

UNCLAIMED PRAYERS AND PROMISES

Wednesday Night Bible Study – March 17, 2010

Tabernacle Of Praise – Pastor G. Richardson

Heb 4:1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

Heb 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard *it*.

Heb 4:3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

Heb 2:1 Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let *them* slip.

1. The unclaimed promises to Israel caused them to wander in the wilderness for 40 years of testing and hard trials, till their bones bleached in the wilderness.
2. The Promise to Abraham was as follows:

Gen 12:1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

Gen 12:2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

Gen 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Rom 4:18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

Rom 4:19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

Rom 4:20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

Rom 4:21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

UNCLAIMED ITEMS

(Google)

1. Unclaimed Money (money that you left in inactive accounts)
2. Unclaimed Property (Lost owners, hold for 3 years before sold)
3. Unclaimed Baggage (Sale for 50% - 80% below retail value)
4. Unclaimed Safety Deposit Boxes (Diamond rings, confederate Money, gold coins etc.)
5. Unclaimed Police Items..
6. In the old days, the Gold miners would stake claims on their mining areas

Staking Claims

Mineral rights, mining rights, oil rights or drilling rights, are the rights to remove [minerals](#), [oil](#), or sometimes [water](#), that may be contained in and under some land.

THE PROMISES OF GOD DO NOT HAVE TO GO UNCLAIMED

Jer 33:3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

mighty things — *Hebrew*, “inaccessible things,” that is, incredible, hard to man’s understanding.

2Co 1:20 For all the promises of God in him *are* yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

and in him Amen — The oldest manuscripts read, “*Wherefore through Him is the Amen*”; that is, In Him is *faithfulness* (“yea”) to His word, “wherefore through Him” is the immutable verification of it (“Amen”). **As “yea” is His word, so “Amen” is His oath, which**

makes our assurance of the fulfillment doubly sure. Compare “two immutable things (namely, His word and His oath) in which it was impossible for God to lie” (Heb 6:18; Rev 3:14). The whole range of Old Testament and New Testament promises are secure in their fulfillment for us in Christ.

Mat 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Mat 7:8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Mat 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Mar 13:31 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

Luk 21:33 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

1Pe 1:24 For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

1Pe 1:25 **But the word of the Lord endureth for ever.** And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

TO MAKE MY POINT MORE CLEAR ON THE UNCLAIMED PRAYERS WE MUST TAKE A LOOK AT THIS SCRIPTURE

Act 12:5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

Act 12:6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

Act 12:7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon *him*, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from *his* hands.

Act 12:8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

Act 12:12 And when he had considered *the thing*, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.

Act 12:13 And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda.

Act 12:14 And when she knew Peter's voice, **she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.**

Act 12:15 And they said unto her, **Thou art mad** (*Thou art raving; You are crazy; You are out of your mind*). **But she constantly affirmed that it was even so.** Then said they, It is his angel.

Act 12:16 But Peter continued knocking: **and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.**

Constantly Affirmed: “She kept on strongly declaring; She stoutly maintained that it was true; She persistently insisted that it was so; She insisted up and down that it was so;

1. **These believers , who were praying earnestly, weren’t expecting their prayers to be answered.** You may ask yourself how this can be.
2. **How Can we pray earnestly for something and not believe our answer when it arrives.**
3. **Could it be that God sends answers to our prayers and they are returned to Him stamped “Unclaimed” Why is this?**
4. **How can we take the time to pray and not expect our answer or recognize it when it comes knocking?**

THREE MAIN REASONS WHY

1. **Lack of Expectation:** do to “Past Experiences” In looking at the context of this scripture; these individuals had experienced fellow

believers being killed, even after they had prayed for their release. They had endured the stoning of Stephen, the slaying of James and now their leader Peter was scheduled to be next.

- a. Those who were in the house answered, that Rhoda was “Out of her Mind”. **However, we must remember that our past experiences or failures do not determine or dictate God’s present or future course of action.** Many of the most difficult things that hinder our forward movement in life are not the things that lay ahead of us, but those things that are behind us that distract us from what is happening in our lives now.
- b. We must expect God to answer our prayers and be on the look out for its manifestation in our lives, regardless of what happened yesterday.

2. **Our prayer in our lives have been minimized to being nothing more than a “religious activity or responsibility” Instead a prayer life that moves the heart of God.**

- a. We must not lose sight of the fact that we are calling upon the Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent Creator, and Creator of the Universe, who also happens to be “Our Father,”
- b. We cannot become overwhelmed by the severity of our situation. We must understand that we are not calling upon another human being or some distant disinterested deity. But Our Father who has no limitations.
- c. If I can find it in His Word and agree with what He said, the facts of my situation have to line up with the truth of His word. Facts change every day, but God’s word never changes.
- d. Because I have decided to believe the truth above the fluctuating facts, I have a legitimate expectation of an answer in my prayer.

Prayer is more than a religion or a believer's responsibility, but a relationship with our Father! **Daily, I walk with God.**

3. God's ways to answer our prayers is simple: Those who gathered in prayer over Peter, when the answer came it "**was too easy**" Many of us overlook our answers from God because we "feel" that we haven't toiled, labored or suffered enough to have earned an answered prayer. We feel we have to call one hundred people to pray and maybe one out of all one hundred can scream, plead, beg, and maybe someone will get through on God's party line.
 - a. Remember you are a son, not a slave! You don't earn blessings, you receive them. What did Jesus say?

Mat 7:11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Did you know that God is your Father and He wants to bless you?

Do you expect your prayer to be answered?

If not, you need to take a good look around, Because the answer of your prayer may have already arrived and waiting for you to receive it!

It is time to open the door!