

GROUNDED IN CHRIST

We have so many promises from God that are wonderful reminders that He loves us and will never forsake us. His promises are an expression of His love toward us and the anchor for our souls that ground us firmly in Christ. Paul puts it this way, “For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God (2 Corinthians 1:20-21). The word “stablisheth” in the King James Version is translated in other versions as “grounded” and carries the meaning “firm or steadfast.” Every promise we have of God is firm, sure, and unmovable. Paul points out in the context under consideration some reasons for us to be grounded in Christ.

Our confidence in God and His promises grounds us. God, as our creator, spoke everything into existence and He sustains His creation with the word of His power. He is true and faithful in every thing. “But as God is true, our word toward you was not yea and nay” (2 Corinthians 1:18). Paul reminded Titus that God’s promises to us can be counted on because God can be counted on. “Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began” (Titus 1:1- 2). In like manner He reminded the Roman Christians, “Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith: To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever.

Amen” (Romans 16:25-27). We can count on the promises of God because He is true and trustworthy.

Our confidence in what God has promised in Christ grounds us. “For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us” (2 Corinthians 1:20). God planned before the foundation of the earth to provide all spiritual blessings through and in His Son. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love” (Ephesians 1:3-4). He has removed us from contaminants of the world and has placed us in the redemptive protection of His Son. “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:” (Colossians 1:13-14). Paul reminded Timothy that it is in Christ that we have the promised assurance of salvation. “Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel: Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory” (2 Timothy 2:8-10). Our confidence in what God has promised and confirmed through the Spirit grounds us. “Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts” (2 Corinthians 1:22).

God has not left us to wonder what His will for our life is. He revealed not only His promises to us but has given us the instructions necessary for us to appropriate the benefits of those promises. “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works” (2 Timothy 3:16-17). It is the Spirit revealed and filled Word of God that has the power to prick our hearts, mold our lives, direct our steps and protect our souls. “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Hebrews 4:12; Romans 1:16; Psalm 119:105; 11; Ephesians 6:17). When we follow the teachings of the Spirit we are truly grounded in Christ (1 Peter 1:22-25).

God has provided us with all that we will ever need to sustain us in this life and prepare us for eternal life. The apostle Peter reassured us with these words: “Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust” (2 Peter 1:1-4). It is only in Christ that we can ground our faith and realize our hope. “If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister”. (Colossians 1:22, 23).

Jerry L. Martin *from Vigil*

ANNIVERSARY

Ed and Verna Hanson, 11-11, 60th Congratulations!

ILL

Sunday: Millie Robertson; Tom Tucker.

Wednesday: Millie Robertson.

Millie Robertson was admitted to Shawnee Mission Medical Center on Wednesday. Elizabeth Ray, Clara Scott's sister, is in St. Joseph's Hospital.

Those battling cancer: Ledgia Campbell, David Cole, Shauna Heck, Betty James and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in your prayers.

HOME BOUND

Kathleen Camp is in Room 101 at the Royal Terrace Nursing Home in Olathe. Barbara James' Aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at Sharon Lane in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

OUT OF TOWN

Paula Stillwell was in Arkansas last weekend to care for her mother. Chris Edwards was in Chicago on business.

NEW ARRIVAL

Caeden Isaac Cole was born at 6:45 PM on November 5, 2009 at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. He weighed 6.01 pounds and stood 18.75 inches tall.

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to Louise Dodson and her family in the passing of her aunt, Neta Carden, on October 25, 2009. Funeral services were conducted on October 30, 2009 in Lebanon, Missouri.

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING

Our monthly Men's Business Meeting will be held this Sunday, November 8, following our AM worship. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 39; Sunday PM, 35; Wednesday PM, 27.

Those To Serve

November 8, 2009

BUILDING AND COMMUNION..... Nemechek

MORNING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Stanley Anderson
SONG LEADER..... George Thomas
OPENING PRAYER Trent Thrasher
PRESIDE..... John Dodson
ASSIST..... Chris Edwards
ASSIST..... Dave Parish
CLOSING PRAYER..... Joel Nelson

EVENING WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER Jared Nelson
CLOSING PRAYER..... Jeff Nemechek
LORD'S SUPPER..... John Dodson

WEDNESDAY 11th

SONG LEADER..... Jared Nelson
INVITATION John Cody Carter

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study..... 9:30 AM
Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM
Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Study 10:00 AM
Bible Study..... 7:00 PM

Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher

Phone: (913) 764-2325

E-mail: olathecocf@sbcglobal.net

CHURCH OF CHRIST

515 WEST PARK

P.O. BOX 482

OLATHE, KANSAS 66051

www.kc-cocf.org/olathe.htm

www.oabs.org/olathe.asp