

Series: Psalms

Title: Sure Promises

Text: Ps 91: 14-16

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**Psalm 91: 14: Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. 15: He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. 16: With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.**

These are God's promises to Christ his Son, who represented his people as he served God. Christ is he in whom God's name is manifest. As a Man, serving God, he knew God's name perfectly. He believed God perfectly and obeyed him perfectly unto the death of the cross. God fulfilled these promises to his Son because his Son fulfilled all covenant promises to his Father for his people. And these promises are sure to you who know his name and believe and love him.

Has God revealed his name to you by revealing Christ in you? Has God quickened you to life and made you set your love on him? *If we love him it is because he first loved us.* We do not love him as we ought or want to or shall. But those he called do love him. Love is commitment to Christ—*“though he slay me, yet will I trust him”* (Job 13: 15).

God's name is who God is and what he is to his people. His name is what God accomplished and accomplishes for his people which is manifest in the Lord Jesus Christ. By the Spirit of Christ creating a new man in his child, God's name is revealed to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. He establishes our hearts in love to him. Knowing his name we know he has and shall do what his name declares.

- Jehovah-hoseenu — “The LORD our Maker” (Psa. 95:6). — Christ has created his people entirely new in him (1 Samuel 12:22).
- Jehovah-tsidkenu—“The LORD Our Righteousness” (Jeremiah 23:6). Christ has made his people entirely righteous in him.
- Jehovah-m'kaddesh—“The LORD that doth sanctify you” (Exodus 31:13). Christ has separated his people from all others on this earth and shall keep us partaking of his holiness.
- Jehovah-rapha — “The LORD that healeth thee” (Exodus 15:26). Christ came and healed us by bearing our stripes in our place. He came in the new birth and made us whole.
- Jehovah-shalom — The Lord our Peace (Joel 6:22-24). Christ is our Peace with God. He reconciled us to God. Christ is the Peace in our hearts that make us be reconciled to God. Christ is Peace between brethren.
- Jehovah-nissi — The Lord our Banner (Exodus 17:15). Christ is the Banner to whom his people rally and for which we war the fight of faith.
- Jehovah-raah — The Lord Our Shepherd (Psalm 23:1). Christ is the Shepherd of his sheep who constantly protects us.
- Jehovah-jireh — “The LORD will provide” (Genesis 22:14). Christ is the Lamb God provided. Christ is the full provision of everything we need to be accepted of God and saved forevermore.
- Jehovah-shammah — The Lord is there (Ezekiel 48:35). Christ is with his people forever. He promises to never leave us nor forsake us.

These are God's exceeding great and precious promises to you who are born of God. This is to you who know his name. This word is to those whose heart is set in love on the Lord Jesus.

## **GOD PROMISES TO DELIVER**

**Psalm 91: 14: Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.**

This promise has been fulfilled for God's elect in Christ. when God delivered him and set him on high, God delivered his people and set us on high. He delivered us from the curse and condemnation of the law by his precious blood. Christ delivered us from death when we arose in him. When God set him on high, God set us his people on high in Christ.

Then when Christ created a new man in us, he made us know that Christ delivered us, that Christ made us free indeed. Due to Christ our Righteousness and Master, “sin shall not have dominion over you for you are not under the law but under grace” (Rom 6: 14).

But we need him to continue to deliver us. We have not yet arrived to that final day when he redeems us out of this body and out of this world. We shall never again be slaves but we are taken captive by our sin-nature. Paul declares that was the case with him as a regenerated believer who knew Christ and loved Christ. But God promises to continue to deliver us and set us on high by setting our affection on him above. Christ said, “If ye continue in my word then are ye my disciples indeed and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.” It is by the Spirit keeping us looking to Christ in faith that Christ continues to deliver us. As he says in our Psalm, *“Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.”*

David was taken captive by unbelief when he was in land of Philistines for a year and four months. During that whole time David was captive to his sin-nature but he was not a slave left to fall away by his sin. Christ delivered him. Abraham was captive when he went down into Egypt. He was captive but not a slave. Christ delivered him. Peter was captive when he denied he knew the Lord. He was captive but never again a slave. Christ delivered him

Christ comes like he did to Peter and speaks into our heart, “Peter, do you love me?” Why does the Lord continue to do this for us when we sin? *“Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.”*

The law will never condemn you who believe on Christ. It condemned Christ and he delivered his people. Your sin-nature will never again dominate you so that your sin ends in death, in apostacy. Christ is our Life and our Strength who continues to deliver. Paul said, “He has saved us, he is saving us, and he shall yet save us.” That is God’s promise. That is Christ’s name. His name is Jesus for he shall save his people from our sins.

## **GOD’S PROMISE TO MAKE US CALL**

### **Psalm 91: 15: He shall call upon me,...**

This is a promise. Concerning his child God’s promises *“He shall call upon me.”* We call upon the Lord because God promised we shall. God brings to pass his promises.

Our Lord said, “Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.” No sinner can call on the Lord until God creates a new heart within him. No believer will call on the Lord until Christ renews a right spirit in us. Christ declared to the Pharisees that their heart was not made new by God. He declared that their evil hearts were known by the fruit of their lips.

Matthew 12: 33: Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by *his* fruit. 34: O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh...36: But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. 37: For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

God creates the new heart. The Holy Spirit renews the inward man in his child. It is God who puts the cry in our heart and on our lips.

Psalm 10: 17: LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:

Proverbs 16:1: The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, *is* from the LORD.

Isaiah 57:19: I create the fruit of the lips...

God produces the sacrifice of praise. He makes us cry to him in faith and praise Christ. So it is that even in time trouble it is the Spirit that causes us to pray.

Romans 8: 26: Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

What great mercy for true sinners! God promises to make us call on him and never cease doing so.

## **GOD PROMISES TO HEAR**

### **Psalm 91: 15: He shall call upon me, and I will answer him:**

It would do us no good to call on the Lord if the Lord did not answer us. But God promises, “*And I will answer him*”

Isaiah 65:24: And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

We only call on God when God has made us know we are destitute and only Christ can deliver. He makes us single minded for Christ. Until the Spirit works this we are double minded. A double minded man calls but only “says prayers.” While he calls, he looks to himself. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. Even God’s saints can become double minded when we enter into trouble.

We only cry when God makes us, personally behold, that we are the destitute sinner. When David fell into that season of unbelief and fled from Judah into the land of the Philistines to escape Saul. The entire time David was in that land we never read of David praying to God. But God brought David to the end of self. God brought David down to the ashes in Ziglag. But God also renewed a right spirit in David to behold Christ alone is his Deliverer. Then David enquired of the Lord,

Psalm 102:17: He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.

Only God can make a sinner know we are the destitute. Only God can make us confess to God that we are the destitute.

Isaiah 58:9: Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I *am*. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; 10:...then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness *be* as the noonday: 11: And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones:...

Jeremiah 29:12: Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. 13: And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

This promise is to ALL who call with a heart single for Christ, why?

Romans 10:12: For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto ALL that CALL upon HIM. 13: For whosoever shall call upon the NAME of the Lord shall be saved.

## **GOD PROMISES HIS PRESENCE**

### **Psalm 91: 15...I will be with him in trouble;**

As the GodMan, Mediator, serving God, saving his people, God was with Christ at all times.

John 16: 32: Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.

This is God's promise in and by Christ to all who believe on him, "*I will be with him in trouble.*" The Lord promised Moses—"I am with thee." The Lord promised Abraham,

Genesis 28: 15: And, behold, I *am* with thee, and will keep thee in all *places* whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done *that* which I have spoken to thee of.

The sin-nature is covetous therefore discontent. By nature we are covetous to change our circumstances by leaning to our own understanding and looking to our own hands. But God makes his child content by making us know Christ is with us at all times, even in trouble.

Hebrews 13: 5: *Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*

## **GOD PROMISES TO HONOR HIS CHILD**

### **Psalm 91: 15...I will deliver him, and honour him.**

When trouble comes, we doubt and question if God is for us. But God promised, "*I will deliver and honor him.*" All sinners suffer trouble. But God only chastens those he loves. God sanctifies the trial to the hearts of his children so that it profits us spiritually. He is with us in trouble and shall deliver and honor you. In fact, though it is a paradox, our trouble and suffering is God honoring you as a child of his love. He will not permit his child to perish with the world. In love God chastens us. God works something in his child that he does not work in those that are not his. The honor is that God fulfills these promises in spirit.

It is not outward circumstances, it is being made to know in spirit, that God's exceeding great and precious promises are sure to me personally in and by Christ. God makes us behold God fulfilling these promises to us, personally. When the trial is over God will make us to know that the painful trial was God's loving, chastening hand. God makes us know that he has set us on high in Christ at his right hand by setting our affection on high once again. God makes us know his name better than ever. God makes his child call upon the Lord. Then God answers. Then God delivers. Thus we are made to know God is with me. In all this God has honored me.

God makes us experience his faithfulness in fulfilling these promises to us. He grows us in patience to cry to him alone and to wait on the Lord alone to deliver. God grows us in hope in him. He does it by the Holy Spirit shedding his love abroad in our heart. He renews us and makes us see from our weakness in the trial that when we were without strength Christ redeemed us. When we were ungodly enemies Christ reconciled us and continues to reconcile us when we are without strength and acting as an enemy. The honor is knowing Christ is our only Deliverer.

Thus God makes us know Christ is the only Deliverer of our brethren. He makes us behold God is accomplishing these same promises in our brethren through affliction. As Peter said, "knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world" (1 Pet 5: 9).

Then when God has worked these things in us, whatever the outward circumstances, we are "content." God has taught us again in spirit and truth. The apostle Paul was in prison when he wrote, "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Whether abased or abounding Paul said, "everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Php 4: 11-13).

## **GOD PROMISES ETERNAL LIFE**

### **Psalm 91: 16: With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.**

How long? Forever! Everything is carnal with the natural man. He only wants long life in this life. But the hope God puts in the heart of the believer is that we have eternal life with Christ. Job asked to be delivered from "men of the world, which have their portion in this life" but Job said

Psalm 17: 15: As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Galatians 5: 5: We through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

God promises to preserve his children unto the end. And the believer who perseveres in faith to the end, God shall satisfy us when we awake perfectly conformed to Christ. God delivering us over and over from our light afflictions and God honoring us by satisfying us to behold Christ our Deliverer now, is a foretaste of eternal life to come. By this he grows us in hope of God's promise of eternal life.

God promises, "*and [I will] shew him my salvation.*" God's salvation is spelled with a capital "S." Simeon took up the infant Lord Jesus in his arms and said, "I have beheld thy salvation!" Christ is God's salvation for his people beginning to end. Heaven to God's child is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is God's Salvation! Christ is my salvation. God promises an eternity of beholding Christ our Salvation.

Ephesians 2: 6: And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus: 7: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Why does God promise to do these things? He says in verse 14, "*Because he hath set his love upon me, ...because he hath known my name ...and called upon his name.*" If you know his name, believe on his name, and love his name then these promises are yes in Christ and amen in Christ. Believe on Christ. Set your love, your affection, upon him. Call upon him. These promises are his sure mercies in Christ to the praise of the glory of God.

**Amen!**