

# Promises

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## Introduction

1. 2 Peter 1:2-4
2. A word that is found many times in this book is promises or promise this word is used 5 times within the book. It means self-committal – conferring something good.
3. Men make promises on all levels of life: marriage, business and politics.
4. These promises are “exceeding great and precious” thus these promises are of the highest value, cost honored or esteemed. How do we feel about the promise of God?
5. Let us consider the promises of God

## II Discussion

1. There are two classes of promises
  - a. Unconditional promises
    - i. Seedtime and harvest Genesis 8:22
    - ii. Rain upon all Matthew 5:45
    - iii. No more world destruction by flood Genesis 9:11
    - iv. The promise of a Redeemer Genesis 3:15; Acts 13:23
    - v. There will be a future destruction of the world 2 Peter 3:6-11
    - vi. There will be a general resurrection John 5:28-29 1 Corinthians 15:22
  - b. Conditional promises
    - i. Remission of sins Jeremiah 31:34; Acts 10:43 (what do we mean by believeth?)
    - ii. Answer to prayers Matthew 7:11; James 1:6-7; 1 John 3:22
    - iii. All things work for good Romans 8:28 (must love and call)
    - iv. All spiritual blessings Ephesians 1:3; Galatians 3:26-27
    - v. A better resurrection Hebrews 11:35; Matthew 25:34, 41, 46
    - vi. The kingdom of God James 2:5
    - vii. Eternal life 1 John 2:25; 1 Timothy 4:8; Hebrews 10:35-36; James 1:10
2. God’s promises are precious because of the One who made them
  - a. According as his divine power hath given verse 3, 4
    - i. The word “given” means: to bestow gratuitously in verse 5 it means to bear along side of; introduces simultaneously
    - ii. God has revealed His promises unto us
  - b. The nature of the promise is influenced by the one making the promise.
    - i. The higher the position the more significant the promise
    - ii. The greater the number of people involve, the more important the promise.
  - c. Man’s questioning does not nullify God’s faithfulness in keeping His promise 2 Peter 3:3-5
3. Do God’s promises fail?
  - a. The unconditional promises never fail Numbers 23:19
  - b. The conditional promises fail when the conditions are not met Deuteronomy 28:1-2, 15; Jeremiah 18:9-10
  - c. The conditional promises never fail when the conditions are met Hebrews 10:23; 2 Peter 3:9
4. Delayed fulfillment is no proof of failure
  - a. A thousand years is as one day to God 2 Peter 3:8
  - b. The destruction of the world by water took over a century to come about

- c. The promise to Abraham took over 2 millennium to complete Genesis 12:3;  
Galatians 3:16

### III Conclusion

1. The value we place on these promises manifest itself in our obedience to God
2. The promises ought to give us hope to endure until the end
3. We cannot now fathom all that is involved with these promises 1 John 3:2
4. To reject any of the promises of God is a sad mistake now and also latter, obey now

Sources: Porter's outlines: The key of knowledge sermon outlines from 2 Peter by Tom Holland;  
1998 Denton lecture; Vine's Dictionary