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# PROMISES

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By Dr. Randy Brodhagen



# PART ONE

## EVERYTHING FOR LIFE AND GODLINESS

### THE WAY GOD SAYS IT WILL BE

No matter what the circumstance in this life is, the Lord has a Word or a promise for us. We live our lives by the promises, the principles, and the commandments of the Lord. We do not want to vary from those. Things will be just the way the Lord says they will be. *“God is not a human, that He should lie, nor a human being, that He should change His mind. Does He speak and then not act? Does He promise and not fulfill?”* (Numbers 23:19) In other words, “I am going to do it just the way I said I would do it.”

### MADE IN HIS IMAGE

In chapter one of the book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter the Lord gives a plan for Christian growth. (Years ago we spent a whole year on the first 12 verses!) There is so much in there. The Lord is developing His image in us, and He says in verse three, *“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.”* So, the glory of God is His presence and the goodness of God is His character.

He has made us in His image through Jesus Christ — born of heaven, not of the will of man or the flesh of man, but born of God. He will grow us up into all that He has created us to become, namely, to become like He is, to have His qualities. *“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by the faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”* (Galatians 2:20) It is Christ who lives in us now, and we live by the faith of the Son of God. It is no longer us, it is He in us. So anything that would draw attention to us is not of Him.

## WHAT BRINGS GLORY TO GOD

Doing things in life to draw attention to ourselves is not of God. Many will say that what they are doing is of the Lord, but you can tell it is not by the effect it has on others.

Someone may say, "Well, I am doing this to the glory of God," but others are seeing it, and it looks like the person is giving attention to himself. What the Lord does brings glory to Himself, and people will know it is not themselves.

It is all about His presence, His glory, His goodness, and His character. The Lord, He is good. He is good. And everything He does, He does out of His goodness and love. There is no evil, there is no wickedness in it. And so, if folks do not receive His love, His goodness, and who He is, then they receive the wrath of God, for the Lord is destroying whatever is evil, whatever is not good.

## WHY REMOVE EVIL?

Evil has to be removed because it will influence good. A rotten potato in the barrel will ruin the whole barrel. Paul talks about this in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, chapter 5. He said to remove the person who refuses to listen to God and to the congregation. In this example, a man continued to live with his dad's wife. (I am not referring to housing.)

Paul said it was evil, it was wrong, and it needed to be removed. But he told the people to give the man an opportunity to change. In the meantime they were to have nothing to do with him. Later, as shown in the chapter, the man came to his senses.

## LOVE GIVES, LOVE CONTRIBUTES

Paul gave a similar directive to those who will not work and contribute to the Body of Christ. (2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 3) In that case, the disciples were not to treat the people like enemies. They were to let them come to their senses, having nothing to do with them so they would wake up to the fact they cannot be users and takers. They could not expect things to be done for them when they were not contributing. Love contributes. Love gives.

Love is not “entitled.” Nobody is entitled to love. Though we desire it, we are not entitled to it.

When does love come? When we love and give. It will come back to us.

## ASK THE LORD WHAT HE WANTS

The Lord is the One who made and created everything. He is the Lord. There is none like unto Him. How awesome that is! He can make everything happen He wants to happen. We cannot do that except through Him. It is not what we want anyway, it is what the Lord wants. So what does the Lord want and how does He want to do it? That is what we should speak forth in Jesus’ name.

## EVERYTHING WE NEED FOR LIFE

His divine power has now given us His glory, His presence, His goodness, and His character (love). Through the power of heaven He has given us everything we need for life. No believer should ever be lacking for anything. Believe the Lord has given what each of us needs for this life.

## THE LORD HAS PROVIDED IN FIVE AREAS:

- Spiritually, He made us believers and enabled us to receive His love. You are not even able to receive His love except He enables it. He saved us.
- He has blessed us mentally, for we have the mind of Christ (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:16).
- He has healed us physically. He is our Healer, Jehovah Rapha, *“I am the Lord that healeth thee.”*
- Financially, He has blessed us with everything we have. If you are faithful with a little, the Lord will give increase so that you never lack for anything (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9), and you will be able to do everything

the Lord has given you to do. Finances are to be used to advance the kingdom of God. He takes care of what we need, and then He takes care of His kingdom through us believers in the Lord Jesus.

- He has blessed our relationships. Having life and godliness is about relationship. It does away with religion. Our first relationship is with the Lord (the first four commandments deal with how to love the Lord your God). Secondly, other relationships are with people (the last six commandments deal with loving your neighbor as yourself). The Lord is concerned about relationships. He enables us to consider others more important than ourselves, for He crucified selfishness at the cross.

## LET THE LORD DEAL WITH OTHERS

Jesus says, *“Father, forgive them, they don’t know what they are doing.”* Give people opportunity. As the Lord directs, things will happen because the Lord’s desire is that nobody perish. The Lord told Moses, *“Get out of the way, I am dealing with these people.”* Moses’ heart was right. That is where it has to be. You cannot hold anything against anybody or anything, but let the Lord work. Do not get in the way of the Lord working in people. We want His results.

Have you been used by people? You thought you were helping them, but they came back and wanted more. What you gave them did not help them at all. They just used it to continue in their evil schemes, wicked ways, and selfishness. Let the Lord deal with those folks. This is very important

The Lord has power, and He has already given us everything that we need for life and godliness. My running around trying to be good and trying to show people how spiritual I am does not make me spiritual. *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.”* (Ephesians 2:8-9) It is the grace of God through faith, not by works. The Lord did it. He made you a Christian through the blood of Jesus. And now, you will know you are a Christian by the works that come forth. Fruit. Jesus is the vine, we are the branches, and the fruit comes out of the branch. People will know you are a Christian because they see God’s love. They see

God's joy. They see God's peace. They see God's patience and kindness. He is always on time. We have to get out of the way and let Him work.

# PART TWO

## HIS VERY GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES

### WORKING TOGETHER

How about us working with the Lord so we are not in the way? What a good, Godlike thought! We work together, yoked up with Him. Through His glory and goodness, His presence and character, He now has given us very great and precious promises through His power. These are all revealed to us in His Word and by His Spirit. His Word and Spirit always work together and will confirm each other. This is how the Lord operates, and we now operate as He operates, for He and we are one. We are one.

### NO MATTER WHAT GENDER, COLOR, CULTURE

People use the term “He,” some use “She,” but the Spirit has no gender. The world makes an issue of gender. So, just throw that out. As we live, the Lord made a male and female for what purpose? To raise godly offspring. Spirit has no color and no culture of its own. All that is meaningless, but the world makes a big issue of all those things. Gender, color, culture. Why? It is about trying to gain preeminence. It has no place in the spirit, for there is no competition and there is no comparison with the Lord. *“Who is like unto Me?”* We are born of heaven and of His Spirit. We came alive to serve Him. So do not get caught up in meaningless things. It is fleshly and worldly and demonic. God’s love supersedes everything and includes everything. He loves everybody no matter what gender, no matter what culture, no matter what color.

I was talking with a guy who had become a darker color. He was trying to stay out of the sun so he would not get darker. What does that tell you? Sun has an effect.

The Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, has a bearing on everything. Whoever receives Him, receives the blessing of heaven. Whoever rejects Him will receive the wrath of God because they are not receiving the love, and they

are not relating to Him. The devil does not want to recognize the Lord in His authority, His power, His goodness, or His glory.

## GOD MADE YOU SPIRITUAL

As a believer, you do not ever have to try to be religious or spiritual. You *are* spiritual. God made you spiritual. Believing in Him made you that way. He enabled you to believe in Him. You cannot even come into His presence except He draws you. Note, He draws you through His Word.

- *“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.”* (John 1:14)
- *“I beheld His glory as the only begotten of the Father, full of God’s grace, and full of God’s truth.”* (Grace is divine ability and favor.)
- *“This is My Beloved Son in whom I love and am well pleased. Hear Him,”* the Father says.

Listen to Him. Pay attention. Your life will be changed forevermore.

We have His glory, His goodness, and through these He has given us His very great and precious promises. The way He operates is not the way the devil works, not the way the world works, and not the way the selfish self works. You cannot mash them together with each other.

## DIRECTLY TO THE FATHER

What are God’s promises for? Number one, through them you may participate in the divine nature. In fact, let God act. One of His promises is, *“Call unto Me, and I will answer you, and I will show you great and mighty things, things you know not of”* (or have a clue about). He says to call to Him. In the name of Jesus you can go directly to the Father Himself because He loves you.

Jesus said not to go through Him (the man Jesus), and not through anybody else, alive or dead. Go to the Father yourself in the name of Jesus. You have access if you are a believer. The Lord knows who is and

who is not a believer. I guarantee you, the only prayer the Lord hears from an unbeliever is “Jesus, forgive me, I need you in my life. I receive the love of God” because the Lord is not going to do anything for those who do not have access.

In the book of Acts the sons of Sceva tried to cast the devil out of a guy in *“the name of Jesus who Paul preaches.”* In other words, they did not believe, they were just using the formula, but the formula without the relationship does not make anything happen. *“Father, I know you hear me always,”* Jesus said at Lazarus’ tomb. Lazarus was dead, but Jesus came to him so he would come alive.

## THE LORD WITHIN

Participate in the divine nature. This is something the church has had a hard time with over the years because they seem to separate themselves from the Lord. To them the Lord is “out there.” When you really understand the gospel, the good news of Jesus, and what the Lord has done (the working), you realize He now has come *within* you. Jesus says the kingdom of heaven is within you. In John, chapter 17, Jesus prayed to the Father before He ascended to His rightful place as Lord of lords and King of kings. He said, *“That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”* (John 17:21)

The Church is about Jesus being the Head, we being the Body. It is not about individual parts, even though I am an individual part. Note, the Lord does not tell you what part you are because flesh might rise up and say, “Oh, I get to be part of the eye.” One is not the whole eye, but part of it. (The Lord is healing the eyes of somebody right now.) You are a part of the Body of Christ, and the part you are will function according to what you are and what you are given. It is the Lord working in you and flowing through you to do what He wants to do, to do what He wants to accomplish to His glory and goodness, which is blessing all of us. We are walking, talking blessings.

There are many people out there who need to realize that the Lord loves them and wants to make them part of His family so they can come into all

the good things that He has in store for them. How will they hear except somebody tells them? (Romans 10) You are “somebody” everywhere you go, wherever you go...

## THE LORD HAS US

One day I shared in love God’s truth with a man who was from a Jewish background. He was trying to be really obnoxious, but I saw his heart. I saw the love that was in him. As we were parting ways, he came up to me and explained for 20 minutes why I could not share with him like that because of what he is. I said, “Well, God loves you first. I am grafted in.” You cannot get away from it. You cannot run and hide, for God has you. The man did not have to do that, but he was under conviction, and the Lord was dealing with his heart. He could have said, “Nice to be with you today.” No, he had to come up and explain why it would not work. The Lord has him, the hook is set.

I know great things are going to happen there. You have to sow the seed and let the Lord work it. Water it with love and care, respect and honor, and let the Lord work it. You cannot make anybody change. You cannot convince anybody of anything. Only the Holy Spirit can do that.

## BY HIS GLORY, GOODNESS, POWER

*“Participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.”* (2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1:4) The promises of God set us apart from the world and from the selfish self because the promises are all about giving, they are all about caring, and they are all about demonstrating God’s glory, goodness, and power. The promises of God are about those three things, and they come from God’s heart of love. They are heavenly, they are not of the world. The devil cannot replicate what God does. He may try to, but his hook always ends up evil.

When the Pharaoh’s priests threw down their staffs, the staffs turned into snakes just like Moses’ staff turned into a snake. What was the difference? Moses’ staff ate up the other snakes! The Lord always supersedes. The blood of Jesus covers over all sickness, disease, poverty, jealousy, bitterness, unforgiveness, or envy, and it changes things.

## LASSOED WITH THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

Were you a liar? If you still are, we want to talk to you and deliver you from that in Jesus' name. We can actually deliver ourselves from it because the promises of God say we are changed. We are not born of a spirit of fear anymore, but of power, love, and a sound mind. When you lie, you do not have a sound mind. It is being influenced by something evil. The devil is the father of all liars. Many times fear and pride are the influence. There are varying factors, but the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth, and we are lassoed with the Spirit of truth. We cannot get away from it. If we lie we cannot live with ourselves.

I must speak the truth as best as I understand it - the whole truth, nothing but the truth. *Holy Spirit, help me to know and to tell the truth.* Participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. What are you afraid of? Self wants to protect and defend itself. But if you are really free, then you are free of self, and there is no need to protect yourself. The Lord is our Protector and our Defender.

## PROMISES KEPT

Every promise of God will come into play to enable us to walk in the divine nature as He has provided for us. We have it in Jesus' name. The kicker is in verse 3, *"His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him."* There are many people who are God's children, who love the Lord, but they perish for lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6), and they do not want to get the knowledge. They are still leaning to their own understanding and not believing the promise. One, they do not know what the promise is. Two, when they do know the promise, it is too wonderful for them, they cannot believe it.

I remind you of two people in the Bible who received a promise during an angelic visitation. The first person was the father of John the Baptist, Zachariah, and the other was little Mary who was going to be the mother of Jesus. Both received a word from heaven about what was to be. Zachariah was a priest in the synagogue, and he did not believe the word. (It does not matter because the Lord is going to get things done in spite of

us. However, things will happen to us in the meantime. Hello, Jonah. And so, Zachariah could not talk for approximately nine months. Why not? He did not believe the promise.) Mary, on the other hand, said, *“Be it done to me according to your Word.”* That is how we want to live. Be it done to me according to your Word.

*What You say, Lord, I believe because You said it, and that settles it. Heaven and earth will pass away, but Your Word will never pass away. I believe it, and I am holding on to it, and that is it. It has to come to pass just the way You said!*

*“Why do you come here seeking the living amongst the dead?”* the angel said to the girls at the empty tomb. *“He has risen just like He said.”*

It has to come to pass. It is impossible that whatever the Lord says not come to pass. The people gave Zachariah a tablet to write out what the child’s name was to be, and he wrote, “John.” As soon as he wrote that, he could speak.

## A SURE WORD

There are no coincidences with the Lord. There is no luck, there is no chance. Somebody asked me one time, “Do you gamble?” I said, “No, I do not gamble. Everything I do is based on a sure Word.” There is no gamble in that. If I am not doing what the sure Word says, that is the only gamble. Actually, it is not a gamble because I know how it will go if I do not do what it says. It will not work. When I *do* what the Word says, it is a sure thing. When I *believe* what it says, it is a sure thing. It cannot be any other way even though it appears differently. It cannot be a different way because God calls things that be not as though they are, and so it may appear to be a different way. The tests may show a different way. The circumstance may show a different way, but it cannot be any other way than what the Lord says if I believe it. That is the variable. Act accordingly. You have to act on it. It is not enough to say, “I believe.” What do your actions show?

## OUTSIDE THE WILL OF GOD?

The Word will keep us from the corruption of the world caused by evil desires. Everything that is messed up in the world is caused by desires

outside of the will of God, people doing their own thing rather than believing the Lord or even asking Him. I cannot say that about unbelievers only because many people sitting in church do not ask the Lord before they do what they do. They do what they want. Those are evil desires, and we need to get rid of them. Perhaps you thought you were doing the right thing. No, if you did not ask the Lord, or even worse, you asked the Lord and He gave you an answer you did not do, then you did not do a right thing.

### AS ONE VOICE TO THE LORD

If we are off the track, we need to ask God's forgiveness and get back on the track. We will not say, "Oh no, I never do that." (Holy, holy, holy.) The Bible says the worshippers were as one voice to the Lord. They all became one voice — the musicians, the singers, the instruments to the Lord. *"For He is good and His mercy endures forever."* One voice, one heart together. Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises so that through them you may participate in the divine nature.

Jesus said, *"To them who believe, the works I do, you will do and even greater works than these you will do"* (John 14:12) to the glory of God. *"Whatever you ask in My name I will do that the Father be glorified in the Son."* We are not divided. One; we are one.

### KNOW THE PROMISE

Knowledge of the Lord is what makes the difference. If you know the promise, then you can work the promise. It only takes one promise in any given area to send the devil running and to work the work of God. You do not need 5, 6, 10, or 12. You just need one that you believe in, and you work it.

### A TESTIMONY OF FAITH / BELIEVING GOD FOR THE PROMISE

People were sharing at a service that the Word, as Jesus says, is spirit and life. It is alive, and in those situations the Word brought life.

Years ago, a woman in our congregation had a teenage daughter who was in a car crash. There were four people in the car, and two died instantly. Her daughter and another girl ended up in a coma. The doctors did not

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give either of them to live. The woman came, believing the Lord, and the Lord gave her a word; “Fear not, only believe, and she is going to wake up whole.”

Her daughter remained in a coma for a few more weeks. (When something like that happens everybody comes to the emergency room, everybody is there, but the tendency as the days go by is that the people start to separate. At first hope is high and people are believing, but I have been through countless situations and I know how it works and how it has been.) When the Lord gave that word, it was an anchor for the woman. It was a word from the Lord from one of God’s servants, confirmed over many many situations. It will happen just like the Lord said. The woman was trying to minister to the others, but they did not have the knowledge, nor believe in the Word. When the twelve disciples asked, “Why can’t we cast this out?”, Jesus answered, “Because of your unbelief.”

It was not said in condemnation or judgment, but in encouragement that we have to get out of stinking unbelief and get to believing God if we are going to see a miracle happen. We have to continue believing God no matter how long it takes. *“Through faith and patience we inherit all the promises of God.”*

And so, the parents were not able to receive (unless you are getting a good God-faith word, you are not able to sustain what happens). Their teenager in the car accident went on to be with Jesus. The parents were believers, and to me a Christian cannot lose. But let me tell you, nothing in hell should take us out until we finish what we are given to do.

The Lord said, *“My people perish for lack of knowledge”* (Hosea 4:6) to the priests because they were preaching baby food. People need “meat.” They need a balanced diet so they can grow up in the faith. I see ministers perishing because they do not know what the Lord says, and they pass away before the time. *“My people perish...”* That grieves me when I hear it. I feel what the Holy Ghost is saying. He is grieved that people are perishing when they do not have to. If they only knew. “Knew” is not just about hearing or reading something. It is when something is in your heart, and it is in your head, and it cannot be any other way than what you know.

*“For I know whom I have believed and I am fully persuaded and convinced He is able to keep that which I have committed to Him until the day.”* (2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 1:12) “The day of the Lord” can refer to whatever is needed to be accomplished. In the meantime we keep an environment of faith over people. Keep encouraging. That is what the promise is for. That is what the Word is for that we might participate in the divine nature.

Sure enough, one morning I walked into the hospital. I had a stuffed duck for the teenager, and, lo and behold, momma was there. The girl was sitting up looking at me, saying, “Pastor! Come and give me a hug!” Well, I gave her a hug and a duck, and I only do what the Lord directs me to do. So, you are not all getting a duck. It is whatever the Lord wants. The Lord be praised!

## EVERY PROMISE IS YES

Think about it, does the Lord keep His Word? Every time. Absolutely. It cannot be any other way. We are not going to be stolen from before the time. It is the principle thing, and has to do with knowledge. I have to know that no weapon formed against me will prosper, and every word spoken against me goes back on those that have spoken it. Such is our inheritance, our rightful inheritance. I am an heir to the promise. Every promise of God is yes to me in Christ Jesus.

Every promise is yes! It is yes! It cannot be any other way because the Lord says it. He lives by His Word, and that is why we must keep our word as well. I do not deliver my word to you, nor would I ever deliver it. I have to give an account to God for every word that comes out of my mouth, every deed that I do for better or for worse. (But it is not for anybody else to judge). It is for the Lord to judge. It is very important; that is why man’s judgment means nothing to a believer. God’s judgment means everything. I do everything in His presence in the light of His glory and goodness, for I stand accountable to Him. We are not afraid of that. We just want to make sure that He has given His Word because He confirms His Word with signs and wonders. His Word changes lives. *How can you say such an audacious thing?*: “Fear not, only believe, and she will wake up whole.” I have seen that many, many, many times, and that was a word for the situation.

The biblical story behind it is Jairus and his daughter, but for the mother of the teenager, it was not about knowing the story. It was a word the Lord picked for that moment to lock down her faith. If she had moved from the faith, her daughter would have gone to be with Jesus. Again, Christians going to be with Jesus is not a bad thing. Let me tell you, I could go on for days and months and years about that. The Lord told me to quit talking about it, but I did get some people excited to go. Get rid of the fear of going to Jesus. That is where it is. We are here for a short season, but we have to finish what we have been given, and then we are out of here. We have been given the most incredible promises in heaven.

## NO EMERGENCIES WITH GOD

Nothing phases the Lord. Nothing bothers the Lord. He told me one time, "Son, there are no emergencies in Me." In other words, there may be an emergency, and we have seen them over the years, but when the Lord is brought onto the scene through believers who love Him and love His promises, it is not an emergency any longer.

The emergency is that the thief has come to steal, kill, and destroy. *"But I have come,"* Jesus says, *"that you might have life and life more abundantly."* When these situations go on, so what? We will bring Jesus on the scene. We will bring in the Lord of lords and the King of kings, and the one who has the power over all powers. You have to get that. All dominion, all power, all glory, all the honor belongs to the Lord. Jesus is His name.

He told me years ago, "Son, distinguish me from all the other gods. Call Me the Lord Jesus Christ." Jesus Christ the Lord, the anointed one. Protect the anointing. Protect the promise. You put it in your heart, and put it in your head.

## ATTEND TO THE WORD AND THE PROMISES

Proverbs, chapter 4, verse 20 *"My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my Words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart, for they are life to those who find them..."* (Proverbs 4:20-22) You have to find them. You have to seek them out. Ignorance of the Word

of God is a horrible thing. That is why I give out promise books. Buy yourself one. The best investments in life are 1) a Bible and 2) a good bed. You spend a lot of time on that bed. Make sure it is a good one.

Keep God's words in your heart, *"for they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body. Above all else guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Keep your mouth free of perversity..."* (Proverbs 4:22-24) Talking about something that is not the Word of the Lord is unprofitable. Because when you speak, something is going to be produced. Put a recorder on yourself, and listen to your words sometime. If you are having issues, I can guarantee that you are cursing yourself. You are undermining the promises of God that are working on your behalf.

- *"Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks."* (Luke 6:45)
- *"Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit."* (Proverbs 18:21) What is coming out is what you are going to have. Keep corrupt talk far from your lips. Let your eyes look straight ahead on the goal.
- *"Fix your gaze directly before you. Give careful thought to the paths for your feet."* (Proverbs 4:25-26) Take only ways that are firm.

Faith in God will level the path. It will make a way where there is no way. *What mountain?* Move in Jesus' name. Again, you live by God's principles and His promises. They are firm, they are sure, there is no maybe, maybe not. Do not swerve to the right or to the left. Keep your foot from evil and stay on God's path.

Hopefully you have learned what is right and what is wrong. It will make all the difference in the world. Knowing what is right and wrong does not mean you will do it, but you are at an advantage here. In the beginning Adam and Eve actually only knew purity and innocence. They did not know what evil was. We know what it is, and we know what good is, and in Christ Jesus we now have the power over the evil. We have the authority and can tell it to back off, deflate, and disappear in Jesus' name. We have the power to establish good in the earth. Lights for Jesus. *"Thy Word is a*

*light into my path, a lamp to my ways.” They are all light. On. The light is on and working in Jesus’ name.*

*Prayer:*

*Father, in the name of Jesus, we thank you that the light is on and working. You are working mightily in us and through us to your glory. You are ministering throughout the world to your churches, to your ministries, to your people wherever they are. You are destroying the work of the devil and advancing the kingdom of heaven, preparing everything for your return. Lord, use us all to your glory and let your goodness come forth through us. We thank You for the power to see Your results, to demonstrate Your results in the earth in Jesus’ name to your glory. Again, all to your glory.*

Paul said, “I have not come with fancy, convincing words.” He talked to the people at Corinth, “*My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God’s power.*” (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:4) In other words, many people talk, but when the Lord talks something good happens.