

SERIES: “MEET THE GOD WHO LOVES YOU”

5: “LOVE IS A PROMISE”

HOSEA 3:1-5

INTRODUCTION

IN THE UNITED STATES, A DIVORCE IS GRANTED EVERY 26 SECONDS, AND NEARLY 60% OF ALL REMARRIAGES END IN DIVORCE.

DIVORCES ARE GRANTED FOR ALL KINDS OF REASONS, BUT THE MOST COMMON RATIONALIZATION FOR WHY MARRIAGES END IS, “WE JUST DON’T LOVE EACH OTHER AS WE ONCE DID.”

AS A SOCIETY, WE HAVE COME TO BELIEVE THAT WHEN THE ROMANTIC FEELINGS OF LOVE HAVE COOLED, THE RELATIONSHIP IS NO LONGER VALID.

ILLUSTRATION

AUTHOR THORNTON WILDER GIVES US A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE. HE WRITES:

“I MARRIED YOU BECAUSE YOU GAVE ME A PROMISE. THAT PROMISE MADE UP FOR YOUR FAULTS. AND THE PROMISE I GAVE YOU MADE UP FOR MY FAULTS. TWO IMPERFECT PEOPLE GOT MARRIED, AND IT WAS THE PROMISE THAT MADE THE MARRIAGE. AND WHEN OUR CHILDREN WERE GROWING UP, IT WASN’T A HOUSE THAT PROTECTED THEM; AND IT WASN’T OUR LOVE THAT PROTECTED THEM, IT WAS THAT PROMISE.”

WILDER UNDERSTOOD THAT RELATIONSHIPS ARE BUILT UPON A PROMISE, NOT A PASSION. SHOULD THE PASSION DIE, RELATIONSHIPS CAN CONTINUE BECAUSE OF THE PROMISE.

THAT IS WHAT HOSEA IS ALL ABOUT. WHEN WE PICK UP THE STORY IN CHAPTER THREE, GOMER HAS HIT ROCK BOTTOM.

SHE HAS BEEN TRANSPORTED FROM THE “EXCITING” WORLD OF ADULTERY INTO THE LIVING HELL OF PROSTITUTION.

SHE IS SOLD ON THE OPEN MARKET OF THE SEX TRADE LIKE A PIECE OF COMMON STOCK.

HOSEA HAS EVERY LEGAL AND MORAL RIGHT TO DIVORCE HER, AND UNDER GOD’S LAW, TO HAVE HER KILLED.

BUT HOSEA IS NOT ABOUT LAW, BUT IN LOVE, HOSEA DOES THE UNTHINKABLE.

FOLLOWING GOD’S INSTRUCTIONS, HE GOES TO THE SLAVE MARKET, PURCHASES THIS WOMEN WITH WHOM HE EXCHANGED WEDDING VOWS, TAKES HER HOME, AND SAYS TO HER, “I WILL BE FOR THEE.”

I AM CERTAIN THAT HOSEA DIDN’T “FEEL” MUCH AFFECTION FOR GOMER AT THAT MOMENT,

HOW COULD HE? SHE HAD WRECKED HIS HOME AND PUBLICLY SHAMED AND HUMILIATED HIM.

YET, IN OBEDIENCE TO THE LORD, HE WAS ABLE TO “LOVE HER YET.” [VERSE 1].

WHAT WE LEAN FROM THIS IS THAT LOVE IS NOT ABOUT PASSION, BUT ABOUT A PROMISE.

IT IS NOT SOMETHING WE FEEL, BUT SOMETHING WE DO NO MATTER HOW WE FEEL.

IT IS A COMMITMENT THAT MUST ENDURE THE INCONSISTENCY OF HUMAN EMOTIONS.

IT MUST WITHSTAND INSENSITIVITY, NEGLECT AND BETRAYAL.

IT MUST WEATHER CHANGES IN PERSONALITY, BEHAVIOR AND PHYSICAL ATTRACTION. THAT KIND OF LOVE CAN LAST A LIFE TIME.

I. LOVE IS A PROMISE THAT “ENDURES”. “*THEN SAID THE LORD UNTO ME, GO YET, LOVE A WOMAN BELOVED OF HER FRIEND, YET AN ADULTERESS, ACCORDING TO THE LOVE OF THE LORD TOWARD THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, WHO LOOK TO OTHER gods, AND LOVE FLAGONS OF WINE.*” [VERSE 1]

(A). LET US LOOK AT THE TIMING OF GOD’S COMMAND TO HOSEA.

(1). THE WORD “THEN” REMINDS US THAT THIS TOOK PLACE AFTER HOSEA HAD TAKEN THE FOLLOWING STEPS: [2:1-13]

(a). HE HAD CONFRONTED GOMER WITH HER INFIDELITY.

(b). HE HAD ISSUED AN ULTIMATUM, TO GIVE UP HER AFFAIRS OR GET OUT.

(c). HE HAD BACKED UP THE ULTIMATUM BY LETTING HER GO AND CUTTING OFF HIS FINANCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT.

(2). IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT HOSEA DIDN’T TAKE THESE STEPS IN ANGER, OR AS AN ACT OF REPRISAL.

(a). IT WAS HIS LOVING, CONFIDENT RESPONSE TO A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN HIS RELATIONSHIP.

(b). HOSEA DIDN’T TRY TO HANG ON TO GOMER BY OVERLOOKING HER AFFAIRS, MANIPULATING HER

WITH GUILT, OR MAKING EMPTY THREATS.

- (c). HE SIMPLY SAID TO HER, “IF YOU WANT TO STAY, I WANT YOU TO STAY, BUT WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU TAKE WHATEVER STEPS ARE NECESSARY TO END THESE AFFAIRS.**
- (d). IF YOU WANT TO GO, YOU MAY GO, BUT THINGS CANNOT CONTINUE AS THEY ARE.**
- (e). I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I’M NOT GIVING UP ON YOU, BUT I AM WILLING TO GIVE YOU UP IF THAT IS WHAT YOU WANT.”**
- (3). THE VERSES THAT FOLLOW CLEARLY INDICATE THAT HOSEA DIDN’T TAKE THE STEPS OF RESTORATION UNTIL GOMER HAD REACHED THE POINT OF BROKENNESS.**

 - (a). IT IS PROBABLE THAT MANY MONTHS, AND POSSIBLY YEARS PASSED BETWEEN HOSEA CHAPTER 2 AND 3.**
 - (b). LIKE THE BOY IN THE PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL SON, GOMER HAD TO REACH THE END OF THE ROAD BEFORE SHE WOULD SEE THE VALUE IN RETURNING HOME.**
- (B). LET US LOOK AT THE TERMS OF GOD’S COMMAND TO HOSEA.**

 - (1). ALTHOUGH I BELIEVE THAT GOMER WAS INWARDLY BROKEN,**

OUTWARDLY HER CONDITION WAS THE SAME. “YET AN ADULTERESS.”

- (a). **I THINK IT’S SAFE TO CONCLUDE THAT GOMER NO LONGER ENJOYED HER PRESENT CONDITION AS A COMMON PROSTITUTE, SOLD TO ANYONE WILLING TO PAY THE PRICE OF A SLAVE.**
 - (b). **BUT NEITHER HAD SHE ATTEMPTED TO RETURN TO HOSEA.**
- (2). **I THINK THERE ARE AT LEAST TWO POSSIBLE REASONS FOR THIS:**
- (a). **SHE COULDN’T. SHE HAD ALREADY SUNK SO LOW THAT SHE WAS NO LONGER FREE TO MAKE SUCH CHOICES. SHE WAS A SLAVE, THE PROPERTY OF THE ONE WHO OWNED HER.**
 - (b). **SHE DIDN’T KNOW THAT SHE COULD RETURN. SO MUCH TIME HAD PASSED AND SHE HAD SINNED SO GREATLY THAT SHE COULDN’T IMAGINE HOSEA TAKING HER BACK.**
- (3). **HOSEA, AFTER THE MANNER OF GOD, WAS TO SHOW GOMER THAT A RELATIONSHIP WAS STILL POSSIBLE, NOT ON THE TERMS OF HER CHARACTER, BUT OF HIS COMMITMENT. “ACCORDING TO THE LOVE OF THE LORD.”**
- (C). **TO UNDERSTAND THIS KIND OF LOVE, WE MUST LOOK TO ITS SOURCE, GOD.**

- (1). HE DIDN'T WAIT UNTIL WE CLEANED UP TO OFFER US SALVATION.
 - (a). "WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS," GOD DEMONSTRATED HIS LOVE FOR US THROUGH CALVARY.
 - (2). HE DIDN'T WAIT UNTIL WE CAME CRAWLING BACK TO HIM BEFORE HE REACHED OUT TO US.
 - (a). INSTEAD, HE CAME "TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THAT WHICH WAS LOST."
 - (3). HE SHOWED US HOW LOW WE COULD FALL; THEN HE OFFERED TO LIFT US UP HIGHER THAN WE HAVE EVER BEEN.
 - (4). AND IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH FEELINGS, BUT WITH A PROMISE OF REDEMPTION MADE TO A FALLEN COUPLE IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN.
- (D). GOD IS THE ONE WHO TEACHES US THAT LOVE IS A PROMISE, NOT A PASSION.
- (1). MARRIAGE IS NOT ABOUT "BEING IN LOVE," BUT AGREEING TO LOVE.
 - (2). IT IS NOT SOMETHING WE FEEL, BUT SOMETHING WE DO NO MATTER HOW WE FEEL.
 - (3). THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE TO REMEMBER WHEN, LIKE HOSEA, THE ONE WE LOVE HAS HURT US.
 - (4). IF WE WAIT FOR A "FEELING," WE MAY NEVER GET AROUND TO SHOWING LOVE.

I. LOVE IS A PROMISE THAT ENDURES:

II. BUT LOVE IS ALSO A PROMISE THAT “GIVES.”
**[VERSE 2] “SO I BROUGHT HER TO ME FOR FIFTEEN
 PIECES OF SILVER, AND FOR AN HOMER OF BARLEY,
 AND A HALF HOMER OF BARLEY:”**

- (A). THIS TEXT TELLS US THAT LOVE INVOLVES SACRIFICE.**
- (1). GOD’S WORD IS TOO IMPORTANT FOR HIM TO BE WASTEFUL WITH WORDS.**
 - (2). I BELIEVE THAT EVERYTHING GOD HAS TO SAY IS IMPORTANT.**
 - (3). IT IS UP TO US TO DISCOVER ITS IMPORTANCE.**
 - (4). GOD HAS RECORDED THE EXACT COST HOSEA PAID TO BUY HIS OWN WIFE:**
 - (a). FIFTEEN SHECKELS OF SILVER, AND ONE AND ONE HALF HOMERS OF BARLEY.**
 - (5). I BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A REASON FOR THESE PRECISE FIGURES.**
 - (a). IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, ACCORDING TO [EXODUS 21:32], THE ESTABLISHED PRICE OF A SLAVE WAS 30 SHECKELS OF SILVER.**
 - (b). ONE HOMER WAS EQUAL TO 10 EPDAH. ONE AND ONE HALF HOMERS WOULD BE EQUAL TO 15 EPDAH.**
 - (c). THE NORMAL PRICE FOR BARLEY WAS 1 SHECKEL PER EPDAH.**
 - (d). THUS, HOSEA PAID A TOTAL OF 30 SHEKELS IN CASH AND BARLEY.**

(6). SINCE HOSEA COULD NOT PAY THE TOTAL AMOUNT IN CASH, IT INDICATES THAT PAYING GOMER'S REDEMPTION PRICE INVOLVED A GREAT PERSONAL SACRIFICE.

(B). VISUALIZE HOSEA GETTING READY TO GO REDEEM HIS WIFE FROM THE SLAVE MARKET.

- (1). HE CHECKS HIS WALLET AND LOOKS IN HIS CHECKBOOK.**
- (2). HE DIGS IN THE CUSHIONS OF THE COUCH, AND ALL HE COMES UP WITH IS 15 SHECKELS OF SILVER, WHICH IS ONLY HALF OF WHAT HE NEEDS.**
- (3). IMAGINE GETTING READY TO PAY YOUR HOUSE PAYMENT, AND ONLY BEING ABLE TO SCRAPE TOGETHER HALF OF IT.**
- (4). SO, HOSEA BEGINS TO GO THROUGH HIS THINGS, LOOKING FOR SOMETHING OF VALUE TO MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE;**
- (5). FINALLY, HE REACHES THE CONCLUSION THAT IT'S THE BARLEY OR NOTHING.**
- (6). I BELIEVE THAT HOSEA'S PAYMENT WAS EQUIVALENT TO THE WIDOW'S MITE.**
 - (a). IT WAS ALL HE HAD;**
 - (b). IT REPRESENTED A TOTAL SACRIFICE, THE VERY BEST HE HAD TO OFFER.**

(C). IT IMPARTS SIGNIFICANCE.

- (1). IMAGINE WHAT HOSEA'S SACRIFICE COMMUNICATED TO GOMER.**

- (2). SHE HAS BROUGHT HOME AN EMPTY BANK ACCOUNT AND AN EMPTY PANTRY, WHICH WAS A SYMBOL OF HER WORTH TO HOSEA.
- (3). IT TOLD GOMER THAT SHE WAS WORTH MORE THAN ANYTHING HE POSSESSED, AND EVERYTHING HE POSSESSED.
- (4). IT TOLD HER THAT HIS LOVE WAS NOT BASED UPON HER CHARACTER, CHARM OR CHARISMA, BUT UPON HIS COMMITMENT.
- (5). AND IT TOLD HER THAT SHE COULD EXPECT MORE OF THE SAME IN THE DAYS TO COME.
- (6). PAUL SAID IN [ROMANS 8:32] *“HE THAT SPARED NOT HIS OWN SON, BUT DELIVERED HIM UP FOR US ALL, HOW SHALL HE NOT WITH HIM ALSO FREELY GIVE US ALL THINGS.”*
- (7). WE DON’T HAVE TO EARN GOD’S LOVE, OR EARN HIS BLESSINGS.
- (8). WE ARE LOVED. CALVARY IS THE PROOF.
- (9). HE WANTS TO GIVE US ALL THINGS FREELY, BECAUSE WE BELONG TO HIM.
- (10). BUT TOO OFTEN, LIKE GOMER, WE GO OUTSIDE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP TO GOD, SEEKING TO EARN OUR VALUE FROM OTHER THINGS.
 - (a). A CAREER;
 - (b). A RELATIONSHIP;
 - (c). AN ADDICTION

- (d). **OR WE TRY TO EARN IT AMONG CHRISTIANS THROUGH SERVICE OR SACRIFICE.**
- (e). **YET, THE ONLY SACRIFICE THAT MATTERS IS THE ONE GOD MADE FOR US UPON THE CROSS.**
- (f). **THAT ALONE DETERMINES YOUR WORTH TO GOD.**

I. LOVE IS A PROMISE THAT ENDURES

II. LOVE IS A PROMISE THAT GIVES

III. LOVE IS A PROMISE THAT SECURES.

“AND I SAID UNTO HER, THOU SHALL ABIDE FOR ME MANY DAYS; THOU SHALL NOT PLAY THE HARLOT, AND THOU SHALL NOT BE FOR ANOTHER MAN: SO WILL I ALSO BE FOR THEE. FOR THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL SHALL ABIDE MANY DAYS WITHOUT A KING, AND WITHOUT A PRINCE, AND WITHOUT A SACRIFICE, AND WITHOUT AN IMAGE, AND WITHOUT AN EPHOD, AND WITHOUT TERAPHIM: AFTERWARD SHALL THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL RETURN, AND SEEK THE LORD THEIR GOD, AND DAVID THEIR KING; AND SHALL FEAR THE LORD AND HIS GOODNESS IN THE LATTER DAYS.” [3-5].

- (A). **IN [VERSE 3], HOSEA RENEWS HIS WEDDING VOWS.**
 - (1). **HE SAYS TO GOMER, “YOU’RE COMING HOME AND YOU WILL LIVE WITH ME FOR MANY DAYS**
 - (2). **EVERYTHING YOU NEED, YOU WILL FIND IN ME.**
 - (3). **YOU WON’T HAVE TO GO OUTSIDE OF THIS RELATIONSHIP TO FIND LOVE, ACCEPTANCE, WORTH, OR ANYTHING ELSE**

(4). *I WILL BE FOR THEE.*”

(B). HOSEA’S SOLUTION TO GOMER’S SHAMEFUL PAST WAS TO GIVE HER A BRAND NEW SECURE START IN THEIR MARRIAGE.

(1). HE WAS TELLING HER THAT THE PAST DIDN’T MATTER.

(2). THEY WERE GOING TO BEGIN WORKING ON THEIR FUTURE, AND THERE WAS ONLY ONE RULE, SHE HAD TO LET HOSEA LOVE HER EXCLUSIVELY.

(3). SHE HAD TO DEPEND UPON HIM FOR ALL HER LOVE NEEDS.

(4). HE ALONE WAS TO BE THE SOURCE OF HER SECURITY IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP.

(C). THAT IS GOD’S DESIRE FOR ALL OF HIS PEOPLE.

(1). HE WANTS US TO BE DEPENDENT UPON HIM FOR EVERY KIND OF NEED WE HAVE.

(2). HE TELLS US THAT WE ARE ACCEPTED AS THE BELOVED.

(3). HE TELLS US THAT WE ARE NEW CREATURES IN CHRIST JESUS, HAVING RECEIVED A BRAND NEW START IN LIFE.

(4). HE TELLS US THAT WE DON’T HAVE TO GO OUTSIDE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP TO HIM TO MEET ANY NEED WE HAVE.

(5). WE ARE TO CAST ALL OF OUR CARES UPON HIM BECAUSE HE CARES FOR US.

(6). WE ARE TO WALK IN THE NEWNESS OF LIFE, NOT THE SHAME OF OUR PAST.

- (7). HE ALONE IS TO BE THE SOURCE OF SECURITY IN OUR RELATIONSHIP TO HIM.
- (8). WE ARE NOT HANGING ON TO HIM, BUT HE IS HANGING ON TO US.

CONCLUSION

ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT TOLD HOW THE STORY ENDS, I IMAGINE THAT GOMER CAUTIOUSLY, HOPEFULLY, TOOK IT ALL IN.

AFTER ALL, SHE HAD GIVEN LIFE HER BEST SHOT, AND IT HAD LED TO SHAME AND DISAPPOINTMENT.

SHE HAD TRIED TO FIND FULFILLMENT FROM EVERYONE BUT HOSEA, AND HAD COME HOME EMPTY.

AND NOW, LOVE WAS BEING LAVISHED ON HER AND PLEDGED TO HER ANEW.

PERSONALLY, I THINK HOSEA'S LOVE BROKE GOMER'S HEART AND WON HER LOYALTY FOR THE REST OF HER DAYS.

I BELIEVED THAT BECAUSE HOSEA STOOD BY HIS PROMISE OF LOVE, HE AND GOMER EVENTUALLY SHARED THE PASSION OF LOVE.

IT DIDN'T HAPPEN OVER NIGHT, IT TOOK TIME FOR GOMER TO LEARN THAT HOSEA'S PLEDGE WAS GENUINE.

TRUST HAD TO BE BUILT; HURTS HAD TO BE HEALED; BUT I CAN PICTURE HOSEA AND GOMER WALKING HAND IN HAND, LAUGHING AND ENJOYING EACH OTHER'S COMPANY.

IT BECAME EVIDENT TO EVERYONE THAT HOSEA IS NOT JUST PERFORMING A DUTY, HE AND GOMER ARE TRULY AND COMPLETELY IN LOVE.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND HOW IT EMPOWERED HIS MESSAGE WHEN HE WOULD USE HIMSELF AND GOMER AS AN EXAMPLE AND SAY, “THERE, THAT’S HOW MUCH GOD LOVES YOU.”

- (A). IN LIGHT OF [VERSES 4-5], I DON’T THINK THIS PICTURE IS TOO FAR OFF.**
 - (1). GOD SAYS OF HIS PEOPLE THAT FOR MANY DAYS THEY WOULD LIVE WITHOUT THE OUTWARD SYMBOLS OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO HIM.**
 - (2). THEY WOULD BE DRIVEN OUT OF THE LAND, DEPRIVED OF THEIR KING, THEIR TEMPLE, AND THEIR ACCESS TO GOD .**
 - (3). ESSENTIALLY, IT WOULD LOOK LIKE THE RELATIONSHIP WAS OVER AND BEYOND RECOVERY.**
 - (4). BUT WHAT HOSEA DID FOR GOMER, GOD WAS GOING TO DO FOR ISRAEL.**
 - (5). HE WAS GOING TO BRING THEM HOME AND PLEDGE HIMSELF TO HER ANEW.**
 - (6). [VERSE 5] MAKES IT CLEAR THAT THERE WOULD BE COMPLETE RESTORATION.**
 - (7). ONE DAY, ISRAEL IS GOING TO GET A BRAND NEW START IN HER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.**
- (B). BUT PAUL TELLS US IN [ROMANS 11:25-27] THAT THE JEWS WILL HAVE TO WAIT ON US:**
 - (1). *“FOR I WOULD NOT, BRETHREN, THAT YE SHOULD BE IGNORANT OF THIS MYSTERY, LEST YE SHOULD BE WISE IN YOUR OWN CONCEITS; THAT BLINDNESS IN PART IS HAPPENED TO ISRAEL, UNTIL THE FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES BE COME IN.***

AND SO ALL ISRAEL SHALL BE SAVED: AS IT IS WRITTEN, THERE SHALL COME OUT OF SION THE DELIVERER, AND SHALL TURN AWAY UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB: FOR THIS IS MY COVENANT UNTO THEM, WHEN I SHALL TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS.”

- (C). **YOU DO KNOW WHO THAT DELIVERER IS, DON'T YOU?**
- (1). **HIS NAME IS JESUS.**
- (D). **JESUS IS ALL YOU NEED FOR SALVATION.**
- (1). **THERE WOULD BE NO SALVATION TODAY IF HE HAD NOT PAID THE PRICE ON CALVARY.**
- (2). **WHEN JESUS WENT TO THE CROSS, HE PAID THE PRICE FOR ALL THOSE WHO WILL TRUST HIM BY FAITH FOR SALVATION.**
- (3). **HE DIED A HORRIBLE DEATH ON THAT CROSS SO THAT YOU AND I MIGHT ENJOY THE SALVATION OF GOD WITHOUT FEAR.**
- (4). **[ROMANS 5:8] *ABUT GOD COMMENDETH HIS LOVE TOWARD US, IN THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US.@***
- (E). **JESUS MADE US SEVERAL PROMISES IN REGARD TO SALVATION.**
- (1). **ONE PROMISE HE MADE IS THAT ANYONE CAN BE SAVED. [ST. JOHN 3:16]**

“FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.

- (2). **THE SECOND PROMISE HE MADE IS ANY SIN CAN BE FORGIVEN.**
- (a). **[ST. JOHN 6:37] *AALL THAT THE FATHER GIVETH ME SHALL COME TO ME; AND HIM THAT COME TO ME, I WILL IN NO WISE CAST OUT.***
- (b). **HE SAVED THE DYING THIEF ON THE CROSS AND HE DIDN=T HAVE TIME TO BE BAPTIZED OR JOIN THE CHURCH.**
- (3). **THE THIRD PROMISE HE MADE IS THAT ALL BELIEVERS RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE.**
- (a). **THE LIFE THAT JESUS GIVES IS NOT JUST GOOD FOR A SHORT TIME, BUT IT IS GOOD FOR ALL ETERNITY.**
- (b). **[ST. JOHN 5:24] *AVERILY, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, HE THAT HEARETH MY WORD, AND BELIEVE ON HIM THAT SENT ME, HATH EVERLASTING LIFE, AND SHALL NOT COME INTO CONDEMNATION; BUT IS PASSED FROM DEATH UNTO LIFE.*@**
- (4). **THE FOURTH PROMISE HE MADE IS THAT ALL WHO BELIEVE ARE PROMISED DELIVERANCE FROM HELL.**

- (a). **[ROMAN 5:9]AMUCH MORE THEN, BEING NOW JUSTIFIED BY HIS BLOOD, WE SHALL BE SAVED FROM WAFT THROUGH HIM.@**
- (b). **IN OTHER WORDS, WHEN YOU TRUST JESUS FOR YOUR SOUL=S SALVATION, YOU GET A AGET OUT OF HELL FREE@ CARD.**
- (c). **NOT ONE CHILD OF GOD WILL EVER ENTER THE GATES OF THAT AWFUL PLACE**
- (5). **THE FIFTH PROMISE HE MADE IS THAT ALL WHO BELIEVE ARE PROMISED AN ETERNITY IN HEAVEN**
- (a). **[ST. JOHN 14:1-3] “LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED: YE BELIEVE IN GOD, BELIEVE ALSO IN ME. [2] IN MY FATHER’S HOUSE ARE MANY MANSIONS: IF IT WERE NOT SO, I WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU. I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU. [3] AND IF I GO AND PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU, I WILL COME AGAIN, AND RECEIVE YOU UNTO MYSELF; THAT WHERE I AM, THERE YE MAY BE ALSO.”**
- (b). **I DON=T KNOW ABOUT YOU, I=M LOOKING FORWARD TO GOING TO THAT HEAVENLY LAND.**
- (F). **JESUS LAID THE PLAN FOR US TO PARTAKE OF ALL OF THE PROMISES OF SALVATION.**
- (1). **THAT PLAN IS A SIMPLE PLAN OF FAITH.**

- (2). [ST. JOHN 3:16] ***“FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.***
- (3). [ROMANS 10:9] ***THAT; “IF THOU SHALL CONFESS WITH THY MOUTH THE LORD JESUS, AND BELIEVE IN THINE HEART THAT GOD HATH RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, THOU SHALT BE SAVED.@***
- (4). [ROMANS 10:13] ***aFOR WHOSOEVER SHALL CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.@***
- (5). **SO IF YOU WANT TO BE SAVED, PUT YOUR TRUST IN THE PROMISES OF GOD.**

AS I CLOSE HERE TODAY, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT JESUS IS ALL YOU NEED.

- (1). **IF YOU ARE HUNGRY, - HE IS BREAD IN A STARVING LAND.**
- (2). **IF YOU ARE THIRSTY, - HE IS WATER IN DRY PLACES.**
- (3). **IF YOU ARE SICK, - HE IS A DOCTOR IN A SICK ROOM.**
- (4). **IF YOU ARE IN TROUBLE, - HE IS A LAWYER IN A COURT ROOM.**
- (5). **IF YOU ARE LONELY, - HE IS A COMPANY KEEPER.**
- (6). **IF YOU ARE WALKING IN DARKNESS, - HE IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.**
- (7). **IF YOU ARE AN ORPHAN, - HE IS A MOTHER AND FATHER.**

- (8). IF YOU ARE IN DESPAIR, - HE IS THE HOPE OF THE WORLD.
- (9). IF YOU ARE IN DOUBT, - HE IS YOUR ASSURANCE.

**ABLESSED ASSURANCE, JESUS IS MINE
OH WHAT A FORE-TASTE, OF GLORY DIVINE,
HEIR OF SALVATION, PURCHASED OF GOD,
I=M BORN OF HIS SPIRIT, I WASHED IN HIS BLOOD.**

- (10). JESUS IS ALL YOU NEED.
- (11). IS THERE ANYBODY HERE THAT HAS EVERY TRIED HIM?
- (12). ISN=T HE ALL YOU NEED?