



Some Day It will be Alright

Ecclesiastes 8:12-14

Ecc. 8:12-14

- “Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and his days are prolonged, yet I surely know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him. 13 But it will not be well with the wicked; nor will he prolong his days, which are as a shadow, because he does not fear before God. 14 There is a vanity which occurs on earth, that there are just men to whom it happens according to the work of the wicked; again, there are wicked men to whom it happens according to the work of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity.”

Some Day It will be Alright

- “People who have only good experiences aren't very interesting. They may be content, and happy after a fashion, but they aren't very deep. Depth of character and quality of life comes to those who have experienced, not only great blessings, but great bereavement as well.”
- “We have no right to ask when sorrow comes, ‘Why did this happen to me?’ unless we ask the same question for every moment of happiness that comes our way. A happy life is not void of sorrow; sometimes things must fall apart in order for other things to fall into place.”

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- “If you see ten troubles coming down the road, you can be sure that nine will run into the ditch before they reach you. Yet you must bear the tenth with courage and purpose. If you can find a path with no obstacles, it probably doesn't lead anywhere.”
- Solomon wants us to understand that, for God’s children, everything will be alright in the end. If everything is not alright, then it is not the end.

Some Day It will be Alright

- Everything is not alright in this fallen world
- It is hard to say with strong conviction: 
“Though a sinner does evil a hundred times,
and his days are prolonged, yet I surely know
that it will be well with those who fear God,
who fear before Him” (Ecc. 8:12).

The Problem That Bothers Us

- The question that has plagued the heart of man since the days of the ancients: “Why do the righteous suffer while the wicked prosper?”
 - Ecc. 8:14 - “There is a vanity which occurs on earth, that there are just men to whom it happens according to the work of the wicked; again, there are wicked men to whom it happens according to the work of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity.”
 - Job, Asaph, Psalm 37, 49, 73

The Problem That Bothers Us

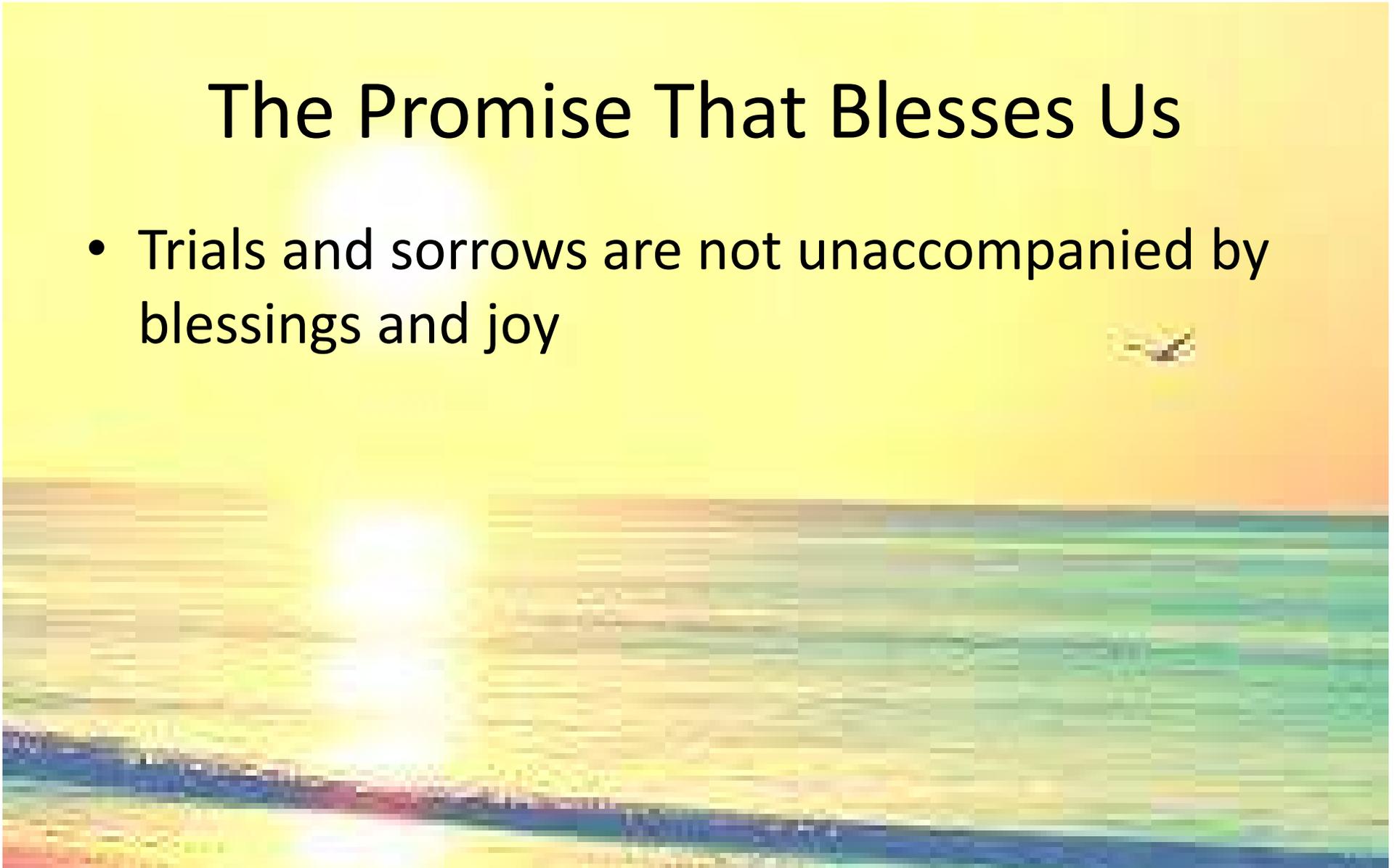
- The concept that serving God confers to the believer immunity from trials has tempted many Christians to become disillusioned and abandon the faith.
- Immunity from trials for the believer is not a Bible doctrine
- We must be careful to avoid coming to the same misguided conclusion as Solomon
 - Ecc. 1:2 - “Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher; Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.”
 - Ecc. 2:23 - “For all his days are sorrowful, and his work burdensome; even in the night his heart takes no rest. This also is vanity.”

The Problem That Bothers Us

- Job 14:1 - “Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble.”
- John 16:33 - “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world”

The Promise That Blesses Us

- Trials and sorrows are not unaccompanied by blessings and joy



The Promise That Blesses Us

- Abraham's offering of Isaac -- his eternal reputation for faith
 - Gen. 22:16-18 - "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son - 17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. 18 In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

The Promise That Blesses Us

- Rom. 4:20-24 - “He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. 22 And therefore it was accounted to him for righteousness. 23 Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, 24 but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead”

The Promise That Blesses Us

- Job's suffering -- his eternal reputation for patience
 - James 5:11 - “Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord--that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.”

The Promise That Blesses Us

- Paul's imprisonment -- the conviction of his guards and the courage of other evangelists
 - Phil. 1:12-14 - “But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, 13 so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; 14 and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.”

The Promise That Blesses Us

- Jesus' agony and death on the cross -- His eternal glory and our eternal salvation
 - Phil. 2:8-11 - “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

The Promise That Blesses Us

- Rev. 1:5-6 - “Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever.”

The Promise That Blesses Us

- What has God planned for you on the other side of your hardship?
 - Rom. 8:31-32 - “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”
 - 2Cor. 4:17 - “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory”

The Promise That Blesses Us

- Jer. 29:11 - “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.”
- John 10:28 - “And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.”
- Heb. 7:25 - “Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them”

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- “Sorrow can lead us into one of four lands: the barren land in which we try to escape from it; the broken land in which we sink under it; the bitter land in which we resent it; or the better land in which we bear it and become a blessing to others” *(J. W. Bramhall)*.