us a list of things to want, pray for, believe for, let love influence, and take faith-action on. **"Add to your faith"** means that we have to start out with faith. We have to "want" in faith, study in faith, pray in faith, believe through faith, love through faith, and take action through faith.

Through the fruit of the Spirit we get most of the characteristics listed in 2 Peter 1:5-7. **Gal 5:22-23 (NIV) But the fruit of the Spirit is <u>love</u>, joy, peace, patience, <u>kindness</u>, <u>goodness</u>, faithfulness, gentleness and <u>self-control</u>. Against such things there is no law.** We have underlined those things listed in both places.

2 Pet 1:5 (NIV) For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith <u>goodness</u>; and to goodness, knowledge;

Faith and goodness set the foundation for those things we learn from God. **1 Cor 8:1-3 (NIV) Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that we all possess knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. The man who thinks he knows something does not yet know as he ought to know. But the man who loves God is known by God.**

Our faith has to be in God and He has to set us on the road to goodness before we are ready for knowledge. Otherwise we either get the wrong knowledge or we get prideful about the right knowledge.

Faith: Heb 11:1 (NIV) Now faith is <u>being sure</u> of what we hope for and <u>certain</u> of what we do not see. It is a power from God that makes us sure and certain about something. Jesus speaks a truth into our life and it CREATES a knowledge in us that it is true. When He speaks a truth into us, we KNOW and are sure that it is a FACT. **Heb 12:2a (NIV) Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, <u>the Author and Perfecter of our faith</u>.**

Rom 10:17 (NIV) Consequently, <u>faith comes from HEARING</u> the message, and the message is heard through the WORD of Christ.

When Jesus speaks a WORD into us, we know something is true that we didn't know before. This assurance, knowing for sure, confidence, and being convinced is a power that opens the door to all the blessings and provisions of God.
So, when we hear the Bible presented to us, read it ourselves, do studies on it, do devotions with it, a WORD of faith can be HEARD in our spirit. That WORD from Jesus will CREATE faith in our heart and mind. That faith will then empower us to believe that, that truth is true and real for us. Once that happens, we can apply Matthew 7:7-11 and the American King James Version of Mark 11:24 (see below).

The New International Version (NIV) leaves out the word "desire."

Mark 11:24 (NIV) Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

So, we have used the American King James Version to address the issues of "want" or desire presented in Romans 7:15-25.

Add to your faith goodness: We can't just believe anything we want and expect God to do it for us. This verse is telling us to use our faith for goodness.

Mark 11:24 (AKJV) Therefore I say unto you, What things soever you DESIRE, when you PRAY, BELIEVE that you receive them, and you shall HAVE them.

What things soever you DESIRE: This would seem to indicate that all we have to do is desire something, pray for it, and get it. However, that would put us into a control that could destroy us, other people, and God's plan.

What God has set up is a process of reading and studying the Bible so as to create the right kind of desire in us. A Biblically based desire is vital to this first step set in Mark 11:24. If our desire is located inside the will and plan of God, then we are ready for step two.

When you PRAY: The next thing we do is pray; this fulfills Matthew 7:7-11 of asking, seeking, and knocking. Since we are desiring those things the Bible tells us to want, we are praying for the right thing. Now we are ready for step three.

BELIEVE that you receive them: The third thing we do is **believe that** [we] **receive** [it]. Human faith can try to believe anything. Faith from Jesus is a WORD spoken into our heart that is according to God's will and plan. Unless Jesus speaks a WORD of faith into us, we CAN'T believe we have received something.

And you shall HAVE them: If we have desired, prayed for, and believed we have received the right thing, [we] **shall have** [it]. That is the fourth set; if we get it, we have taken all the right steps.

Add to your faith goodness: This is something the Bible gives us permission to desire, pray for, then believe we received it, and then act on the basis of the fact that we have it.

We would pray something like this, Jesus, I am asking You to speak creative faith into my heart for goodness. I am asking for this faith so I can believe I have received it and then have it. Thank You very much for hearing and answering my prayer.

A similar prayer like this helps us fulfill Matthew 7:7-11 of asking, seeking, and knocking. And it helps us fulfill Mark 11:24 of desiring, praying, believing, and having. They, in turn, help us add **goodness** to our **faith**.

Goodness: This is the word that represents all that God has set out as being beneficial for us, other people, and His plan. The Bible lays out what is good and what is bad. Goodness is the title for all those things in the Bible that God says are good for us, others, and His plan. Now we are ready to apply Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 to adding **knowledge** to our **goodness**.

Knowledge: This is the information provided by God; there is a lot of information that isn't from God. True knowledge is what faith and goodness provide us. If we first have the faith that comes through Jesus, Who is the Author and Perfecter of our faith (Heb 12:2), then we will be ready for goodness. Once we have goodness flowing from the Holy Spirit into our heart,

mind, and life, we will be open to GOD'S knowledge; all GOOD knowledge flows through Him. Now we are ready to apply Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 to adding **self-control** to our **knowledge**.

2 Pet 1:6 (NIV) and to knowledge, <u>self-control</u>; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;

Self-control: This isn't self controlling self; this is God bringing us under a control so we are able to yield to the Holy Spirit's control. He gives us control over our body so we can **put to death the misdeeds of the body (Rom 8:13).** Self-control is us controlling our body by means of the power of the Holy Spirit. **Rom 8:13b-14 (NIV) if <u>by the Spirit</u> YOU put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are <u>led by the Spirit of God</u> are sons of God.** Now we are ready to apply Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 to adding **perseverance** to our **self-control**.

Perseverance: Gal 6:9 (NIV) Let us not become weary in doing good, for <u>at the proper time</u> we will reap a harvest <u>if we do not give up</u>. This has to do with our will; we decide whether or not we pray for God's perseverance. We decide whether or not we believe God has given us the power to stick with it. We decide whether or not we will take faith-action on the basis of the fact that we believe God has empowered us to stick with it. We persevere when we pray for it, believe God gave it to us, and take faith-action on the fact that it is ready to live out. Now we are ready to apply Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 to adding **godliness** to our **perseverance**.

Godliness: This is perfect righteousness; righteousness is to do what is good for us, other people, and God's plan. It is also the avoidance of what is bad for us, other people, and God's plan. Godliness is righteousness that God has and is wanting to be in the continual process of working into our thoughts, feelings, words, and deeds. Now we are ready to apply Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 to adding **brotherly kindness** to our **godliness**.

2 Pet 1:7 (NIV) and to godliness, brotherly <u>kindness</u>; and to brotherly kindness, <u>love</u>.

Brotherly kindness: This is the words and actions that flow out of Godliness. As the good thoughts and feelings flow from God into our heart and mind, we grow in Godliness. As we grow in Godliness, it starts to flow through our words and deeds as brotherly kindness. Jesus helps us believe for and receive Godliness into our thoughts and emotions. Then we desire, pray for, believe we received it, and have it. Once that has happened, Godliness is ready to start influencing our words and deeds by creating brotherly kindness. Now we are ready to apply Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 to adding **love** to our **brotherly kindness**.

Love: This one isn't added by praying for it; we already have the love of God poured into our heart by the Holy Spirit (Rom 5:5). It is added to our brotherly kindness by us praying for

being empowered to YIELD to it. It is in us; but, we struggle with allowing it do its job. The way we apply Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 so we can add **love** to our **brotherly kindness** is, we ask God to help us yield to it.

2 Pet 1:8 (NIV) For if you possess these qualities <u>in increasing measure</u>, they will keep you from being <u>ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ</u>.

Applying Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 to **"these qualities"** isn't a one time procedure. It is a matter of applying Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 to them on a continuous basis so we will be getting them **in increasing measure.**

As Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 help us **possess these qualities <u>in increasing measure</u>, they will keep** [us] **from being <u>ineffective and unproductive in</u>** [our] **<u>knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ</u>.** That means we will be effective and productive in living the victorious Christian life.

2 Pet 1:9 (NIV) But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.

The importance of having **"these qualities <u>in increasing measure</u>"** is they keep us from being **nearsighted and blind** and they keep us from forgetting **"that** [we have] **been cleansed from** [our] **past sins.**

2 Pet 1:10 (NIV) Therefore, my brothers, <u>be all the more eager</u> to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall,

Be all the more eager: Matthew 7:7-11 and Mark 11:24 (AKJV) give us the steps to getting more eagerness. 2 Peter 1:10 is giving us the permission to desire eagerness for making our **calling and election sure.**

We can't get into the full aspects of **calling and election** in any great detail right now. Simply stated, our call was when our Father drew us into being able to understand spiritual things. The election is God picking, selecting, or electing all those who accept Jesus as their Savior, Lord, and King. So, **calling and election** are summed up in the experience of salvation.

Be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. In other words, we need to be all the more eager to make our salvation sure. **For if** [we] **do these things,** [we] **will never fall.**

These things: This is talking about all those things listed in 2 Peter 1:5-7. **If** [we] **do these things,** [we] **will never fall.**

2 Pet 1:11 (NIV) and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

And [we] **will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

2 Pet 3:8 (NIV) But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

2 Pet 3:9 (NIV) The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2 Pet 3:10 (NIV) But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

2 Pet 3:11 (NIV) Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives

2 Pet 3:12 (NIV) as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

2 Pet 3:13 (NIV) But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

2 Pet 3:14 (NIV) So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, MAKE EVERY EFFORT to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him.

1 John 2:24 (NIV) See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. IF IT DOES, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.

1 John 2:25 (NIV) And this is what He promised us--even eternal life.

1 John 2:26 (NIV) I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray.

The Promised Rest

Heb 3:7 (NIV) So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear His voice,

Heb 3:8 (NIV) do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert,

Heb 3:9 (NIV) where your fathers tested and tried Me and for forty years saw what I did.

Heb 3:10 (NIV) That is why I was angry with that generation, and I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known My ways.'

Heb 3:11 (NIV) So I declared on oath in My anger, 'They shall never enter My rest.'"

Heb 3:12 (NIV) See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.

Heb 3:13 (NIV) But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

Heb 3:14 (NIV) We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.

Heb 3:15 (NIV) As has just been said: "Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion."

Heb 3:16 (NIV) Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt?

Heb 3:17 (NIV) And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the desert?

Heb 3:18 (NIV) And to whom did God swear that they would never enter His rest if not to those who disobeyed?

Heb 3:19 (NIV) So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.

Heb 4:1 (NIV) Therefore, since the promise of entering His rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it.

Heb 4:2 (NIV) For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith.

Heb 4:3 (NIV) Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, "So I declared on oath in My anger, 'They shall never enter My rest.'" And yet His work has been finished since the creation of the world.

Heb 4:4 (NIV) For somewhere He has spoken about the seventh day in these words: "And on the seventh day God rested from all His work."

Heb 4:5 (NIV) And again in the passage above He says, "They shall never enter My rest."

Heb 4:6 (NIV) It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience.

Heb 4:7 (NIV) Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later He spoke through David, as was said before: "Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts."

Heb 4:8 (NIV) For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day.

Heb 4:9 (NIV) There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God;

Heb 4:10 (NIV) for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from His.

Heb 4:11 (NIV) Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience.

Heb 4:12 (NIV) For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.