

THESE PROMISES
II COR. 7:1

Introduction:

- A. Often times we hear people respond to some statement by saying, "promises, promises."
 - 1. This indicates lack of confidence in someone's statements or promises.
 - 2. Broken promises are more serious than we think.

- B. Paul reminds the Corinthians his, "dearly beloved" of God's promises to them.
 - 1. "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved."
 - 2. promises = epaggelia - a declaration.

I. THE SPECIFIC PROMISES. V6:16b-18

- A. Promises to them as the temple of God. v16b.
 - 1. "I will dwell in them."
 - 2. "and walk in them."
 - 3. "and I will be their God."
 - 4. "and they shall be my people."

- B. Promises to them for being separate and pure. v17.
 - 1. "and I will receive you."
 - a. "I will dwell with you."
 - b. "you may dwell with me."
 - 2. "and I will be a father unto you."
 - 3. "and ye shall be my sons and daughters."

II THESE PROMISES SHOULD PROMPT THEM TO GODLINESS.

- A. "let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh."
 - 1. cleanse = katharisomen - to cleanse, to purify.
 - 2. filthiness = molusmos - that which stains, defilement, pollute.
 - 3. flesh = sarkos - the outward man.

- B. "let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the spirit."
 - 1. spirit = pneumatos - the inward man.
 - 2. The spirit is pure forever, but we may pollute it.

- C. "perfecting holiness in the fear of God."
 - 1. perfecting = epiteleo - to complete, to bring to the goal.
 - 2. holiness = hagosune.
 - 3. fear = phobos.

III. GOD HAD MADE MANY PROMISES TO US.

- A. The same ones He made to the Corinthians.
 - 1. We are a temple of God.
 - 2. We are to be everything God teaches us to be.

- B. A few things God has promised.
 - 1. "Blessing," Deut. 1:11.
 - 2. "preservation in affliction." Isa. 43:2.
 - 3. "forgiveness of sins." Isa. 1:18.
 - 4. "New heavens and new earth." II Peter 3:13.
 - 5. "His body presence." John 14:1-6.

IV. GOD'S PROMISES WILL NEVER FAIL.

- A. We can't say of God's promises in a sarcastic tone, promises, promises.
 - 1. Confirmed by an oath. Heb. 6:17.
 - 2. God is faithful to keep. Titus 1:2.
 - 3. God remembers. Psalm 105:42.

- B. We are indeed, "Standing on the Promises."
 - 1. They are the only sure footing.
 - 2. Could we stand on anything else?
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V. GOD'S PROMISES SHOULD PROVOKE US.

A. To achieve maturity.

1. We are born again, thus infants.
2. Maturity should be our goal.

B. To sacrifice.

1. We cannot be like Him unless we are willing to make sacrifices.

C. To faithfulness.

1. Abraham "believed" God.
2. His promises should sustain us.

D. To obedience.

1. To obey is better than sacrifice.

E. To expectation.

1. "I will come again and receive you...."

VI. COMMIT YOURSELF TO HIS PROMISES.