
Topics in I, II, and III John

God's Gracious Promise

I John 2:25

*“And this is the promise
which he promised us,
even the life eternal”*

The History behind God's promise

- Law (Gen. 2:15-17)
 - Transgression (Gen. 3:1ff)
 - Spiritual death (Gen. 2:17 / Rom. 5:12-19)
 - Physical death (Gen. 2:17 / I Cor. 15:20-22)
 - Hope to come through the “**seed**” of woman (Gen. 3:14-15)
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A closer look at the “seed” of promise

- Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Gen. 12:1ff).
- The promised seed would not leave the tribe of Judah (Gen. 49:9-10).



Judah

- Judah took the first place among the tribes when they marched and camped (Numb. 2:2, 3; 7:12; 10:14).
 - Balaam's prophecy to Balak (Numb. 23:24; 24:9, 17).
 - A sign of future supremacy of Judah is seen in their opening the attacks against the Canaanites (Judg. 1:1ff) and the unruly Benjaminites (Judg. 20:18).
 - The first judge and deliverer was Othniel of Judah (Judges 3:9).
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Judah

- Judah became the ruling tribe through King David (I Chron. 5:2).
 - David proved to have the courage, strength, and spirit of the Lion by subduing all Jehovah's enemies and giving the people rest.
 - God promised that His eternal Kingdom would be established through the “**seed**” of David (II Sam. 7:12ff).
 - The prophets foretold of the establishment of Shiloh's everlasting Kingdom through the seed of David (Isa. 9:5-7; 11:1-12).
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Judah

- Dark days belong to the physical kingdom of David; however, new days awaited the coming of Shiloh to whom the scepter truly belonged (Ezek. 21:24-27). Though Judah stumbled in sin and fell, their vigor would be renewed in the coming King Shiloh (Jesus Christ) (Heb. 7:14).
- Jesus would be the Shiloh out of Judah to rule as King over Jehovah's eternal kingdom conquering all foes with the might of a lion (Rev. 5:5).
- Peace would come, as the name Shiloh suggest, through the prince of peace even Jesus (Isa. 9:5-7; Eph. 2:14).

Identifying the “seed”

- The apostle Paul clearly tells us that the promised seed to come was Jesus (Gal. 3:8, 16).



The gracious promise identified

- The apostle Paul states, “*that upon the Gentiles might come the blessing of Abraham in Christ Jesus; that we might receive the **promise of the Spirit through faith***” (Gal. 3:14).
 - The blessing of Abraham was to be the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:22-26; 2:38).
 - Paul speaks of salvation through the seed of David by **promise** (Acts 13:22-39).
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What do God's promises mean to us today?

- The same promise of salvation applies to us today (1 Jn. 2:25).

“And this is the promise which he promised us, even the life eternal”

What are we saved from?

- A resurrection of the just and unjust shall occur (Jn. 5:28-29; Acts 24:15).
 - The Lord will separate the faithful from the unfaithful (Matt. 13:47-50).
 - From the wrath of God (Rev. 14:17-20).
 - From the eternal fires of hell (Rev. 20:14-15)
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What must we do to avoid the wrath of God and the consequences of sin?

- Obey the Lord (Gen. 39:10b / Acts 3:22-23).
 - Hear the gospel message of salvation (through Jesus) from the awful wrath of God (Rom. 10:17).
 - Believe that message unto salvation (I Jn. 5:1).
 - Repent of sinful living (Lk. 13:3; Acts 2:38; 17:30 etc.).
 - Confess that Jesus indeed is the Christ (the promised Shiloh; i.e., Prince of Peace from the seed of David who came to this world to save us from our sins) (Rom. 10:9-10; I Jn. 4:3).
 - Be baptized for the remission of your sins (Acts 2:38) that you may have true fellowship with Jehovah God (I Jn. 1:5-7).
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What must we continue to do?

- Continue to live faithfully throughout your life (Heb. 4:11) repenting of your sins in humility before the Lord (I Jn. 1:9; 3:3).
 - Tell others of the saving power of Christ that they need not suffer eternity in hell. Paul said, “*knowing therefore the fear (or terror) of the Lord, we persuade men...*” (II Cor. 5:11).
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Conclusion

- God's gracious promise is salvation from God's wrath against the ungodly (I Jn. 2:25).

“And this is the promise which he promised us, even the life eternal”

- God will one day take vengeance upon those who do not know him (II Thess. 1:8) through eternal fire (Jude 1:7).
 - Where will you spend your eternity?
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