

PLEASING GOD

I. Scripture Text

Heb. 11:6 But without **faith** it is impossible **to please him**: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him

II. The Foundation of Faith

Hebrews 11:1 says “Now, faith is the **substance** of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

What is substance? A pew has substance, but what is substance?

Merriam-Webster Online

1 a : essential nature : **ESSENCE** **b** : a fundamental or characteristic part or quality.

2 a : ultimate reality that underlies all outward manifestations and change.

3 a : physical material from which something is made or which has discrete existence **b** : matter of particular or definite chemical constitution

The Interlinear Greek-English New Testament defines substance as:

That which underlies, hence the substance, the reality underlying mere appearance. Confidence; assurance.

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance

Hupostasis , gk – A setting under (support) essence, assurance, substance.

Faith is NOT some ethereal, gaseous, intangible, pie-in-the-sky concept.

Faith is the medium of exchange in the supernatural.

Faith is the physical material from which something is made.

Faith is the ultimate reality that underlies all outward manifestations.

Faith is currency of heaven. And just like there is gold on deposit at the treasury that gives validity and SUBSTANCE to the dollar bills you have in your wallet, the irrefutable, undeniable fact that God CANNOT lie gives faith its substance. The irrefutable and undeniable fact that God cannot and will not lie is the underlying support of your relationship with him!

- Titus 1:2 says: GOD CANNOT LIE.
- 1 Sam 15:29 says: GOD WILL NOT LIE
- Hebrews 6:18 says: IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD TO LIE

**EVERY PROMISE IN THE WORD IS TRUE AND IS GIVEN SUBSTANCE
BECAUSE GOD CANNOT LIE!**

2Cor. 1:20 For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

III. Promises of God

Forgiveness

Matt. 6:14, 1John 1:9, Is. 55:6-7

Peace

Psa. 29:11, Psa. 119:165, Is. 26:3, Prov. 16:7

Health

Is. 53:5, James 5:14-15

Guidance

Psa. 48:14, Is. 30:21, John 16:13

Protection

Psa. 34:7, Is. 54:17

Mercy

2Sam. 22:26, Psa. 103:8, Lam. 3:22-23

Promises concerning our children

Prov. 22:6, Is. 44:2-3

Every promise made to Abraham and Jacob is a promise for you and me:

Gal. 3:16 Now to Abraham *and his seed* were the promises made.

Gal. 3:27-29 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are *ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

Through your baptism in Jesus name, every promise made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is yours!

Col. 2:10-12 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism

Abraham and his natural children submitted themselves to circumcision as a sign of the covenant they had with God. That covenant, sealed by circumcision on Abraham and his children's part gave them access to the promises of God. When we submit ourselves to water baptism in Jesus' name we become spiritually circumcised. A circumcision of the heart made without hands. Through Christ, that spiritual circumcision makes you an heir of Abraham and a legal recipient of every promise made to Abraham!

The promises made to Abraham are ours! Every promise in the Word is ours!

Psa. 138:2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

Psa. 119:89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

IV. Closing thoughts

It pleases God when we take him at his word. It pleases God when instead of leaning on our own understanding, we trust him. – Proverbs 3:5

Closing Affirmation: The promises of God of for me! I'm claiming the promises of God! I will be blessed because I trust God