



<b>Pastors</b>	<b>Issue # 48</b>	<b>Arripe diem</b>
<b>Pastor Allen</b> 254-466-5044	<b>31 Aug 20</b>	<b>pro Deo et Patria</b>
<b>Pastor Lytle</b> 808-742-3292		(Seizing Today for God and Country!)

**PASTOR'S CORNER:**

**Promises, Promises, Promise**

"Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen." **Matthew 28:20**

The Scripture is full of God's promises to us, my favorite is found in Deuteronomy 31:8 **"It is the Lord who goes before you, He will be with you, He will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."** But that is not the only place where that promise appears; in the same chapter back a couple of verses in verse 5 we receive the same promise.

In fact there are over 100 verses in Scripture, that reminds us of God's faithfulness to us. We find this promise again in Joshua 1:5. And how can we forget Joshua 1:9 where the Lord tells Joshua **"Do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."**

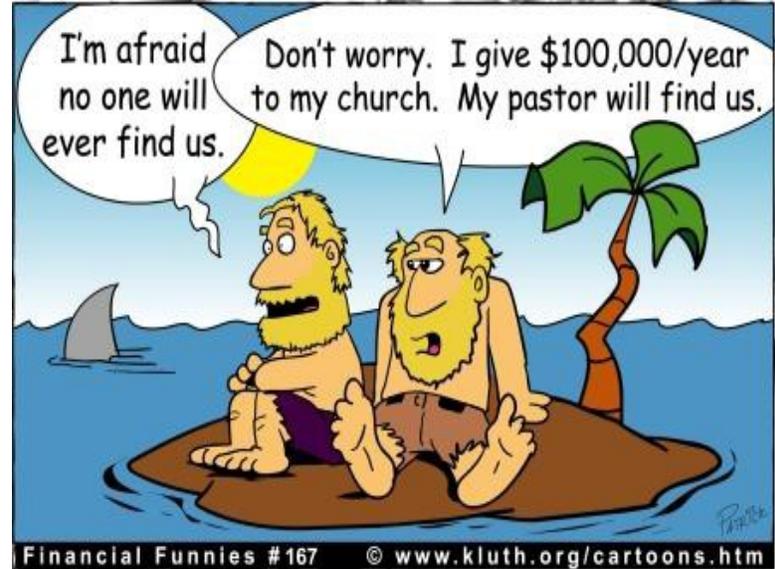
When we are going through tough times, it is easy to focus on ourselves and our difficulties. However, God's Word is full of different promise telling us that the Lord is good to all, and that He has compassion on all he has made. Remind yourself that God's goodness does not change even during difficult times.

When I pray I like reciting Scripture, not that God needs to hear His Word recited back to Him, but it helps me to remember that God has made promises that He will always keep. Throughout the Scripture the Bible provides promises of God's goodness; God's promises about being with us; and of God's provisions to each of us His children.

In the New Testament Jesus provides assurance through His promises of peace and hope. In Matthew Jesus said, **"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."** He includes passage such as, **"I am the way and the truth and the life, No one comes to the Father except through Me."**

Paul told the Corinthians' believers that without the resurrection we have no hope. But Jesus said in John 11:25, **"I am the resurrection and the life, Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying."**

The promises are throughout the Scripture study them and live.



A Thought from Polycarp Bishop of the Church at Smyrna

Polycarp was martyred for his faith in God, he was put to death with fire and sword, in A.D. 168.

**"I have now served my Lord Christ Jesus eighty-six years, and He has never done me any harm. How can I deny my King, who hath hitherto preserved, me from all evil, and so faithfully redeemed me."**

Weekly Humor

Cowboy Joe, was telling his fellow cowboys back on the ranch about his first visit to a big-city church. "When I got there, they had me park my old truck in the corral," Joe began. "You mean the parking lot," interrupted Charlie, a more worldly fellow. "I walked up the trail to the door," Joe continued. "The sidewalk to the door," Charlie corrected him. "Inside the door, I was met by this dude," Joe went on. "That would be the usher," Charlie explained. "Well, the usher led me down the chute," Joe said. "You mean the aisle," Charlie said. "Then, he led me to a stall and told me to sit there," Joe continued. "Pew," Charlie retorted. "Yeah," recalled Joe. "That's what that pretty lady said when I sat down beside her."