

# Lessons of Faith Righteousness

February 10, 2013

## I. God expects mankind to respond in faith to the gospel.

Heb 4:1-6 Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it. 2 For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard. 3 For we who have believed enter that rest, just as He has said, "AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST," although His works were finished from the foundation of the world. 4 For He has said somewhere concerning the seventh day: "AND GOD RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY FROM ALL HIS WORKS"; 5 and again in this passage, "THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST." 6 Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience

### A. The gospel is God's "good news."

1. People in the Old Testament had good news (gospel) preached to them.
2. This good news didn't profit them because of their unbelief.
3. Unbelief and disobedience are one and the same thing.

4. The work of God was finished from the foundation of the world.

Rev 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (KJV)

1 Pet 1:18-20 knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19 but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. 20 For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you

### B. The gospel is based on promise.

Heb 4:1 Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it.

## II. God expects a faith response to the gospel

The gospel in the New Testament is the same good news of God which was promised in the Old Testament. God foretold the coming of the gospel (His Son) through the Prophets.

John 5:39-40 You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me.

### Abraham responded in faith to the gospel.

Gal 3:6-9 Even so Abraham BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS. 7 Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham. 8 The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "ALL THE NATIONS WILL BE BLESSED IN YOU." 9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.

### Israel did not heed, they did not respond in faith to the good news.

Rom 10:16-17 However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" (Isa 53:1) 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

### How we should study the Old Testament (1 Cor 10:1-13)

1-4 Israel was sustained in the wilderness after their deliverance from Egypt through Christ. For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea; 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 and all ate the same spiritual food; 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.

5-11 their experiences are examples to us of how we are to live. 5 Nevertheless, with most of them God was not well-pleased; for they were laid low in the wilderness. 6 Now these things happened as examples for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved. 7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, "THE PEOPLE SAT DOWN TO EAT AND DRINK, AND STOOD UP TO PLAY." 8 Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day. 9 Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents. 10 Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. 11 Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

12-13 there is a way of victory in the midst of every trial and temptation. 12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

### III. God's promise

Paul preached the gospel (good news about Jesus) of the promise made to the fathers Acts 13:30-33 "But God raised Him from the dead; 31 and for many days He appeared to those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, the very ones who are now His witnesses to the people. 32 "And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, 33 that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, 'YOU ARE MY SON; TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU.'

Paul was on trial for (all) the promise of God made to Israel. Acts 26:6-7 "And now I am standing trial for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers; 7 the promise to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly serve God night and day.

God made the promise of blessing to Abraham to encourage our faith Heb 6:13-17 For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, " I WILL SURELY BLESS YOU AND I WILL SURELY MULTIPLY YOU." 15 And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise. 16 For men swear by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath given as confirmation is an end of every dispute. 17 In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,

faith righteousness receives the promise of God (Abraham's life exemplified). Rom 4:13-16 For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith. 14 For if those who are of the Law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise is nullified; 15 for the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, there also is no violation. 16 For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all,

Abraham's faith grew strong as he contemplated God's promise to his problems. Rom 4:19-20 Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; 20 yet, with

respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God,

we are Abraham's heirs through faith in Christ.

Gal 3:29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise .

Abraham (Isaac and Jacob) lived in the land of promise looking for the city of God.

Heb 11:8-10 By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise , as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise ; 10 for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

eternal life is the promise of God

1 John 2:25 This is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life.

Jesus is the promise son of David

Acts 13:22-23 "After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, ' I HAVE FOUND DAVID the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.' 23 " From the descendants of this man, according to promise , God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus,

Christ became a curse so that we might receive His promise

Gal 3:13-14 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us--for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE"-- 14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Gal 3:17-19 inheritance is based on covenantal promise.

17 What I am saying is this: the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise . 18 For if the inheritance is based on law, it is no longer based on a promise ; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise . 19 Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made

Embracing our failure (sin) is the first step in receiving from God.

Gal 3:22 But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

in Christ we are partakers of the confidence a promise.

Eph 2:12 remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise ,

Eph 3:6 through (understanding and believing) the gospel we become partakers of God's promise.

6 to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,

The promise is to bring rest

Heb 4:1 Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it