

## THE BIBLE VIEW

*In This Issue:*

[Oh, For Those That Can be Trusted](#)

[Casket of Promises](#)

[Peace from The Promises](#)

[The Stability of God's Promises](#)

[The Encouraging Promises of God](#)

[Plain Promises](#)

[Other](#)

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### Oh, For Those That Can be Trusted

*Bill Brinkworth*

*“Howbeit there was no reckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.” II Kings 22:7 Also: II Kings 12:15.*

When the good King Josiah ruled Israel, he made it a priority to take collected money and use it to repair the house of the Lord — the Temple. When the money was handed over to the workers to do the repairs, there were no records kept, nor were there five copies of a signed document of them promising to do right with the money they were entrusted. Their word was their promise because they were faithful, which means “trustworthy, reliable, dependable, unwavering, steadfast, obedient, true.”

Today that type of trust is rare. Lawyers are engaged. Commitments are notarized and witnessed. Volumes of written promises are filed and given to officials. Still the promises of those commissioned to do some work or action are broken. There are many whose word cannot be trusted. They are not faithful.

All, especially Christians, should have a word that is always above reproach. When someone says they will do something, they should do it. They should not have to be watched, have their paperwork in order, and have accountants pour over every penny they spent. Their promise should be good enough, as it was when the workers took the people's money to fix God's house.

There was a time, not too many generations ago, when a promise did mean something. Cars were bought on loans that were secured with only a handshake. A politician made promises that he would keep, or never be elected again. Husbands and wives made a commitment to themselves and to God that "until death doeth part" they would stay together. A child promised he would play in a sport until the season was over. He kept his word no matter if his feelings were hurt or he could not play first string on the team. If a person said he would be at a place or job at a certain time, that person would be there. A person's word meant something!

Where is that faithfulness today? Perhaps because the manual demanding honesty, the Bible, has been removed from so many lives and is rarely emphasized or even known about is one reason keeping one's promise is uncommon. Certainly, the removal of punishment and ostracization for not keeping one's word also plays a part in the sin's rampant occurrences. The removal and hiding of God's moral standard also must be a contributing factor for many not keeping their word.

No matter the ignorance of God's standards or one's deliberate ignoring of the importance of truthfulness, society, and individuals suffer when a person's word is not kept. Trust for anyone's promises and commitments will be in question. Suspicion will abound. Nations will be at odds with itself because few will be trusted.

Although it is the lifestyle of so many not to keep their word, it does not mean it should be accepted. Your Word should be trusted. Will you keep your promises? Will you be found faithful?

**“He who is the slowest in making a promise is the most faithful in the performance of it.”** — *Rousseau*

## Casket of Promises

*C. H. Spurgeon*

Where is thy casket of promises? Bring it out. Open its cover to reveal a jar of jewels. Pour out the golden ingot, stamped with the image and superscription of Heaven's King. Count over the diamonds that flash in your hand like stars.

Compute the worth of that single jewel, “And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive” (Mat. 21:22) or that other ruby, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose” (Rom. 8:28). Bring forth that most cherished prize, “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that

believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” (John 3:36)

Remember who it is that gave the promises, and to such unworthy sinners as we are. Tell me if they are not “... Exceeding great and precious promises ...” (II Peter 1:4).

When Caesar once gave a man a great reward, he exclaimed, “This is too great a gift for me to receive. But,” said Caesar, “it is not too great a gift for me to give.” So, the smallest promise in the “casket” of God’s Word is too much for thee to deserve, yet the most magnificent promise is not too great for the King of kings to bestow. God scorns to act meanly and stingily to His children, and how must He scorn us often when we put Him off by not reading and practicing the treasures he has laid up for us.

**“That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:”** *Hebrews 6:18*

## Peace from The Promises

*Spurstowe*

Oh, the happy peace and serenity that a believer enjoys in every condition which befalls him. He can rest and calm himself upon the promises and power of God.

No valley of trouble will be to him without a door of hope, no barren wilderness without manna, no dry rock without water, no dungeon without light, no fiery trial without

comfort because he has the same promising Word and God to trust. It is the same God whose power opened the sea as a door to be a passage for the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan. It is the same mighty God who fed Israel in the desert with bread from Heaven and water from a rock. It is the same God who filled Peter's prison with a shining light. It is the same powerful protector who allowed three children to walk to and fro amidst the fiery furnace with joy and safety. It the same loving God that will keep His promises to you and lead you through your life.

**“God never made a promise that was too good to be true.”** — *D. L. Moody*

## The Stability of God's Promises

*Salier*

Every promise is built upon four pillars:

1. God's justice and holiness, which will not suffer Him to deceive.
2. His grace and goodness which will not suffer Him to forget.
3. His truth which will not suffer Him to change.
4. His power which makes Him able to accomplish.

## The Encouraging Promises of God

*P. J. Wright*

No music is half so sweet, no eloquence is near so charming, and no picture is at all so attractive as the precious promises given to us by a faithful, true, and mighty God. Like the Aurora Borealis shining on the frosty

and somber sky, tinging it with beautiful colors, and relieving it with brilliant rays, the promise of the Gospel shines in tints of light and smiles of love on the cold and gloomy nights of trouble. The Word of God cheers the heart of every child of God with delightful tokens of the presence and the kindness of his heavenly Father.

**“The sacred promises, though in themselves most sure and precious, are of no avail for the comfort and sustenance of the soul unless you grasp them by faith, plead them in prayer, expect them by hope, and receive them with gratitude.”** — *Spurgeon*

## Plain Promises

*Dr. Watts*

I remember an aged minister used to say that the most learned and knowing Christians have only the same plain promises for their support as the as the common, rich, and unlearned. So, I find this true in my old age.

It is the plain promises of the Gospel that are my support. I bless God they are plain promises, which do not require much labor and pains to understand them, for I can do nothing now but look into my Bible for some promises to support me, guide me, and live upon them.

**“As you read God's promises over, one after the other, you say to yourselves, ‘This is my checkbook. I can take out the promises as I want them, sign them by faith, present them at the great Bank of Grace, and come away enriched with present help in time of need.’ That is the way to use God's promises.”** — *Spurgeon*