****May 22, 2016**

**Promises Made & Promises Kept – Part 1**

*‘The Promise Maker’*

**Some questions we hope to answer:**

* Is God’s timetable and ours always the same?
* What to do when it seems as if God is not coming through on His promises?
* Are all God’s promises conditional on us straightening up and doing something?
* How is it possible to be at rest in the midst of a storm?

**Foundational Text**

**Hebrews 8:6**

*But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a* ***better covenant****, which was established on* ***better promises****.*

**God’s dealings:**

* Know His **ways,** and not just His **works - Psalm 103:7**

**EG1: At Red Sea crossing** *-* **Exodus 14:13-16**

**EG 2: Jesus dealings with His disciples in the boat - Mark 4:35-41**

* God’s ways: committed to 4 key aspects:

-Relationship / Character / Gifting / Function.

* History belongs to those who **know His ways** -‘**Promises made and promises kept’**.
* Promises are always made in our time frame **before** something comes to pass.

**Hebrews 6:11**

* The Hebrews writer then gives the **Eg. of Abraham** who received a promise **25** **years** before it came to pass about Isaac being born to Sarah.

**EG 3: Abraham is promised to have a child thorough Sarah**

**Romans 4:17-22**

-God **promised** to make Abraham the father of many nations.

-Looked ridiculous when Sarah couldn’t conceive.

-God gives life to the dead / speaks things ahead of time.

-Abraham **became strong** in faith, did not consider / waver / became fully convinced of God’s **ability** after He’d heard of His **willingness**!

-**Believing** God is connected to righteousness.

**Key ‘take aways’**

* **Promises depend** on the integrity of God’s word.
* Promises come **before** we see the manifestation.
* **Faith** and **patience** cooperate together.

**Notes**

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