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Good News!

We are now airing on WJYS in Chicago, IL Channel 62 at 1:00 PM Mondays. See the airtime schedule on page 4 for further listings.



The Promises of God
are Yes and Amen!

Welcome to 2009, in Yeshua's Name!

Promises, Promises!

Politicians make promises. Some are kept. Many are not. Employers and employees make promises. Some are kept. Many are not. Friends and family make promises. Some are kept. Many are not.

God makes promises. All are kept! Every one of them. Our God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is a Promise Keeper. This truth is vital to each of us as we enter 2009. As we prepared to enter the new year, we sought God's face through prayer and fasting for a word for our Jewish Jewels family. God made it clear that the hour had come to take hold of the precious promises in His Word, and live by them. We live in uncertain times. The world is reeling about us. But the word of God is forever settled in heaven (Psalm 119:89). It stands forever (Isaiah 40:8). God's word is filled with promises for His children, and He is waiting for us to appropriate these promises in our lives so that we might walk in victory, even in the midst of a perverse generation and a crumbling society.

God Always Keeps His Promises

Beginning in Genesis, as early as chapter three, we see God make promises that have been fulfilled in marvelous ways. After the tempter, hasatan or satan, was successful in getting Eve and Adam to sin in the Garden of Eden, the Lord cursed the serpent and made the following promise: *"...I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel"* (Genesis 3:15). This first Messianic promise was fulfilled in Yeshua, born of the seed of a woman (Miriam) rather than the natural way of birth—of the seed of a man. Yeshua's heel was indeed crushed at the cross, but the head of the serpent received a mortal wound there, as salvation for the entire world was purchased by the blood of God's Perfect Lamb.

The promise of restoring what had been lost in the Garden—access to the tree of life—was just the beginning of hundreds of promises concerning God's Messiah, His people Israel, His Land, His Bride, and His future kingdom. One could spend a lifetime studying all the fulfilled promises in the Holy Scriptures. Some are yet to be fulfilled, but we can be sure of one thing. As God has fulfilled promises to Israel, He is faithful to fulfill the rest of His promises to the people in covenant with Him.

God promised Abraham (Genesis 12:1-4) that one of his descendants would be the source of blessing for all nations. Have all the families of the earth been blessed through Abraham? Absolutely! The *B'rit Hadasha* (New Covenant) opens with the following verse: *"The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ (Yeshua HaMashiach), the son of David, the Son of Abraham"* (Matthew 1:1). Yeshua's sacrificial death made forgiveness of sin and salvation available to all the nations of the earth.

God also promised Abraham (Genesis 15:13-14) that his descendants would be strangers in a foreign land and would be afflicted for four hundred years, coming out afterward with great possessions. We read about the fulfillment of this promise in Exodus chapter 12. In Ezekiel 36:16-28

the Lord chronicles the scattering of His people throughout the nations due to their disobedience and defiling of their own land. At the same time, He promises that He will re-gather His people out of all countries, and bring them back to their own Land. His promise includes cleansing them from their filthiness and idols, and giving them a new heart and a new spirit, enabling God's people Israel to walk in His commandments. This promise is being fulfilled before our eyes. Jewish people are making *aliyah* (literally going up to God!) from all over the world, and are finding their Messiah in the land of Israel. Messianic congregations dot the Land, and second generation Messianic youth are blossoming. God has kept His promise!

There are some who say that the promises that God made to Israel are now null and void—and belong instead to the "church." This contradicts scripture. Romans 9:4 makes it clear that the following pertain to the Jewish people: the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises. There will yet be a literal fulfillment of many promises made by God to Israel. In the meantime, all believers in Messiah, both natural and wild olive branches, have the privilege of claiming and enjoying the promises of God.

Of the hundreds of promises in the *Tenach* concerning the coming of the Messiah, some are very familiar. For example: *"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."* (Micah 5:2) We read in Matthew 2:1 that Yeshua, the Messiah, was indeed born in Bethlehem. It is important to note that a Jewish Messiah could not be born in Bethlehem today since Bethlehem is a Palestinian terrorist stronghold. Thank God, Messiah has already come! (Let your Jewish friends know this.)

God promised, through the prophet Daniel, that the Messiah would come before the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem (70 A.D.), and would be "cut off" but not for Himself (Daniel 9:25-26). Yeshua the Messiah came as promised, in God's timing, to fulfill God's mission.

One of the greatest promises made by the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to His people was the promise of a "New Covenant," a *B'rit Hadasha* in which He would put His law in their minds and write it on their hearts (Jeremiah 31:31-34). The Lord promised that He would be their God and they would be His people. He would forgive their sin through this "new" covenant, and they would know Him intimately. The glorious fulfillment of this promise is the new covenant in Yeshua's blood as revealed at the final Passover seder when "... *[Yeshua] took bread [matzah], gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them saying, 'This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you' "* (Luke 22:19-20). Yeshua is the mediator of the new covenant, promised to Israel first, and later made available to people of all nations.

Promises Being Fulfilled

There are many Bible promises in the process of being fulfilled, while others wait for a future fulfillment. Jerusalem, even now, is becoming the very heavy stone for all peoples as promised in Zechariah 12:3. Men's hearts are failing from fear in these end times as promised in Luke 21:26. The love of many is growing cold as lawlessness abounds (Matthew 24:12). Perilous times have come (2 Timothy 3:1). People love themselves, money and pleasures rather than God as never before. Self-gratification has replaced self-sacrifice in the United States and in other areas of the world. We are beginning to experience the "birth pangs of Messiah," such as the great famine in Haiti due to this year's hurricanes. Earthquakes, floods and pestilences plague our world. At the same time, the gospel of the kingdom is being preached in all the world as promised before the end comes (Matthew 24:14). The stage is set for a one-world economic system. The generation that has seen the fig tree (Israel) blossom may very well be the final generation. The second coming of the Messiah, as promised in God's Word, (Isaiah 11:1-9) is at the door. God promised a suffering servant (Isaiah 52:13-53:12). God promised a conquering king (Jeremiah 23:5-6). He is coming! They are one and the same person: *Yeshua HaMashiach*. *Yeshua ben Yosef* at His first coming—*Yeshua ben David* at His second coming.

Personal Promises

There are promises and blessings in God's word which are available to every believer in the Messiah Yeshua. He has given them to us to strengthen our faith, nourish our spirit, encourage us, give us hope and sustain us during difficult times. God's promises are like His kisses—life giving! There is no need in the life of any believer in Yeshua which is outside the scope of God's promises. His promises have also been given to us to help change us and make us more like our Messiah: "...by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Peter 1:4). *"Therefore, having these promises, beloved let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."* (2 Corinthians 7:1)

Believers in Yeshua are exhorted in Hebrews 6:12 to avoid becoming lazy, and to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Abraham is used as an example of someone who after having patiently endured, obtained the promise, (Hebrew 6:15) referring to his son Isaac born when Abraham was one hundred years old. Heroes of the faith who died, not having received the promises, are said to have "embraced" them, having seen them afar off (Hebrews 11:13).

We find in Hebrews 11:33 the key to obtaining the promises of God—"through FAITH." The Hebrew word for faith is *emunah*, pronounced *eh-moo-NAH*. The Hebrew word *Amen*, literally "Yes, it is true" or "Yes, I agree" comes from *emunah*. This helps us understand 2 Corinthians 1:20: *"For all the promises of God in Him [Messiah] are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us."* We can appropriate God's promises in our lives today because of what Yeshua did on the cross for us.

We love what Derek Prince said about the promises in his **Foundation Series**: "In the Tenach, under Joshua, God brought His people into a Promised Land. In the Brit Hadasha, under Yeshua, God brings His people into a Land of Promises." Derek outlines a three-step process in claiming God's promises for your life: 1) Ask the Holy Spirit to show you the promise or promises that apply to your specific situation, 2) Fulfill, by obedience, any **conditions** attached to the promises, 3) Firmly and positively, by faith, claim the outworking of the promise in your life.

Tender Promises for Tough Times

The following promises were given to us to give to you for 2009. (The number 9 means judgment, especially divine judgment and finality in divine things. Judgment has already begun. Fear not. Lay hold of these promises with your whole heart!)

Provision: *"Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert"* (Isaiah 43:18-19).

Protection: *"...You shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; and from terror, for it shall not come near you"* (Isaiah 54:14).

Healing: *"So you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you"* (Exodus 23:25).

Freedom from fear: *"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid"* (John 14:27).

Freedom from worry: *"And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the Kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom"* (Luke 12:29-32).

God's Favor: "For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous; with favor You will surround him as with a shield" (Psalm 5:12).

Security: "Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you" (Deuteronomy 31:6).

Finances: "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you" (Luke 6:38).

Children: "There is hope in your future, says the Lord, that your children shall come back to their own border (Jeremiah 31:17). "And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live" (Deuteronomy 30:6).

Rest: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

Prayer: "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you" (John 15:7).

Truth to be revealed: "For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light" (Mark 4:22).

Victory over satan: "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you" (Luke 10:19).

Eternal Life: "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life" (John 5:24).

Help in Trouble: "...For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; in the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock" (Psalm 27:5).

Wisdom: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting..." (James 1:5-6).

Love: "Love never fails" (1 Corinthians 13:8).

Mel & Jamie

Jewish Jewels Television Airtime Schedule - January 2009

LOCAL TV STATIONS

STATE:	CITY:	STATIONS:	AIRTIME:
AK	North Pole	KJNP TV 4	TUE 6:00 PM
FL	Tampa/St. Pete.	WCLF TV 22	SUN 2:30 PM
FL	Orlando/Cocoa	WTGL TV 45	SUN 1:30 PM
FL	Miami/Ft. Laud.	WHFT TV 45	THU 11:30 AM
FL	Tallahassee	WVUP TV 45	SUN 1:30 PM
FL	West Palm Beach	WFGC TV 61	SAT 10:30 PM
GA	Columbus	WYBU TV 16	SUN 2:30 PM
IA	Dubuque	KFXB TV 40	SUN 1:30 PM
IL	Chicago	WJYS TV 62	MON 1:00 PM
IL	Peoria	FAITH ALIVE CH 20	FRI 6:00 PM
MO	New Bloomfield	KNLJ TV 25	SUN 1:30 PM
NJ/NY	New York	WMBC TV 63	SUN 4:00 PM
OH	Columbus	GTN TV 23	SUN 3:30 PM
OR	Portland	K26GJ TV 26	SUN 12:00 PM
OR	Salem	K21GX TV 21	SUN 12:00 PM
SC	Greenville	WGGS TV 16	FRI 10:30 AM

SATELLITE NETWORKS

DirecTV World Harvest TV (WHT) - SUN 3:00 PM (EST) [Ch. 367] Christian Television Network (CTN) - SUN 2:30 PM (EST) [Ch. 376]
Dish Network Christian Television Network (CTN) - SUN 2:30 PM (EST) [Ch. 267 & 9399]
God TV - The GOD Channel WED 4:30 AM (GMT) & 6:30 AM (Jerusalem)
Insight Digital Cable: GTN SUN 3:30 PM (EST) [Ch. 283]
Digital Satellite Receiver World Harvest TV (WHT) - C-Band - Galaxy 16 - Transponder 15 - 99° W - SUN 3:00 PM (EST)
INTERNET View our program on the web for FREE at: www.jewishjewels.org

