

# The Good News of Salvation in Jesus Christ is a Promise from God

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Pastor Sean Harris

We are going to read two verses and then we are going to get to work with some rope and some illustrations.

## **Romans 1:1-2**

*Paul, a servant of  
apostle, separated  
(Which he had  
prophets in the holy*

The gospel was a promise revealed to  
mankind in the thirty-nine Old Testament  
books.

*Jesus Christ, called to be an  
unto the gospel of God.  
promised afore by his  
scriptures,).*

Thirty-nine Old Testament canonical books: those are the holy scriptures in Paul's mind at this point. And this is what he says, the gospel of Jesus Christ was revealed to mankind in those thirty-nine canonical books and it was in fact a promise. God has promised the gospel.

You may ask "Why are we back in Romans 1? We have already been here before, what are we doing back here? We are in chapter 12. We are almost done and you are back to Romans 1." For whatever reason God permitted me, I missed it, I completely missed an essential truth that the church must understand from Romans 1. I failed you in communicating the truth that God has for us in verse number two, and I don't want to do that again. I want to go back and do a better job. I want to call to your attention this little parenthetical thought that our translators put in there with that open parenthesis, comma, and the upper case W. I am afraid that this punctuation mark and the open parenthesis may have affected me because I didn't get the first time that this gospel right here is what God promised in the Old Testament. I did not communicate it well enough, and I want to make up for that this morning and next week. I want to make sure that you understand that Paul is saying that the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is a promise from God that was delivered to mankind through every single one of the holy prophets. I want to unpack that thought, and I want to do that in two parts. Week 1, this is where we are right now, I want to go backward. I want to go all the way back to Genesis 3 and I want to work this direction. Then in Week 2, we are going to start in Romans and work to Revelation. In Part 1 and Part 2, I want to show you we have a thread, a promise, an anchor, something that we can depend on and hold on to from God, a scarlet thread of redemption beginning in Genesis going all the way to the book of Revelation. I want you to see it very clearly. I am going to use this idea of being rescued from swift water. People are near drowning and someone comes in with the right equipment and rescues them in a most miraculous way. Can I ask you, do you remember when you were drowning in your sin? Do you remember when you were hopeless and you were going down that creek and the water was rushing by you? Can you remember that moment in which you weren't sure if you were going to make it or not? Can you remember the fear that encapsulated you as you recognized that the water was rushing by and you couldn't grab or hold on any more? That the current had taken you and you were holding on to that tree for dear life, but you knew that you couldn't hold on much longer and you needed someone to come along and rescue you. Can anyone remember that time? See, here is what I want to communicate to you. The gospel of Jesus Christ is God's promise of salvation to those that are dead and dying. We are born spiritually dead and are currently dying. I am dying. I am getting older every day. I am dying. No way around it. My knees feel it; my neck feels it; my back feels it; my eyesight is going out. I am dying. And what I need is to be rescued. I need to be delivered. I need a big, strong, strapping lifeguard who knows how to tie knots and jump into that water and strap me in and deliver me from this current.

Here is what I want to tell you this morning: the gospel of Jesus Christ is a promise from God. I what is that promise anchored? It is anchored at the base of the cross of Jesus Christ in eternity past. Get this

please. Here is my line, and the strength of this line is dependent upon where it is anchored. How strong is the anchor point? You see, if you have a weak anchor point, you are not much for repelling off something where there is a weak anchor point because it will come out. But I want to tell you right now that this promise from God, this long, continuous promise from God is anchored in the biggest anchor at the base of the cross of Jesus Christ. It is the glorious truth. Here is the reality: no one can break this rope. This is God's promise. That anchor is never coming undone. This rope will handle everyone. You can strap as many people to this rope as there are. This rope is sufficient to save up to the utter most. There is no strength that is too much for this rope. This is a promise from God Almighty. This rope is never coming loose from that anchor point because God Almighty anchored it at the cross of Jesus Christ.

What is a promise? A promise is a verbal commitment. It is an agreement to do or not to do something. I am so thankful that Webster put in there to do and not to do because God has made a promise to do and not to do in my life. God has made a promise to give me mercy and God has made a promise not to judge me. My sin is not going to be thrown back up in my face. God has made a promise to give me eternal life and He has made a promise not to send me to Hell. It is a promise. It is a glorious promise of deliverance.

What do the most promised words sound like in the Bible? They sound like forgiveness, mercy, redemption, victory, deliverance—those are promise words. What determines whether you are willing to accept a verbal agreement or you want to go down the contractual idea? Trust: that is exactly right. If I trust you, we don't need to sign anything. You are a man of your word. There is no need to sign anything. I can take you at your word. This is what I want to communicate to you this morning. Why do we read thirty-nine Old Testament books? Why do we study the Old Testament prophets? Why do we study Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers? Why do we read Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel? Why do I read my Psalms? I want to tell you why you read them. You need to get a big view of this lifeguard who is going to come crashing down and rescue you. You need to understand that when He makes a promise, you can count on Him to keep His promise.

Why is this so important? Why do I need to emphasize this? You have said this before. It's so important because I am frail. I am weak. I am constantly filled with doubt. Am I alone? Or is there anyone else that would say, I can relate to that. Am I only one or do you ever have periods of doubt? Have you ever wondered "Have I believed enough"? Have I prayed right? Did I really get saved? Have you ever had those periods of doubt? Of course you have. What are we doing this morning? We are reminding ourselves as a church that God has made a glorious promise of salvation. Yes, I was in the creek and yes the water was rushing by, but God jumped in and God wrapped the rope around me and God tied the knot and God anchored me. It wasn't because I was competent, and it wasn't because I knew what I was doing. It was because God knew how to save. Here is our game plan for this week and next week.

Let's go back to the law in Genesis, Exodus and Leviticus. We are in Genesis, then we'll take a look at the prophets, we'll get into Psalms and then perhaps the Gospels depending on time. So we'd expect to find the first promise in Genesis, so let's go there in our Bibles to Genesis 3. We will spend a few minutes here because I really want you to get the significance of what is happening. A lot of times Christians struggle with how did people in the Old Testament get saved? Were they saved by keeping the law? Were they saved by works? I know how we get saved. We get saved by trusting in the gospel of Jesus Christ. But how did they get saved in the Old Testament? Did they get saved a different way? Or were they saved the same way? The Bible says that Abraham believed God and was accounted unto him as righteousness. So then what did they believe? Did they understand the depth of the cross? So let's get into that.

Genesis 3:14. Now God is speaking to the serpent. For all those of you who have no faith, well you are going to struggle with this. The Bible is very clear here that God was speaking to the serpent. And according to the Apostle John, the serpent is the devil, Satan. So we have a conversation happening between the Sovereign God of the Universe and the serpent, who is the devil. The devil who tempted Eve to sin. Do you remember that? The devil said, you want to be like God and have what God has, and that was too much and so Eve sinned. *And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:* So

The first anchor point of salvation in your Bible occurs in Genesis 3.

immediately there are snakes. Do you hate snakes like I hate snakes? Yes. This is a result of the curse. I don't believe for a moment that there were snakes before the curse. I believe snakes are a result of the curse. *And I will put enmity* (a hostility or deep seeded ill will). Let me ask you something: after Eve was beguiled and tricked by Satan, do you think she resented Satan for doing what he did? Of course she would. That is ridiculous. Man, we were just in the garden, walking with Jesus, enjoying life; you come by, tripped me up and deceived me. I wouldn't have done that if you hadn't deceived me. You don't think there is some ill will there? Of course there is an incredible amount of hostility there. Child bearing is now going to be miserable because of you, Satan. How many things are results of the fall of man? Cancer is the result of the fall of man. Divorce is the result of the fall of man. Shall I continue? Mosquitoes are a result of the fall of man. So are sin and kidney stones. So there is an enmity *between thy seed and her seed: it shall bruise thy head and thou shalt bruise his heel.* Here is the promise. Don't miss this. Eve, you are going to have a child; you are going to have offspring. You are not done. Here is God Almighty making a promise to Satan, and Eve gets to listen. You, Satan, are going to give a bruise to the Child's heel. Here it is: That Child is going to knock you out. Praise God. A head injury: everyone knows about a head injury. You don't want a head injury. That is why we wear head protection and helmets. That is why we bicycle with helmets and why we do everything with a helmet because you do not want a head injury. You can die from a head injury. You can take a baseball bat to someone's heel all day long and you are not going to kill them. You can fracture their foot. You can mess them up pretty bad, they'll be paralyzed perhaps, but you are not going to kill them. Let me take a baseball bat to someone's head and you are going to get a defeat. Here is the simple promise. That is all Eve is getting. I promise you, Eve, you are going to have a child and from your offspring that child is going to defeat Satan. That is it. That is the glorious promise. What are you saying? That is all she got. That was the gospel for her. What did she have to do? She had to believe. That is all. In other words, the first anchor point of salvation in your Bible occurs in Genesis 3. It is the first time we see God giving an opportunity of belief or trusting in. You have a promise from Me and what happens? God Almighty takes her and hooks her in. This is Eve. She is in. She is saved. She is born again and believing in the promise of God. How much information does she have? She has a very limited amount of information. What must she do with that limited amount of information? Trust in it. That is all. Would we say that Eve understood Calvary? No. I don't think so. Do we think Eve understood that it would be 4,000 years later before the Messiah would come? No. Certainly, she did not. Would Eve understand the degree of sacrifices? She probably would not. What must Eve do to be saved? She must trust in the promise of God. God said it and I believe it.

In chapter 4, Eve has a child; this child is Seth. The child can't come from Cain. Cain is an unbeliever. Not going to bring the Messiah from an unbelieving line. So Eve has to have another child. Cain is the unbeliever, remember? Cain murders Abel. Cain is the unbeliever. Abel is the believer who has been killed. So where is the Messiah going to come from? It has to come from another child. Eve knows Adam and has Seth.

Look what the Bible says, Seth has a child named Enos; *then began men to call upon the name the Lord.* Here is another anchor point. In what were they putting their trust? Wait a minute. God gave Eve a promise, and the promise was you are going to have a child and from that child is going to come a

defeat, a victory. Someone is going to defeat the enemy. Seth doesn't do it. Seth has a child and what happens? A national revival breaks out. Why? What are they thinking at this point? The child that is going to do it is the one that is just delivered. They believe that Enos is going to do it. They are not thinking like we do with our 20/20 hindsight through thirty-nine books of the Old Testament. There is no written word to believe in. All they have is a promise from God. What is the promise from God? You are going to have a child and that Child is going to defeat Satan. Were they looking for 6,000 years of human history at that point? I doubt it very seriously. I believe with all my heart they were looking for deliverance right then and there, and they believed with all their heart, just like we believe with all our heart that Seth's child Enos was going to be the one that would rise up and defeat the evil one. What was going to happen when the evil one was defeated? We were going back into the Garden of Eden. Glory Halleluiah! Do you get it? Is it too much for you? They don't have sixty-six books of the Bible at this point. What do they get from God? They get a verbal promise. Satan will be defeated. In their mind either Seth or Enos is going to get an injury to the heel, but after that God is going to raise him up and knock out Satan. And if Satan gets destroyed then what happens? There is no more sin. We are going back in the Garden.

This is why I believe that Luke makes such a big deal of tracing the lineage all the way to Adam. Please notice. Jesus Himself began to be when He was 30 years old, which was the son of Eli, then working all the way down to 30 which was born the son of Enos, which was born the son of Seth, which was born the son of Adam which was the son of God. What does Luke want to make sure that we in the twenty-first century at Berean Baptist Church understand? Luke wants to make sure that we understand that Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the Genesis 3:15 promise. Thus God traces the lineage through the author, Luke, all the way back to Seth through Adam so that no one would doubt. How does this fulfill Genesis 3:15? Today with our 66 canonical books we can see the whole picture and see how Jesus is the offspring of Eve who is, has and will defeat Satan.

I am so concerned that this incredible story of redemption has turned into a cute, little story that we tell children in preschool. That is not what this is. This is the greatest, perhaps second greatest, but way up there, stories of salvation. This is incredible. The Bible says that Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. Grace: that is unmerited favor. That isn't saying I was obligated to save you. What are you talking about? Do you remember what happened? The people started sinning like crazy. God has a fit. He is ready to wipe them all off the face of the planet. But wait a minute He has already made a promise to Eve. He can't go back on the promise. So He has to preserve someone. Who gets preserved? Noah. How does Noah get saved? Look at Genesis 6; it is our next anchor point of salvation. What does the gospel look like for Noah? The gospel looks like, Noah, I am going to judge the world, and everyone that is not in this boat is dying. You, my friend, either build this boat and get in it, or you will die. Now at this point it hadn't even rained. There was no reason to believe this. What did he have to do to be saved? He had to trust in a promise from God. That is it. God wasn't going to show him a little rain and let him

let me show  
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Noah was saved by putting his faith in the promise he received from God.

know He was serious about it and you first what a little rain looks didn't get anything like that. He for 100 years as he was building a

boat on dry ground and no one had ever seen anything like this at all. But Noah was saved by putting his faith in the promise that he received from God. What was the promise? You get in that boat and you will get to live. It sounds ridiculous. It is to some degree. It is not any more ridiculous than when you go up to someone and say do you know what? You can live forever if you put your faith in Jesus Christ. And they look at you like, Are you kidding? It can't be that simple. It can't be. It has to be more. That is not what it is. You trust in the promise of redemption, of salvation, and of deliverance; you put your faith in the fact that God has made a promise and you are saved. God's promise to Noah was to destroy the world, but Noah would be saved if he will trust in His word. What is the evidence that Noah trusted in God. We are still here. He built the ark. James 2 says that faith without works is dead. So if we had seen Noah on the side of the road, saying Yeah, I'm trusting in that promise. Why aren't you building

the ark? Well?? Would we really believe that he believed? No. It was the evidence. He didn't save himself. He didn't come up with the strength, the wisdom. Who sustained him for 100 years? God did. Who gave him the wisdom to know how to build the ark? God did. Who gave him the materials? God did. Who gave him the brains? God did.

Let's go to Exodus 12. I want to show you our next anchor point of salvation. This is based on a simple promise. I need you to get this, so please stay with me. It is so important for us to understand. We need to understand that the gospel of Jesus Christ is a promise from God. A God Who never goes back on His promises. A God Who you can trust in. A God Who you can depend on. A God Who has never ever let one person down for all eternity. So let's look at Exodus 12:12. Do you remember this? It's when the judgment was occurring to get them delivered from Egypt. Here is the judgment. *For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord.* Do you have it? Everyone who is the firstborn male is dying. If you are a male, and you are a firstborn, it doesn't matter whether you are a beast or whether you are a human, you are not making it through the night. The death angel is coming through. And this is why so many people think the God of the Old Testament is this big, angry, mean God. That is all they read; they don't continue. Verse 13 says *And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.*

Hey, Folks, you could write Calvary down right there in your Bible. You could write the gospel of Jesus Christ right there. That is the good news of deliverance. It is the good news of mercy. It is the good news that you don't have to die. You don't have to go to hell. God has made a promise. This is another anchor point on this huge, long, scarlet thread. How do I anchor in to this new anchor point in Exodus 12? How big is this? As many as want to believe. How do I do it? You do it by faith. What would be the evidence of the faith? Blood on the doorpost would be the clear evidence. How do I know if I've believed? Blood. And all those who have believed are anchored in to this incredible promise of salvation. Exodus 12 is not about saving them to live another day. Exodus 12 is all about giving us a picture of the gospel of Jesus in the Old Testament.

Numbers 21. Do you remember when the fiery serpent goes through the Israelites and is biting them and they are dying? I mean it is a plague that is going through. Do you remember this? Yes. It is amazing. And Moses says, Hey, God. We need you. We need some deliverance. People are dying, God. These are Your people. And He says, Hey, Moses. This is what you do. Get yourself a brazen serpent, put it up on a pole, everyone looks up at the pole will live. What? Come on? It can't be that simple. Shouldn't we cut ourselves and squeeze out some venom? Isn't there a tourniquet or something we can do to add to our salvation? God, don't you require us to be baptized? It can't just be faith, God. It has to be something more than just faith. It has to be church membership and faith. It has to be baptism and faith. It can't just be faith. Do you see it? Are you getting it this morning? Believe. What was the evidence of believing? It was looking. That is it. You don't look if you don't believe. You look after you believe. The skeptic says there is no way. It can't be that simple. It is supernatural. Of course it is supernatural. Everything about salvation is supernatural. So what do they do? They look. This is another anchor point. This isn't about giving them another day to live. This is about salvation. All who looked were saved. The Kingdom of God is getting bigger and bigger. And what you are getting is a long continuous line of promises from God, one right after another. All who put their faith in Christ, whether they know Christ or not at that point is immaterial. They know that God has made a promise and they are going to trust in that promise.

I will give you two testimonies. These are incredible. You need to mark these in your Bible. Even if you are not turning, write this Scripture down in your notes. I cannot get over Job. Look at what Job says. Remember, Job is way old. Perhaps Job is the first book of the Bible. Job is in the time of Abraham or maybe pre-Abraham. We are dealing with a really old dude. This is what He says. *For I*

*know that my Redeemer liveth and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.* What? Job, you knew that? Of course, he knew that. Where'd he get that from? He got it from a promise from God. What kind of promise? Obviously it was a verbal promise at that point. Notice what he says *And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh I shall see God.* Glory Halleluiah! Don't miss this. This is what he is telling us. I am going to lose my body. Worms are going to eat me up. But this very flesh that worms ate up, I am going to be back in it. Great day in the morning! I don't understand what is going on here. He says, I know my Redeemer lives, and that Redeemer is coming to this earth and I am going to see Him and He is going to see me. God in the most supernatural way is going to restructure my very flesh. Flesh that rotted, flesh that is gone, flesh that is dust, and yet God knows our DNA, and He knows where it is. He can easily put the whole human body back together just like that. Thank you, Jesus!

What is he talking about, Redeemer? He doesn't know the gospel at this point. Maybe he does. We don't know what was revealed to him. We don't know what verbal promise God gave him. But we know for sure by this testimony that he was trusting in that promise from God. How about King David? The Lord is my Rock. The Lord is my Fortress. The Lord is my Deliverer. The Lord is my strength. It is Him Who I will trust. He is the horn of my salvation. He is my High Tower.

Let's take it back to our water rafting illustration. He is the guy with the life preserver. He is the Guy Who knows how to tie the knots. He is the Guy with the rope, Who can swim, Who has the helicopter. It is not me. I am the one who is drowning. I am the one who is losing strength. I am counting on Him. This is not a joint effort. I am not hooking up to Him; He is hooking me in. It is not a matter of here is some rope; now fend for yourself. No. That is not what we have in the plan of salvation. He swims out to me, wraps the rope around me, snaps me in, gives me a life preserver, throws a helmet on my head, and He rescues me. It is not a joint effort. God and I aren't working together to get me saved. I am the one that is drowning. I am the one who can't swim. I am the one who has no idea how to tie a knot. I am the one that is afraid. I am the one who is moments away from drowning. What do you have to do? Believe. I have to believe You are more than capable of rescuing me.

This one comes to us from Jeremiah. They should teach no more every man his neighbor. Everyone shall know the Lord for they shall all know me. The least until the greatest for I will forgive. I remember their sin no more. Are you looking forward to that glorious time when God says, I don't know what you are talking about. I can't remember your sin. Parents, put your hands up if you have made a promise that you said later, I can't believe I made that promise. You know what I'm talking about, "you promised." Come on, there isn't a parent in this room that hasn't heard those dreaded words. I know I promised that, but I did that just to shut you up. I didn't really mean to keep that promise. It is too late now. You promised if I was good, that we would go to Dairy Queen. I don't feel like taking you to Dairy Queen. But you promised. And boy, don't they take that and put in right in your face as though it obligates us? Here is the truth: He promised. Here is the glorious truth. He doesn't say I can't believe I made that promise. He is thrilled to keep that promise. He is thrilled to strap another one in. He is thrilled to redeem another one. He is thrilled to tie another one on.

Would you go to Luke with me please? I want to show you just one or two more scriptures. Luke 1. I want to make sure that you understand that we have a scarlet thread of redemption. We have pictures of God redeeming people from every single book of the Bible. We can see Christ on nearly every single page. We can see Him redeeming. We can see Him delivering. We can see Him saving. In Hebrews we see unto the uttermost. Luke 1. This is the incredible prophecy that Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, gives us in Verse 67. *And the father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began; That we should be saved from our enemies,*

Boy I am looking forward to being saved from my enemies. I can't wait to get rid of this nasty flesh. *To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; Promise.* The mercy promised. Where is it promised from? It is promised in Genesis 3 and all the way through.

Acts 1 is another promise. What was this promise? Stay here and wait for the promise of the Father. What is the promise of the Father? It is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. It is the seal. It is the down payment. It is the assurance that you know that I am not done. That is what you do when you have a deal set. When you find that great vehicle, you put a down payment. Why? This is my promise that I am coming back to get the vehicle. If you have the Holy Spirit living inside of you, that is God's seal. It is His earnest. It is His promise. I will deliver you.

If you have the Holy Spirit living inside of you that is God's seal.

This is the promise from Ezekiel. I will put a new spirit a new seal. I promise. How about this one? I want you to see this one. Acts 2, Peter gives that great sermon about you crucified the Messiah, God made this Messiah, made Him Christ. Then he says, Repent every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit for the promise is unto you. He looks right at them and tells them this is the promise. And not just to you, but unto your children. And to all that are afar off even as many as the Lord our God shall call. Now I am not the Jew. I am not the child of a Jew. So I sure am thankful that it says right here and to all that are afar off even as many as the Lord our God shall call. Do you remember when He called you? Can you remember when He called you, when that still, small voice inside you said, Believe. Do you remember when God opened up your heart and you said this makes sense. You can trust in this. You can depend on this. This is fact. You need to put your faith in this. Do you remember when that happened? Do you remember when the Holy Spirit confirmed faith inside you? That was God calling.

Do you know what you got on that call? You got a promise from God. The Sovereign God of the Universe gave you an individual promise and that promise is you, my friend, put your faith in Me and I will save you. It doesn't get any better than that. Alright, I will end with this one.

Turn to Acts 13. I want you to see this sermon and then we are done. Let's see if the Apostles understand the same thing that I am preaching this morning. I want you to see it in verses 23 and 32 but I want to give it a little context. They are at a church service, and the Bible says in verse 15, that after the reading of the law and the prophets (no New Testament at this point) they have read the Old Testament, do you see it? If you have any word of exhortation for the people, say on. So then Paul stands up and beckons with his hands. This is what he says, ye of Israel and ye that fear God, listen up, the God of this people of Israel chose our fathers and exalted the people when they dwelt with strangers in the land of Egypt with a high arm brought them out of it about the time of 40 years suffered he their manners in the wilderness. So he is giving us a little bit of a history lesson. When he destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he divided the land unto them after that, he gave them to the judges about 450 years, a little more Old Testament history, afterwards they desired a king. God gave unto them Saul, the son of the tribe of Benjamin, space of 40 years. When he removed Saul, he raised up another king that is David; he gave a testimony, I have found David the son of Jesse a man of after my own heart, of this man's seed hath God according to His promise. So here is what I want to tell you. Jesus Christ is this rope. How wide is this rope? It is as wide as the arms of Jesus Christ. How many can He handle? He can handle all who believe. Let's continue in verse 32. *And we declare unto you the glad tidings.*

Glad tidings  
this good news  
good news is  
the fathers.  
telling me that  
this incredible promise which has been redeeming people from the very beginning and will continue to

If you are born again, the Sovereign God of the Universe has promised to you individually eternal life.

are what? Good news. What is from Paul's perspective? The promise which was made unto Oh, my goodness. Are you the gospel which is Jesus Christ is

redeem people? The answer is yes. And if you think that this is anywhere near decent, if you will you give me a six or a seven rating on this sermon, wait until next Sunday when we get into the New Testament. Because God takes this incredible Old Testament mystery and unpacks it in a miraculous way, and in the rest of Romans and Hebrews, He tells us all these promises.

1<sup>st</sup> John 2:25, *And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.* So now think about this, if you are born again, the Sovereign God of the Universe has promised to you individually eternal life. Do you know what that means? You don't have to worry about going to hell. You are never going to lose your salvation. He has strapped you in. He hooked you in. He has got you. You are secure. What do I have to do? Have faith. Believe. Lean. Trust. Depend. Rely upon. Those are all faith words. I am counting on You, God. Is that your testimony?