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# **God's Promise**

Concerning

# **Gentiles**

and

# **God's Riches.**

(2019)

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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## God's Promise Concerning Gentiles and God's Riches.

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### Topics.

- Gentiles will glorify God for his mercy.
- Praise the Lord all you Gentiles.
- In the root of Jesse the Gentiles will hope.
- The mystery that was hidden in ages past.
- Jews and Gentiles have God's promises.
- God's promises concerning his riches.
- Worldly riches and God's riches.
- The riches of Christ's glorious inheritance.

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### CHRIST BECAME A SERVANT TO CONFIRM THE PROMISES GIVEN TO THE PATRIARCHS

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- **Romans 15:8:** For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the Patriarchs.

Even though Jesus was the exalted Son of God he humbled himself and became a servant to the Jews to prove God's promises and so that through him the Gentiles might praise God for his mercy. The circumcised refers to the Jews and the promises given to the patriarchs refer to God's promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the fathers of Israel.

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### The promise was:

- Abraham would be the father of a many nations.
- In Abraham's seed all nations (Jews and Gentiles) of the earth would be blessed.
- Abraham's seed would be the heir of the world.

The seed of Abraham is the Lord Jesus Christ.

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### GENTILES WILL GLORIFY GOD FOR HIS MERCY

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- **Romans 15:9-10:** and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles and sing to your name." <sup>10</sup>And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles with his people."

As it is written applies to the following verses that Paul is citing from the book of Samuel and from the book of Psalms.

- I (David) will praise you, O LORD, among the *nations* and sing praises to your name (2 Samuel 22:50).
- For this I (David) will praise you, O LORD, among the *nations* and sing to your name (Psalm 18:49).

The 'I' in these verses immediately refers to David, but prophetically it embraces the nation of Israel and the Gentiles. It is a prophetic picture of the Jews and Gentiles praising God together as one nation in Christ. The New Testament Scriptures talk of a mystery that was hidden from the Old

Testament patriarchs and the faithful of the Old Testament that has now been revealed. This mystery refers to the Jews and Gentiles being united as one nation in Christ Praising God together.

- Jews (especially the religious leaders) considered themselves to be the holy race with God and the Gentiles nations to be an unclean nation without God so for them to comprehend that they would be worshipping their Messiah the Christ with Gentiles was near impossible for their indoctrinated minds to comprehend.

**NOTE:** often a New Testament writer will cite an Old Testament verse to take the reader to that chapter because it gives further insight into the subject or topic that the writer has is in focus.

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## TWO SAMUEL CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

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In this chapter God has delivered David from his enemies and David speaks to the LORD the words of a song saying: "The LORD is his rock and stronghold, his fortress and shield, his deliverer and Saviour of salvation who he takes refuge in and who is worthy to be praised." David pictures the LORD with arrows riding through the wind on a cherub with flames of fire, thunder and lightning flowing out from Him destroying David's enemies.

David praises the LORD for rewarding him according to David's righteousness and according to God's great mercy. He states that God saves the humble, but His eyes of judgment are on the prideful to bring them down and then says because of God's goodness he will praise the LORD among the nations (referring to the Gentiles) and sing praises to His name for His great salvation and the love He shows to those who honour Him (2 Samuel 22:50).

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## PSALM CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

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In Psalm chapter eighteen David declares his love for the LORD saying God is his rock and fortress his deliver and refuge who delivers him from his enemies. David pictures the LORD with arrows riding a cherub on the wings of the wind and the foundations of the mountains trembling and quaking and the earth reeling and rocking at the rebuke of the LORD and pictures the LORD with smoke and flaming fire flowing out from him and thunders, lightning's and hailstones of fire breaking through the clouds as the LORD utters His voice from the heaven. David says the LORD saves the humble and brings the prideful to ruin and ends the Psalm with the words, "I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations and sing to your name of the great salvation you bring to your king and of the steadfast love you show to his anointed to David and his seed forever (Psalm 18:49).

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## PRAISE THE LORD ALL YOU GENTILES

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- **Romans 15:11:** And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles and let all the peoples extol him."

This verse is cited from Psalm one hundred and seventeen:

- Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD! (Psalm 117:1-2).

These two verses and the entire Psalm is calling all nations (referring to Jews and Gentiles) to exalt the LORD for His great love and faithfulness which endures forever toward all languages, tongues and people of the world in contrast to being toward the Jews only.

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## IN THE ROOT OF JESSE THE GENTILES WILL HOPE

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**Romans 15:12-13:** And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles in him will the Gentiles hope." <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Paul here is citing the following prophetic words of Isaiah:

- There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit (Isaiah 11:1).
- In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious (Isaiah 11:10).

The focus of Isaiah in this chapter is upon Jesse who was David's father which means that this Scripture referred to king David, but prophetically the shoot from the stump of Jesse and the branch from his roots that shall bear fruit transcends David and applies to his seed the Lord Jesus Christ who will not judge by what his eyes see and decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge, meaning Christ will not judge us on our outward religious actions or by what other people say about us, but by his own standard of righteousness.

In this chapter Isaiah talks about the wolf dwelling with the lamb, and the leopard lying down with the young goat and the calf and the lion living together and wild animals eating vegetation. And of God raising up a signal for the Gentile nations and gathering the banished of Israel and Judah from the four corners of the earth. The following verses clearly show that though David was the son of Jesse prophetically the root of Jesse refers to the Lord Jesus Christ:

- One of the elders said to me (John), "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals (Rev. 5:5).
- I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star (Rev. 22:16).

The following verse clearly show that under the New Covenant of grace which God established through the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ Jews in regards to eternal salvation are not superior in position to the Gentiles.

- Paul wrote; "What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin" (Rom. 3:9).

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## THE MYSTERY THAT WAS HIDDEN IN AGES PAST

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The mystery that was hidden in ages past was that:

- In Christ's name the Gentiles will hope (Matt. 12:21).

This means that in the name of Israel's Messiah the Christ and Saviour Gentiles who the Jewish nation looked upon as an unclean race without God will live in hope of their Messiah and Christ.

**NOTE:** when salvation to eternal life is spoken of as the hope of the faithful in Christ, it is not called hope because it might or might not happen, but because it is unseen and yet future. The hope itself is guaranteed because it is based on God's promise and he cannot lie. The apostle Paul wrote: "In hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began" (Titus 1:2). The Christian hopes to be

resurrected from the grave to be raised up to eternal life and everlasting glory to be made perfectly free from sin; to be everlastingly happy, but it is faith that gives these things a mental reality in the mind and it is under this influence of faith that those in Christ allow these unseen and yet future events to control their mind as if they were a reality now.

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## **SUMMARY OF THE PROMISES TO THE OLD TESTAMENT PATRIARCHS**

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The promises that were spoken to the Old Testament Patriarchs and revealed through the Lord Jesus Christ was that the Gentiles would become one people with the Jews through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and worship God together (Rom. 15:8-12).

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## **JEWS AND GENTILES HAVE GOD'S PROMISES**

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- **2 Corinthians 7:1:** Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

The promises in this verse relate back to the previous chapters in two Corinthians which proclaim that:

- Jews and Gentiles would be new creatures in Christ.
- The sins of sinners would be forgiven in Christ.
- Those in Christ will receive an eternal body.
- Everyone (Jew and Gentile) who belongs to Christ will be resurrected to eternal life and glory.

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## **GOD'S PROMISES CONCERNING HIS RICHES**

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The apostle Paul wrote:

- My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus (Philip. 4:19).

Paul is, promising that God will supply to every brother and sister in Christ His riches. Based on this glorious promise some religious teaches in the worldwide Kingdom of God proclaim a Gospel that teaches God's promised riches refer to prosperity, success and worldly wealth and riches, but this is turning what should be the least materialistic faith on planet earth into one of the worldliest and most materialistic faiths. The following Scriptures clearly show that the promises of God have nothing to do with worldly riches and wealth and that nearly all Scriptures in the New Testament that do speak of worldly riches speak of them negatively unless they are being used to help brothers and sisters in Christ and the poor and less fortunate in the world.

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## **WORLDLY RICHES**

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- Jesus said; the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful (Matt. 13:22).
- Jesus said; the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful (Mark 4:19).
- Jesus said, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" (Mark 10:23).

- Jesus said; certain ones hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature (Luke 8:14).
- Jesus said; if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? (Luke 16:11).
- Jesus said, "How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! (Luke 18:24).
- Paul said, charge the rich not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy (1 Tim. 6:17).
- The author of Hebrews wrote, Moses considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward (Heb. 11:26).
- James said, to the rich and wealthy, your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten (James 5:1-2).
- John in a vision saw in a single hour all the wealth of the world laid waste." And all shipmasters, seafaring men, sailors and all whose trade is on the sea, stood far off and cried (Rev. 18:17-18).

This does not mean that it is wrong for a Christian to be rich; it is certain there are many in the global Kingdom of God who God has blessed with the ability to make good business decisions and have built up successful companies that provide many people with jobs and is gives very rewarding profits. There is nothing wrong with money made honestly and used for good. It is when the rich indulge themselves in excessive luxury that being rich becomes sinful. It is when we have far more than we need and rather than use the excess to help others we selfishly indulge ourselves in the things of this world. There are rich Christians in the global body of Christ who use their wealth to help the less fortunate and to extend the Kingdom of God, these brothers and sisters in Christ are storing up treasure in heaven by their good deeds.

### **Concerning God's riches Paul said:**

- To those who judge others, do you presume on the riches of God's kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? (Rom. 2:4).
- God made known the riches of his glory toward those fit for mercy (Rom. 9:23).
- There is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him (Rom. 10:12).
- If the Jews trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean! (Rom. 11:12).
- Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! (Rom. 11:33).
- In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace (Ephes. 1:7).
- Though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ (Ephes. 3:8).
- According to the riches of God the Father's glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being (Ephes. 3:16).
- God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Col. 1:27).

### **Paul prayed:**

- That the eyes of every believers hearts would be enlightened, that they may know what is the hope to which God has called them and what the riches of his glorious inheritance in the faithful are (Ephes. 1:18).

- In the coming ages God might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus (Ephes. 2:7).
- That the heart of every brother and sister in Christ may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ (Col. 2:2).

### **John in a heavenly vision:**

- Heard thousands of thousands saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!" (Rev. 5:12).

These verses shine a brilliant spotlight on the truth that all God's promises are spiritual they embrace forgiveness of sin, God's love, joy, contentment peace (especially mental peace with God) and eternal life in the world to come. The Macedonian brothers and sisters experienced the richness of God's grace and his abundant joy in such a manner that they generously gave from their own free will to help Paul and the poor even while they themselves were in extreme poverty and suffering affliction (2 Cor. 1-4). The true riches of God are experienced in the heart and mind and manifested outwardly in good works.

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## **THE RICHES OF CHRIST'S GLORIOUS INHERITANCE**

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Paul's desire is that every faithful believer would know, "What the riches of Christ's glorious inheritance in the saints is" (v18). Riches in this verse does not refer to the wealth of this world, but to the valuable abundant eternal and spiritual blessings those in Christ have which are forgiveness of sins, God's grace and mercy, righteousness, joy, contentment and fellowship with God and with Christ and the glorious hope and promise of an immortal body and eternal life in everlasting glory etc. These are the riches that flood like springs of living water in the inner most being of the human spirit and well up to give joy, inner peace, contentment and hope to the mind of those who are faithful and make Christ the supreme desire of their heart and the highest thought of their mind.

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## **PAUL'S WITNESSING**

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Paul had tremendous success in his witnessing for following reasons:

- He was fully convinced that it was not condemnation, rules, religious works and God's judgment that lead people to repentance, but the abundant richness of God's kindness, forbearance and patience, that leads people to repentance and to God (Rom. 2:4).
- He personally encountered the Lord Jesus Christ through a miraculous vision.
- He did not learn the Gospel, but was given it by revelation.
- He was called by God to testify to the Jews and the Gentiles the Lord Jesus Christ.
- His heart, mind and life were totally surrendered to serving God and the Lord Jesus Christ no matter what the cost.
- He had the miraculous healing power of God's Spirit flowing through him.
- He placed no value on worldly riches and wealth or material possessions (no-matter how successful Paul was it is certain he would never cloth himself in Rolex watches, BMW cars and four million-dollar

homes. Paul's heart and mind placed no value upon these things the treasures of his heart were the things of God and delivering the lost from death to eternal life.

Obviously most of us have not had a miraculous personal encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ, nor do we have the miraculous healing power of God flowing through us, added to this we are not all called to be apostles Paul's, in fact most of us are simply called to live our life in humbleness sharing the Gospel when we are able and doing right showing others kindness and compassion. But the one thing we should always remember is the truth that it is the riches of God's love, kindness, patience, mercy and grace that leads people to repentance and to God and not condemnation, rules, judgment or legalistic and dogmatic doctrines (Romans 2:4).

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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