

## Great and Precious Promises Prompt Growth - 2 Peter 1:4

### Introduction:

- A. God's promises are great and precious because He is God.
  - 1. God cannot lie (Hebrews 6:18).
  - 2. What God has promised He can deliver.
    - a) 2 Peter 3:9
    - b) 2 Tim 1:12
- B. Promises are motivators.
  - 1. The greater the reward the greater effort put forth.
  - 2. Some are rewarded for grades--
  - 3. Girl telling boyfriend she would give kiss to put top down.
- C. God's promises are Great and Valuable
  - 1. Great price - 1 Peter 1:7, 19
  - 2. Heirs of God -Gal. 3:29
  - 3. Entering into His rest - Hebrews 4:1-4
  - 4. Home - John 14:1-3
  - 5. Eternal life - 1 John 2:25
- I. God's Promises are Conditional.
  - A. 1 John 2:24
  - B. Acts 2:38
  - C. Matt. 7:21
  - D. Hebrews 5:8,9
  - E. 2 Peter 1:8-11
- II. God's Promises Motivate Us To grow Up
  - A. 2 Peter 3:18
  - B. Another word is Maturity Hebrews 6:1
- III. Five Steps To Maturity
  - A. Have A Positive Attitude**
    - 1. Phil. 4:13
    - 2. Romans 8:31-39
    - 3. Don't worry.
      - a. Psa. 37:1,2
      - b. Psa. 118:24
      - c. If you must worry (Guidelines )
  - B. Develop Sense of Humor**
    - 1. God must have one (look at some of His creations (men)).
    - 2. Psa. 162:2
    - 3. Prov. 15:15
    - 4. Jesus appealed to mans sense of humor - Matt. 7:3 Mote and Beam;  
Matt. 23:24 straining at gnats swallowing camels.

## C. Set Attainable Goals

- 1. We need targets (man shooting trees)
- 2. many live aimless lives - Those who do not plan for success usually succeed..
- 3. Be realistic- Don't expect to be a Bible scholar after a couple of weeks of reading the Bible.
- 4. Finish what you begin - Matt. 24:13; 2 Tim 2:3 (Man lived to be 95 - was asked what he attributed....clean living , etc- my uncle same thing only 65 - didn't keep it up long enough.

## D. Manage Time Wisely

- 1. Everyone has same amount. (1440) minutes)
- 2. Do people who attend wed and Sunday night have more time?
- 3. Eph. 5:16 - (The clock of life)
- 4. James 4:13,14
- E. Be energetic And Enthusiastic
  - 1. Be fired up (Eccl. 9:10)
  - 2. Opposite of enthusiasm is apathy.
  - 3. Rom. 10:2 (Which Is worse zeal w/out knowledge or knowledge...