



365 Pocket Promises from the Bible





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INTRODUCTION

Why is the Bible full of so many promises? Maybe it's because God wants you to realize that you can trust him in everything. Maybe it's because he cares so deeply for you that he wants to show you just how much you have to look forward to as you travel through life. This unique book presents more than 365 of these incredible promises, at least one for every day of the year. All these promises will come true—or have already come true. You simply need to choose to be part of them.

Imagine that every morning you could be inspired by a promise from God's Word and then live the rest of the day with either the expectation that God would fulfill that promise or the confidence that comes from a promise already fulfilled.

This little book is designed to inspire you in just that way. In it you will find a promise for each day of the year. You can read consecutively through the book, concentrating on one of God's promises each day. Alternatively, you can search the index for a topic that matches a concern on your heart right now. You'll find hope as you read the promise from God and then think about it, letting it soak in.

Each promise is paired with a short devotional note to help you look at your day differently through the reality of God's Word. Each daily reading ends with a question designed to help you trust that this promise is meant for you. On every sixth and seventh day's reading, you will find the heading "A Moment of Promise." These are shorter promises to read on the weekends or on days when time is limited.

As you read a new promise, take your time. Claim each promise as your own with the confidence that you can always trust God to keep his word. Our prayer is that you will be blessed and encouraged as you see and experience all that God has in store for you.



A promise about SALVATION When you are ready to trust Christ

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved. ROMANS 10:9-10

There is only one way to be certain that you will go to heaven instead of hell when you die. You must believe in your heart that Jesus died and rose again to save you from the consequences of your sin, and you must be willing to confess your sin to him as well as confess your faith to others. By taking these steps in faith, you secure your salvation and your place in eternity with God.

Have you confessed Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?



A promise about SIGNIFICANCE When you wonder if you are valuable to God

What is the price of two sparrows—one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. . . . So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.

MATTHEW 10:29, 31

Deep within every human heart lies a hunger for significance. We want our lives to count, to make a difference, to be worth something. Yet many people carry deep feelings of insignificance. Their lives are dominated not by their abilities but by their inabilities. Everywhere they look they see others who are more successful, more gifted, more this or that. The Bible, however, says that every person has great value. You are significant, not because of anything you can accomplish on your own but because God loves you and promises that you are valuable to him.

How does knowing that God values you increase your feelings of significance?



A promise about KINDNESS When you are grateful for God's mercy and kindness

The LORD is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. . . . The LORD is righteous in everything he does; he is filled with kindness.

PSALM 145:8, 17

God promises to give you mercy when you don't deserve it, to be patient and not lash out in anger when you do something wrong. In other words, he promises to love you unconditionally, even if you don't return his love. God didn't just create kindness, he *is* kindness. Everything he does for you is an act of kindness. He wants you to become everything he created you to be and gives you every opportunity to experience the joy of eternity with him.

How can you be aware of God's kindness toward you today?



A promise about ETERNAL LIFE When you are afraid of death

I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. JOHN II:25-26

Why are we so afraid to die? Often it is because we are uncertain about what happens after death. This life is all we know; death represents the unknown. When you die physically, you leave your earthly body and your place in the earthly community. But if you die spiritually, you will miss eternal life in heaven with God and with his people; you will be separated from God forever. When Christians die physically, they continue to live spiritually as they take up residence in heaven. If you believe Jesus is your Savior, death is not the end but only the beginning of an eternity of unspeakable joy in the Lord's presence.

How can you look at death as the beginning rather than the end?



Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. GALATIANS 6:8

A gun fires, a bullet flies, and a person in its path dies. That death is the consequence of someone's pulling the trigger of a loaded weapon. Similarly, hurtful words may wound someone else. On the other hand, helpful words may lead a person to Christ. In both cases, the words have consequences. Sin always has negative consequences, but faithfulness to God always has positive consequences. Focus on doing things that have positive consequences, and you will have less time to act in ways that have negative consequences.

Have your actions lately had more negative consequences or more positive consequences?

DAY 6 A Moment of Promise



A promise about NEIGHBORS

When you want to love your neighbor as yourself

Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world. I PETER 2:12

Treat your neighbors, especially unbelievers, with love and respect, integrity and graciousness. Be an example of godliness, even if they treat you poorly. See it as an opportunity to win them over through friendship as they see the love of God shining through you.

How can you show God's love to your neighbor today?

DAY 7 A Moment of Promise



A promise about JUSTICE When life doesn't seem fair

Then at last everyone will say, "There truly is a reward for those who live for God; surely there is a God who judges justly here on earth." PSALM 58:11

In difficult times, it is tempting to think God is not fair or just. How can he allow a Christian to suffer when so many unbelievers are prospering? Justice and fairness are often perverted in this life by selfish people. But true justice will one day prevail in eternity for those who live for God.

Do you trust that God's justice will one day prevail?