

## 20220731 HAPPY ARE THOSE WHO LIVE

### BY THE PROMISES OF GOD

#### Hebrews 10:23

<sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

#### Three considerations concerning a positive benefit out of the faithfulness of a promise

1. The ability of the promisor
2. The willingness of the promisor
3. The good character of the promisor

When human beings rejected God's promise, they lost the essence of our intrinsic value. So, they began to develop their own value system: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

#### 1 John 2:15-16

<sup>15</sup> Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them.

<sup>16</sup> For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.

This man-made system is governed by S.H.A.M.E. - ***“What would others think about ME?”***

To cover shame, we invent our own covering and we find the resources from this material world. But these kinds of coverings do not have eternal value. They can't solve the “shame” problem.

#### Matthew 19:23-24

<sup>23</sup> “Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>24</sup> Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

Religion is another powerful man-made covering that doesn't work for our true security and happiness.

#### Matthew 23:25-28

<sup>25</sup> “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.

<sup>26</sup> Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.

<sup>27</sup> “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean.

<sup>28</sup> In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

**There is the world that God's value system works always. Man cannot touch this world. There is no man-made system in this God-world.**

To make a transfer from the man-made world system into the kingdom of God, Jesus met the people at the point of their deepest despair of their life:

For example: 38 years' sickness. 12 years' blood issue.

Jesus was able to meet them at their desperate hopelessness. He met the people because they had no more covering for themselves.

- To them, the only covering at the moment of their complete despair was the promises of God.
- And right there, Jesus met them and he never requested them any of their qualification for the reception of God's touch. They just came to Jesus as they were.
- And they were able to come to Jesus as they were because they were broken and had no other covering.
- When Jesus met them, he never invaded them. That's how our God comes to us. He never asks us "Why did you do what you did?" He already knows that.

The reason many people are sceptic about the fulfillment of the promises of Almighty God is because they still have their own covering from this material world. To them, anything that defies the reality of this material world is unbelievable.

But when we meet Jesus at the deepest despair in our life, we become able to depend on the covering from God through His promises.

### **Psalms 73:1-20**

- 1 Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.
- 2 But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold.
- 3 For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
- 4 They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong.
- 5 They are free from common human burdens; they are not plagued by human ills.

6 Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence.

7 From their callous hearts comes iniquity; their evil imaginations have no limits.

8 They scoff, and speak with malice; with arrogance they threaten oppression.

9 Their mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take possession of the earth.

10 Therefore their people turn to them and drink up waters in abundance.

11 They say, "How would God know? Does the Most High know anything?"

12 This is what the wicked are like— always free of care, they go on amassing wealth.

13 Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have washed my hands in innocence.

14 All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments.

15 If I had spoken out like that, I would have betrayed your children.

16 When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply

17 till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny.

18 Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin.

19 How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors!

20 They are like a dream when one awakes; when you arise, Lord, you will despise them as fantasies."