

RATING GOD'S PROMISES

2 Peter 1:2-4 ... "Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as his divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness...by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises..."

Have you ever taken the time to list God's promises to you? (I am assuming you are a follower of Christ. Otherwise, you have not enjoyed God's promises.) Here is a partial list that you can start with. Just for fun, put 1 in front of the promise that is most important to you, 2 for the next most important, and so on. God promises you:

- ___ The food you need to survive
- ___ Help in raising your children
- ___ Protection from physical attack by satan
- ___ Eternity in Heaven
- ___ Wisdom when you ask
- ___ Courage to face persecution
- ___ Salvation
- ___ Comfort in sadness
- ___ Healing when you are sick
- ___ Indwelling of the Holy Spirit
- ___ Trials to grow your faith
- ___ Spiritual gifts to help you minister to others

Did you number these in the order of their importance to you? Good. Now let us look at what Jesus tells us.

First of all, you are not eligible for any of these promises if you have not accepted Christ as Lord and Savior. So, that makes salvation number 1. Without the Holy Spirit living and working in your soul these promises are worthless. So, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit must be number 2. Numbers 1 and 2 are not debatable. You are not saved or eligible for any other promises of God if you have not availed of 1 and 2.

I suppose the rest of them can be ranked differently by each Christian. For me, trials to grow my faith and spiritual gifts to minister to others are my numbers 3 and 4. It is a good exercise to periodically think about the promises of God in your life, what they have done for you, and to then thank God for them. And, if salvation is not your most important promise, then Christ is not your Lord and Savior. You should fix that today.

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