

Mt. Ennon Baptist Church
January 17, 2024

Rev. Delman L. Coates, Ph.D., Pastor
Min. Janice Glover-Jones, Facilitator

Bible Study:
Session one: Believing God for your Promise Land

1. Many of the Old Testament concepts with literal implications hold spiritual implications for New Testament believers in Christ. The concept of a **Promise Land** is a primary example.
2. In fact, God not only **invites** us to apply the concepts spiritually but also **insists** (Heb. 3).
3. The most concentrated New Testament spiritual equivalent of the promised-land concept is perhaps best captured in **John 15**.

John 15:1-11 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes^[a] to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed^[b] by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become^[c] my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

- a. Our promised land is a place of **Possession**. In John 15 we are called to possess: **Christ Words**, much **Affirmatively Answered** prayer, and the **Joy** of Jesus. Our promised lands are places of God's **Unapologetic Joy in you** to the **Obedient**.
 - b. Our promised land is a place of **Blessing**. Where? In Christ's **Love**.
 - c. Our promised lands are places where God brings forth a **Great Harvest**.
4. Our promised lands will always involve **Conquest**.

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5. Our promised lands are places of Great Victory over our Enemy (Josh. 3:10).

Joshua 3:10 *Joshua said, "By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites:*

6. The original word for "amazing things" is PALA meaning "to Separate; distinguish, To be wonderful, do wonderful things; wondrous things, miracles. Used primarily with God as the subject, denoting the fact that He does things that are beyond the bounds of human powers or expectations." Our promised lands are places where God is willing to work untold wonders, but He desires two critical preparations from us: Faith and Sanctification.

Five-Statement Pledge of Faith

1. **GOD IS WHO HE SAYS HE IS**
2. **GOD CAN DO WHAT HE SAYS HE CAN DO**
3. **I AM WHO GOD SAYS I AM**
4. **I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST**
5. **GOD'S WORD IS ALIVE AND ACTIVE IN ME**

As a result, I am believing God.

Repeat all five out loud at least 3 times a day.

HOMEWORK: Making it Practical

Take action this week to focus on what's really important in your life. Get alone with God with a Write a letter to God, pour out your heart to Him.... and seek Him with your whole heart. Don't be afraid to ask Him the BIG questions. He is a BIG God with BIG answers!