

## **The Greatest Promise of God.....**

This is a topic that is extremely personal. What we believe about God is shaded by how old we are and what we have experienced during this journey called life. But the key is where we get our information and whether the source is true.

The combination of our experiences of joy and pain create our perspective on life. The meaning of life is also shaded by the times we live in, and the country we were born into at that specific time in history.

God gave this promise to each of us through the coming of His Son Jesus. The reason that He came is ...”that you might have Eternal life”.

What is life? We have been told that through faith in Christ we can have life in abundance. But I don't think that statement only applies to this physical existence here on earth. For none of us have life in abundance here.

True Eternal Life will be when we walk by Sight in heaven and not by Faith. When finally I get home and can explore Gods Universe by literally being able to hear, smell, touch, taste & feel a world I cannot even begin to imagine on Earth.

## **My... Legacy of Words.**

It has been a few years now that I have been doing this...writing my thoughts down about God. I began writing for me because it helps me to crystallize my thought process about the words of God.

Then I began writing for you simply because I wanted to motivate people to share their faith with other's; to reach out and touch one soul at a time. Then finally I find I am doing this for HIM. Because that is what He has asked each of us to do...to share our faith in HIM with the lost.

This has been a very unusual experience for me. It began back in 1982 when I took a walk into my own mind and began introspectively trying to understand the concept of God. As I looked into the distance of my minds eye I saw a light glowing in the surrounding darkness.

When I arrived before this light it proved to be a porch light. I was their staring at it from a short distance, hidden deep within the shadows. The light seemed to reach to me. It lit the stairs all the way down to the step I stood before. The stairs led up to the porch and at the far side of the porch was a door.

The sign above the door said “Everyone Welcome”. I walked up the stairs. The light was extremely bright and cast a shadow behind me of my body as I climbed. This shadow behind me seemed to be alive for it would not let go of the darkness behind me. It was connected to the shadows of my past; shadows that lived within my very soul.

Yet the light beckoned me to come forward. The light offered me the warmth of Shalom / Peace and Love...the shadow behind me offered only fear.

For many years I had heard about this door of light. God had allowed a multitude of people into my life with every kind of religious background you can imagine. There were members of the Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Catholics, Protestants, New Agers, Wickens, Christian Scientists, Muslims, Hindu's, Buddhists, Atheists and even a fellow Jew or two.

As I openly began enquiring of people about God and the light, they all had different opinions rooted in their minds. They were all very happy to talk about such a mystical topic and tell me about their experiences with their God's.

This parade of people began forming my faith in God. This group of people with widely divergent and conflicting comments about God, the universe and the future fascinated me. Their words and comments formed the foundation of knowledge I had about God at that time in my life.

Little did I know at the time that everything I believed had its basis in opinions formed from legends, lies, half-truths, stories, myths and fairy tales. So here I stood, in my mind, on the welcome mat before the door. I came there in 1982 when my father died, to worship before this mystical God with my face looking up, bathed in the light, worshipping the unknown God, in my own way.

I wanted desperately to know God and find out where my father had gone.

### **The greatest promise of God to each of us is eternal life.**

My parents were young with lives full of promise before them. They had dreams, plans, desires and hopes...they were thinking of today but not tomorrow and for sure not about the meaning of eternity. Marriage came, children came, and friend's and relationships grew strong.

Jobs, money saved, homes built...lives lived in abundance with all its creature comforts and pleasures.

Then in their late 30's when life was established and good; the clouds of war and a world gone mad came. The war turned wild, the clouds grew dense and black. The lightning lit the skies. It seemed that from one day to the next that life was now out of control, because Hitler came and destroyed their world for them.

Jewish people were not prepared for this as the winds of war intensified the inferno that enveloped them for almost 4 years.

People lost spouses, children, friends and all their worldly goods but most of all they lost faith in their Gods ability to make good on the promises they counted on regarding life in abundance.

The reason for the lost faith was that abundance to them meant everything that materialism provided them...things that made life easy.

The only thing we have here of any precious value are people, not the stuff of life. It is the people that are eternal, and the things are temporal. In a real sense everything we have is on loan to us. Ultimately everything we worked so hard to accomplish will belong to someone else.

The only real treasure we have is eternal relationships that we want to continue with our loved ones beyond death and into eternity.

I have spoken in the past about the times we live in. But there is no other time more exciting for each of us to live in than ...the times we live in, since that is all we have. Both history and your life are in the hands and purposes of God.

His hands direct the course of History like water in a river.

Your body is described in the Bible as a vessel. This physical vessel contains Spiritual Life. For you to take the journey down the river of life to its intended destination you will need the protection of the Ark. This is a special place of refuge. Only God can open the door for you and then close it behind you to grant you safe passage.

Without being in the Ark you will have to swim in your own strength throughout the course of the river of life. No one throughout all of history who has chosen to swim the river alone; has made it to the end of the river of life...which is the beginning of Eternal Life.

I just went on a business trip to New Mexico. I got up at 2 AM in the morning and returned to my home the following 2 AM. Flying home during the night gave me a panoramic view of the landscape beneath.

I was struck by the brilliance of the spots of light representing humanity below enveloped in a mass of darkness. Actually the brilliance of the light was only due to the contrast of darkness around it.

It reminded me of the condition of this world that is wrapped up in darkness and the few bright piercing spots of light that represent those that have faith in Christ. After all we are called Light Bearers...for His light should emanate from within us.

If we are true followers of Christ then we are supposed to be doing what He wants us to do...to bring people to HIM. That is our call and that is our mission to push back the darkness that surrounds us.

Today we support missions around the world. We feel if we give money we have done our part. But, you won't find the word missionary in the Scriptures. You will however find the word disciple. You are individually charged by the Lord to open your mouth and witness to someone you know. Your responsibility begins with those you love and want to be with you in heaven throughout eternity.

The memories of my father are vivid to say the least. Funny isn't it how we take those we love for granted while they are here. Then when they are gone we begin remembering the moments of their lives that touched our hearts.

My father loved God. He spoke to me infrequently about His God because the events of his life were filled with so much pain. He could not understand how a good God could have allowed the Holocaust. He did not understand the Holiness of God and the Sins we all bear before HIM.

My Father was raised to think that we all through being good and giving charity can earn a place in heaven. His theology was wrong because he too listened like I did to the words of men rather than read the Words of God.

God makes it perfectly clear that His Standard for entrance into His Heaven is perfection...and no human being alive can accomplish that requirement.

Yet when my Father talked about God his eyes filled with tears and his words were filled with awe, and wonder and passion. As I stood on the welcome mat on the porch in my mind I remembered all those moments my father had spoken to me of his God.

The seeds my father had planted into my heart were watered by the tears he cried for me. His heart cry was always that I would come to know the God he had come to love.

As I think back on him I am truly saddened that it was his death that actually lead me to Yeshua / Jesus and life. My father died not knowing his Messiah / his Savior, because his love for God was through religion and the words of rabbi's rather than coming to know God through a personal relationship with His Son.

The Bible is clear that Loving God is the last of several steps that begin with the Truth about God and then the fear of God that becomes knowledge, leading to understanding, then repentance and acceptance and finally love.

I opened my eyes for the first time and watched as the hand of God opened the door of His Ark of safety, **which is His Words contained in His Bible.**

I stepped in and His mighty hand shut the door behind me and there within His sanctuary I sat before His Throne as He began to tell me in His own words the Greatest Story Ever Told...as I began reading the Bible aloud.

Yes HIS own Words because the Bible is the Autobiography of GOD.

When He was done I understood the past, the present and the future told to me personally through the words that contain eternal life, by the one who is, who was and is to come.

So now I write first and foremost for HIM. Then I write for YOU and finally I write for those in my family that I love.

The day will come when like my father before me I will no longer be here. I want to leave a legacy of words and memories for them that tell them who I am and what I believe.

I want them to know that I love them, pray for them and will wait for them in a better place. I want them to know that I placed my eternal life in the nail-scarred hands of Yeshua, the Jewish Messiah, the Son of the Living God.

I want them to know that I have not found a religion but a relationship, a personal relationship with God. I want them to know that as long as they have life they have the ability to Seek the Living God who waits at the top of the stairs for them with a **welcome mat**.

All they need do is open the door of their hearts and He will open the door to them so they too can go into the ARK. There they will find the Living Words of God, written personally to each of them.

Only by reading His Words will they come to the knowledge of the Truth about God. Then they will fear HIM. That fear will become knowledge of HIM, and that will lead to the understanding of what this life truly is about and why they were born.

Then with repentant broken hearts they will allow God to heal them of their sins by accepting the death of Jesus on the Cross-for their sins. Only then will they be able to Love God and live for God and grow in wisdom and discernment of God.

Then they will be able to draw strength to stand alone like a pinpoint of brilliant light in the darkness that surrounds them...to stand alone...to stand strong...for Christ in a world that is dying quickly.

The promise of God for eternal life and heaven to those who come to HIM through His Son Jesus is beyond our comprehension.

There is a statement by Jesus from a scene recorded in Revelation 3 vs. 5. Jesus said that HE **WILL** confess your name before His FATHER and before His Holy Angels.

Can you imagine that? Jesus will come for you and take you by the hand and lead you between columns of myriads of Holy Angels.

Up, the stairs of light, continuing up amongst the cheering of a great cloud of witnesses of those that have gone before you throughout the ages.

Up to stand before the very throne of God...as it were, to stand on **Gods welcome mat.**

Then Jesus will say to HIS Father, I want you to meet one of mine... One who was not ashamed of **MY NAME**...one who heard **MY VOICE.**

My prayer is that everyone we love will take the outstretched hand of the Son of God while HIS Mercy and Hope still exists...for that time grows shorter with each passing day.

**The Apostle John said in his Gospel**

**“For the hour is coming when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God...and those who have believed in HIM will have eternal life and not come into judgment; but pass from death to life.”**

**(John 5:24-26)**

**Jesus said in Revelation 22: 13 and following:**

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates... "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things... I am the root and the descendant of David the bright morning star."

"Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires, take the water of life without price...

He who testifies to these things says, **"Surely I am coming soon."**

Come, Lord Jesus!

**Amen and Amen**