

Hebrews 7.21

Perfect Promise

God's intention to save a people for Himself has been His promise to us since the garden of Eden. He has never changed His purpose nor His plan. For everything that God does is always perfect... and that includes the promises He makes. He has always and will always do exactly what He wants and nothing else.

“But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.” (Psalm 115:3, NKJV)

This includes both the establishment of the old Aaronic priesthood, and the replacement of it with the priesthood of Christ. It also includes the basic fact that all, every single one of His promises, are both contained and fulfilled in Christ Jesus alone.

“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.” (2 Corinthians 1:20–22)

He promises us in this perfect promise, and in the perfect person of His answer that He will never replace Christ, He will never back away from saving those He has chosen and in securing us to Himself forever. Nothing was ever the final source of peace until Christ came, a fact demonstrated in every death, by every drop of innocent blood shed in the system of animal sacrifices... a perpetual cycle of death and substitution. But this fact itself underscores the simple fact that until Christ came, there could never be peace. And until we ourselves come to Christ WE will never know peace. This is promise of God and it is perfect in every way.

I. THE PROMISE BELONGS TO GOD ALONE

- A. None but God makes this oath of assurance...

“The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”” (Psalm 110:1)

- B. This reflects the eternal will of God
- C. His will has always been the unchangeable truth of the priesthood of Christ

- D. He gives the oath not to bind Himself, but to prove to us His intent to keep the vow.
- E. None compelled Him, none can sway Him away from it.

II. THE OFFICE BELONGS TO CHRIST ALONE

- A. The office is itself unchanging
- B. The One who holds it must needs be also unchanging
- C. No other is qualified on this ground alone every other person who ever was or will be is disqualified -

“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,”
(1 Timothy 2:5–6, NKJV)

- D. He will have no successor, nor will He allow any substitute, NOR will He allow nor need any assistance to accomplish His determined work. Just as God Himself will not share His glory with another. -

“I am the Lord, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.”

(Isaiah 42:8, NKJV)

Isaiah 48.9-11

III. HE PROMISES HONOR FOR CHRIST

A. The withholding of these blessings and benefits from the Aaronic priesthood sets Christ apart and gives to Him greater honor and glory. Christ is greater than the priesthood and greater than the temple of God itself... -

Matthew 12.1-8

B. Although God was pleased to use the old way and grant life through it for those who believed Him, He reserved the greatest hope and joy for those who know the Christ who would fulfill it.

C. The whole of the OT shows this as it points without shame, hesitation nor apology to the Messiah - Jesus Christ who fulfilled the OT and became the bridge that spanned the gap of our sin. He alone deserves the honor for this awesome work.

1. He alone fulfilled the OT law –
Matthew 5.17-20
2. He alone obeyed God without sin in any fashion -

“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.” (Hebrews 4:15)

3. He alone was without spot or blemish -

“knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” (1 Peter 1:18–19, NKJV)

4. He alone of all humanity did not deserve to die, and yet He alone willingly lay down His life and died for the sin of His own chosen people.

“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (2 Corinthians 5:21, NKJV)

5. He alone carried the blood of the sacrifice to the holiest place in heaven and sprinkled that same blood (His

Own) upon the mercy seat, the actual throne of God -

“But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.”

(Hebrews 9:11–12, NKJV)

6. And He alone has been raised to give evidence that God has accepted His payment on our behalf and has justified us by that blood shed for the absolute removal of our sin. -

“Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.”

(Romans 4:23–25, NKJV)

- D. This is a careful construct on the part of God - so that He would share the Glory of Jesus (and thus His own Glory) with NO ONE.

IV. HE PROMISES COMFORT AND PEACE FOR US

- A. Everything God declares about Jesus has been declared for our comfort

“For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

(Romans 15:4–6, NKJV)

- B. The work of redemption, and all the offices of Christ exist for the solace and succor of God's chosen beloved bride. Our consolation is His aim in all ...
- C. This is evidenced by this great oath which is never given before nor after...
- D. In John 11.41-42 - Jesus prayed at the tomb of Lazarus, I know you always hear me, but I say this for the sake of those who listen... this same truth applies to every single thing Jesus did... it was all for us.

E. Our own goals and aims are so low that God gives this oath to lift us, our vision, our hopes, our hearts, unto His own goals...

“But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.””

(1 Corinthians 2:9, NKJV)

F. The promises of the gospel are likewise so high, that they seem to us like a dream... and so God grounds them in His own oath regarding Christ. We are commanded to expect glorious things from the discharge of the office of Christ; and it is frankly too much for us to imagine... this is why Paul prays that God will continue to reveal Himself, His purposes, His ways, His promises and everything else to us. We cannot know God unless He reveals Himself.
Period

Ephesians 3.14-21

G. And so God confirms every word, seals it in His own promise and binds us to that self-same promise by the blood of the lamb.

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“Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made to the fathers,” (Romans 15:8, NKJV)

V. STABILITY IN PROMISE

- A. God lays great weight and stress upon this reality
- B. His own counsel in regards to Christ and His work, is itself immutable. So not only is the office unchanging, the blessings and benefits that flow out of the office are themselves endless and eternal.
- C. Our fickle hearts betray us and seek to cause us to doubt, and so God gives us powerful evidence and He does so without grudging it to us! It was His own idea!
- D. The evidence of the giving of the promise is also a salve to our doubting hearts, for anyone who has never doubted what he believes, has probably never believed anything at all!
- E. Drink deeply of the water of God's goodness in providing His own name and honor as the surety for our salvation, there

could be no greater surety ever even
imagined!