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There Hath Not Failed One Word

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Series: God's Living Legends II

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You cannot help but notice a distinct change in one section of the newspaper these days. It is, strangely enough, in the obituary column. Once there were only small blocks, alphabetically arranged, in print so small only an ophthalmologist could read them, a formal notice that Mr. or Mrs. Smith had passed away on such and such a day, and that he or she left the following relatives behind. Now, suddenly, dying has been turned into an event.

Big bold headlines feature such amazing things as “Mary Smith loved Parakeets”. Or “Fred Jones collected guns”. Or “Bess Sanderson loved to sew.” These somewhat innocuous headlines are usually followed by what is often a seemingly empty-sounding story that is meant to be a tribute to a loved one, but at least in some cases is merely a tribute to the absence of purpose in their lives.

It would seem to me that if we are going to list the relative achievements of one who has passed on, it might do us well to look more to the issue of character than accomplishments. I, for one, would rather know that Mary Smith always told the truth... or that Fred Jones was responsible...or that Bess Sanderson invested her life in people.

Have you ever wondered what is the most God-honoring thing that the world could say about a man or woman after they have gone on to Glory? I believe the one thing that would most honor God is for the world to be able to say, “There was a man or woman who always kept their word. There was a man or woman who only promised what they could do, but always did what they promised.” I believe that character quality would perhaps, more than any other, typify the nature of God. For you see, once the unbelieving world comes to realize that God’s Word cannot fail, it is only a matter of time till they begin to listen to what God’s Word says.

There is, in effect, nothing in your life as important as your

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word. It is the lens through which the world views your integrity. And once you catch a man or a woman bending the truth, or promising something they cannot do, or making a claim that cannot be substantiated, you somehow never quite believe in that person again. That is why a person's credit rating is so valued. When you buy something on credit, you are giving your word that you will repay that debt in a certain way. Sometimes, circumstances interfere, but for the most part your character will be judged by whether or not you pay exactly as you promised. Your word: It is the key to your character.

God's Word, of course, is the key to His character as well. And that is why it is so vital that both His children and the unbelieving world about them come to realize that "There Hath Not Failed One Word of all that He has ever spoken".

Not once in history has God ever promised something He did not or will not do. Not once has God ever prophesied something that has not or will not come to pass. Not once in history has God ever misrepresented or misinterpreted anything. Every word He has ever spoken has been, in essence, perfect truth. There Hath Not Failed One Word. That is the subject and that is the title for today's portion of our continuing journey through the life of the Living Legend of a man named Solomon. It is taken from verse 56 of chapter 8 of I Kings, the chapter that holds the entirety of our story for this week.

The story itself is a continuation of last week's lesson, for it is the unfolding of the events that took place once the temple at last had been completed. Our Scriptural journey through the land of Solomon's story ended last week in the last verse of chapter seven where Solomon brought in all the things which David his father had prepared for the temple and put them among the treasures of the house of the Lord.

Now Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the chief fathers of the children of Israel, to King Solomon in Jerusalem, that they might bring up the Ark of the covenant of the LORD from the City of David, which is Zion.

Therefore all the men of Israel assembled with King Solomon at the feast in the month of Ethanim, which is the seventh month.

So all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the Ark.

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Then they brought up the ark of the LORD, the tabernacle of meeting, and all the holy furnishings that were in the tabernacle. The priests and the Levites brought them up.

Also King Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel who were assembled with him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen that could not be counted or numbered for multitude.

Then the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the temple, to the Most Holy Place, under the wings of the cherubim.

For the cherubim spread their two wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles.

The poles extended so that the ends of the poles could be seen from the holy place, in front of the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside. And they are there to this day.

(I Kings 8:1-8 NKJV)

I- THE STORY

At last the great day had arrived. For seven years this day of dedication had lingered in the minds of Solomon and his people. It was for this day that they had labored so tirelessly. Now the moment was here at last. It is now the seventh month, and time for the Feast of Tabernacles. All of Israel's leaders, both great and small were assembling to witness this, the greatest event in Israeli history since that day in Exodus, chapter 40, when the tabernacle was consecrated. As the witnesses gathered, the priests began their procession. Though many of the utensils had been preserved from the tabernacle, with the exception of the Ark, all the furnishings had been replaced with newer, more elegant ones.

At the center of all their activities was the bringing in of the Ark of the Covenant. In detail we read of how it was carried, where it was to be located, and what it contained. It was Solomon himself, in verses 20-21, who remarked that the temple was literally built with the Ark in mind. Even the length of the poles is given, and the fact that the poles were not to be totally removed, as commanded in Exodus 25:15. The phrase "unto this day" indicates that the temple was still standing at the time this book was written. The question of what remained in the Ark was all that was left to be explained, and the next verse takes care of that:

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Nothing was in the Ark except the two tablets of stone which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. (I Kings 8:9 NKJV)

All that resided in the Ark at this time were the Ten Commandments. As for when the golden pot of manna and Aaron's rod had been removed, we do not know for sure. One thing remained. That one thing was the Word of God, that which would abide forever. Now, once again, God moves to demonstrate to His children the Glory of His presence, even as He had done when the tabernacle was dedicated. Verses 10 and 11 tell us about it:

And it came to pass, when the priests came out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD,

So that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD. (I Kings 8:10,11 NKJV)

II- THE GLORY

What an awesome experience! Once the priests had taken the Ark into the temple, into the most holy place, had finished arranging the furniture, and had left, never again to return, except for the high priest who would enter once a year, suddenly God's very presence in the form of the Glory Cloud surrounded and filled the entire place. So awesome was it that the priests could not stand to remain there and minister.

We read nothing in I Kings of how the people worshipped on this occasion or of how God responded to their worship, but in the parallel passage in II Chronicles 5:12-13 we can better sense the mood of those who witnessed this great event with these words:

All the Levitical singers, Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun, and their sons and kinsmen, clothed in fine linen, with cymbals, harps and lyres, standing east of the altar, and with them one hundred and twenty priests blowing trumpets, in unison when the trumpeters and the singers were to make themselves heard with one voice to praise and to glorify the Lord, and when they had lifted up their voice accompanied by trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and when they praised the Lord saying, "He indeed is good for His lovingkindness is everlasting," then the house, the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud.

What a worship service that was! Beautiful instruments

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playing, musical groups performing, followed by congregational singing, as the people worshipped God with “psalms and hymns and spiritual songs.” Then as the people lifted their voices to God in adoration, the cloud of Glory once again settled upon their new temple. So vivid, so brilliant it was that the priests had to remove themselves because of the magnitude of the Glory. What a foretaste of the Glory that is to come!

It is at this time, at the height of the God-consciousness of the congregation, that King Solomon rose to speak, and then to pray. His sermon takes up verses 12-21, his prayer virtually the rest of the chapter. It is to that prayer and its ramifications that we will address ourselves for the remainder of this lesson.

III- A PRECIOUS PRAYER

The brief sermonette that led up to Solomon’s prayer involves only ten verses. How some of you may long for messages of such brevity! Those ten verses simply took the occasion of the moment, the coming of the Glory Cloud, and used it as the touchstone to move the people into the arena of prayer. Listen to Solomon, as he begins to address the people.

Then Solomon spoke: “The LORD said He would dwell in the dark cloud.

I have surely built You an exalted house, And a place for You to dwell in forever.

Then the king turned around and blessed the whole assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel was standing.

And he said: “Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, who spoke with His mouth to my father David, and with His hand has fulfilled it, saying,

‘Since the day that I brought My people Israel out of Egypt, I have chosen no city from any tribe of Israel in which to build a house, that My name might be there; but I chose David to be over My people Israel.’

Now it was in the heart of my father David to build a temple for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

But the LORD said to my father David, ‘Whereas it was in your heart to build a temple for My name, you did well that it was in your heart.

Nevertheless you shall not build the temple, but your son who will come from your body, he shall build the temple for My name.’

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So the LORD has fulfilled His word which He spoke; and I have filled the position of my father David, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised; and I have built a temple for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

And there I have made a place for the ark, in which is the covenant of the Lord which He made with our fathers, when He brought them out of the land of Egypt.”

(I Kings 8:12-21 NKJV)

The entire theme of Solomon’s day of worship and praise, then begins to unfold the moment he opens his mouth. He begins with the words “The LORD said,” and then proceeds to describe how the Lord did exactly what He said He would. In verse 15 are those beautiful words, “Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, which spake with His mouth, and hath with His hand fulfilled it.” Then in verse 20, once again, these words: “And the LORD hath performed His word that he spake.”

So the theme of this incredible praise gathering is virtually singular in nature. It is this: God keeps His Word. Or as verse 56 will so graphically sum it up: “There hath not failed one word of all his good promise.”

This is, in essence, the entire message of the Gospel. This is the theme song of the angelic chorus. This is the very fabric upon which the message of the Cross is woven into the tapestry of life. *God is who he says he is; and god does what he says he will.*

Now Solomon lifts his hands and his heart towards heaven and there flows from his spirit an anthem of praise to His God which, in effect, is simply a continuation of the theme that permeated his sermon, only now his words are directed upward instead of outward. He begins in verse 22 with this memorable benediction of praise:

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands toward heaven;

And he said: “LORD God of Israel, there is no God in heaven above or on earth below like You, who keep Your covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts.

You have kept what You promised Your servant David my father; You have both spoken with Your mouth and fulfilled it with Your hand, as it is this day.

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Therefore, LORD God of Israel, now keep what You promised Your servant David my father, saying, ‘You shall not fail to have a man sit before Me on the throne of Israel, only if your sons take heed to their way, that they walk before Me as you have walked before Me.’

And now I pray, O God of Israel, let Your word come true, which You have spoken to Your servant David my father.

(1 Kings 8:22-26 NKJV)

What an incredibly beautiful way to begin a prayer. He said,

Lord God of Israel, there is no God in heaven above or on earth below like You, who keep Your covenant [word]...

You kept it with David, you did everything you promised him; and now, O God, I expect you supernaturally to do the same with me.” In verse 25 he says,

Here, Lord, is the promise you made. (paraphrase)

And in verse 26 he concludes,

And now I pray, O God of Israel, let Your word come true, which You have spoken to Your servant David my father.

(NKJV)

Let thy word be verified! What a powerful way to invoke the integrity of God in prayer. Let thy word be verified! Solomon, before the entire congregation of Jewish leaders gathered before this beautiful, just-completed temple, now encased in the Glory of God, asks God to prove once again that “there hath not failed one word”. And Solomon follows that startlingly powerful statement with a series of illustrations through which he reminds God of how awesome and yet how immutable His perfect, unfailing Word is in the very real situations his people find themselves in. We will address those statements themselves only briefly, for we want to return to them in order to apply them not only to Solomon’s iron clad assessments of God’s promises, but to our own personal situations as well. I believe we, like those Israeli leaders who were gathered around the temple that day, beholding God’s glory, sit together even now as God’s temples, each of whom is filled with God’s glory, claiming before His Holy Name those very same promises that will not fail!!!

We will, then, only pass through and read the isolated verses that highlight the principles Solomon is reciting before God and the nation.

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Principle 1- The Omnipresence of God

But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built! (I Kings 8:27 NKJV)

Principle 2- The Justice of God

“When anyone sins against his neighbor, and is forced to take an oath, and comes and takes an oath before Your altar in this temple,

Then hear in heaven, and act, and judge Your servants, condemning the wicked, bringing his way on his head, and justifying the righteous by giving him according to his righteousness. (I Kings 8:31,32 NKJV)

Principle 3- God Is Perfect Comfort

“When Your people Israel are defeated before an enemy because they have sinned against You, and when they turn back to You and confess Your name, and pray and make supplication to You in this temple,

Then hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of Your people Israel, and bring them back to the land which You gave to their fathers. (I Kings 8:33,34 NKJV)

Principle 4- The Availability of God: He Always Hears

“When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, when they pray toward this place and confess Your name, and turn from their sin because You afflict them,

Then hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of Your servants, Your people Israel, that You may teach them the good way in which they should walk; and send rain on Your land which You have given to Your people as an inheritance. (I Kings 8:35,36 NKJV)

Principle 5- God Is Omniscient; Therefore He Understands

“When there is famine in the land, pestilence or blight or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers; when their enemy besieges them in the land of their cities; whatever plague or whatever sickness there is;

Whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by anyone, or by all Your people Israel, when each one knows the plague of his own heart, and spreads out his hands toward this temple:

Then hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and

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act, and give to everyone according to all his ways, whose heart You know (for You alone know the hearts of all the sons of men),”
(I Kings 8:37-39 NKJV)

Principle 6- The Love of God: Whosoever Will May Come

“Moreover, concerning a foreigner, who is not of Your people Israel, but has come from a far country for Your name’s sake (for they will hear of Your great name and Your strong hand and Your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this temple,

Hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, that all peoples of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this temple which I have built is called by Your name. (I Kings 8:41-43 NKJV)

Principle 7- The Omnipotence of God

“When Your people go out to battle against their enemy, wherever You send them, and when they pray to the LORD toward the city which You have chosen and the temple which I have built for Your name,

Then hear in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause. (I Kings 8:44,45 NKJV)

Principle 8- The Mercy of God

“When they sin against You (for there is no one who does not sin), and You become angry with them and deliver them to the enemy, and they take them captive to the land of the enemy, far or near;

Yet when they come to themselves in the land where they were carried captive, and repent, and make supplication to You in the land of those who took them captive, saying, “We have sinned and done wrong, we have committed wickedness”;

And when they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their enemies who led them away captive, and pray to You toward their land which You gave to their fathers, the city which You have chosen and the temple which I have built for Your name:

Then hear in heaven Your dwelling place their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause,

And forgive Your people who have sinned against You, and all their transgressions which they have transgressed

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against You; and grant them compassion before those who took them captive, that they may have compassion on them (for they are Your people and Your inheritance, whom You brought out of Egypt, out of the iron furnace),

That Your eyes may be open to the supplication of Your servant and the supplication of Your people Israel, to listen to them whenever they call to You.”

(I Kings 8:46-52 NKJV)

Now, God paints the portrait of how Solomon concluded this worship experience:

And so it was, when Solomon had finished praying all this prayer and supplication to the LORD, that he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven.

Then he stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying:

“Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised. There has not failed one word of all His good promise, which He promised through His servant Moses.

May the LORD our God be with us, as He was with our fathers. May He not leave us nor forsake us,

(I Kings 8:54-57 NKJV)

Then the king and all Israel with him offered sacrifices before the LORD.

(I Kings 8:62 NKJV)

IV-A PERFECT PROMISE

There hath not failed one word! That is the essence and that is the essential of all that Solomon had to say, both to the nation and to God. There hath not failed one word! These were not just doctrinal truths that Solomon could argue in the classrooms of the Jerusalem Theological Seminary, either. These were bedrock principles hewn out of the hard rock of reality, promises made to real people in real situations where the world's best offered no help at all. God had an answer for every one of them. An answer in the form of a promise. And do you know what?

There had not failed one word!!! Not one time had God failed to respond exactly as He said He would. So Solomon, taking this momentous occasion in Israel's history, this day of days, when the entire nation stood in awe at the dedication of the temple, at the miraculous return of the Shekinah Glory of God to inhabit

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that temple, and at the highlight of Solomon's entire life (for indeed this was the pinnacle of his career), at that auspicious moment in time, Solomon preached and prayed with one basic thought in mind. It was this: Beloved Children of God, there is a solution to each of life's problems, and each and every solution is found in the Word of God. For every crisis there is a word, and not once has that word ever failed.

There hath not failed one word! In this incredible passage, Solomon takes eight of the most common misconceptions about God, eight of the most common cries that come from the hearts of men, and one at a time he wraps them in a package of Scriptural assurance.

This is one of the most practical prayers I have ever heard prayed. What Solomon is doing is simply reminding God of the great promises he has made, applying them to real-life questions and crises, and then turning to the people, reminding them that God has a promise for each situation, *and there hath not failed one word of all he hath promised.*

Let's quickly now go back through those eight segments of Solomon's prayer and look for the problem, the principle, the promise, and the passages that confirm those promises, reminding ourselves as we go that *there hath not failed one word.* The problem, of course, is that these promises are promises that must be taken by faith, and the only basis for that faith is the Word of God. So Solomon says, "Lord, let thy word, I pray, be verified..." And indeed, our God delights in verifying His Word. And well He should—for there hath not failed one word of all that He hath spoken.

Principle 1- The Omnipresence of God

The Problem- The first problem is found in verse 27. The problem is this: *how do I know that God is really there? Is God not limited by time or space?*

The Principle- The principle is the omnipresence of God.

The Promise and the Passage- The promise is found in verse 27,

Behold, the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee.

And it is confirmed so magnificently in such passages as Psalm 139:5-13 where the Psalmist reminds us:

Where can I go from your Spirit? (Psalm 139:7a NKJV)

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You are there!”

(Psalm 139:8b NKJV)

What Solomon is saying to Israel (and what God is saying to us) is, “wait a minute...don’t listen to Satan’s haunting voice when God seems to have deserted the premises and voided the promises, and you seem to be living your life as though God were in Heaven and you were here. Stop. Look at reality, listen to the Word of God and meditate on what it says. It is not how you “feel” that determines the presence of God. It is what God has said that determines if and when He is available. So you quietly stand against the enemy by reviewing the Word of God. God cannot have deserted you. “Whither can I go that He won’t be there? Anywhere in heaven? Anywhere on earth?” Answer: “The heaven of heavens cannot contain thee.” God is omnipresent. How do I know? He said so. And there hath not failed one word of all His good promise. So I simply pray, “Lord, verify thy word. I believe it to be true.” Are you feeling alone? I understand. And more important still, God understands. But He will never leave you or forsake you. Period. That’s what He said; and there hath not failed one word...Remember? Stand on it, Beloved. It will change your life.

Principle 2- The Justice of God

The Problem- What do we do when wrongly accused or misunderstood?

The Principle- The principle is that God is perfect justice. Therefore, we need not, no we must not retaliate; vengeance belongs to God.

The Promise And The Passages- I Kings 8:32a claims it,

then hear in heaven, and act, and judge Your servants,

I Peter 2:19-21 and Romans 12:19 confirm it.

But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently,
this is commendable before God. (I Peter 2:20b NKJV)

Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him...”

(Romans 2:19b, 20a)

You say, “Can that be true?” Solomon says, “LORD, that’s what you promised?”

There has not failed one word of all His good promise,

(I Kings 8:56 NKJV)

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Principle 3- God Is Perfect Comfort

The Problem- What to do when you feel defeated or depressed.

The Principle- Remember: God is perfect comfort. He really cares.

The Promise And The Passage:

When Your people Israel are defeated...and when they turn back to You and confess Your name, and pray...

then hear...and bring them back...

(I Kings 8:33,34 NKJV)

What beautiful confirmation we find in II Corinthians 1:3,4, "The God of all comfort comforts us in ALL our tribulation." You may not be able to "feel" God's comfort right now; but if you need God's comfort right now, have no doubts, His Word says *He is comforting you this very moment*. You have two choices. You can believe the voice of the stranger that is whispering in your ear, or you can believe the Word of God. I have good news for you from Solomon. There hath not failed one word of all His good promise. That ought to settle it!

Principle 4- The Availability of God: He Always Hears

The Problem- The heavens appear to be silent. You have prayed and nothing has happened. Satan is bombarding you with lies: God has gone to sleep. But my Bible says that

Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

(Psalm 121:4 NKJV)

The Principle- is that God always hears the prayers of His people. He never falls asleep and fails to listen.

The Promise and the Passages- So the promise is that God will always hear. I Kings 8:35,36 reminds us, "When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain...then hear, and forgive, and teach..." And, oh, what confirmation from all the rest of the Word of God. Psalm 4:3 reinforces it with such beauty,

But know that the LORD has set apart for Himself him who is godly; The LORD will hear when I call to Him.

(NKJV)

It doesn't matter how you "feel". It only matters what God has said. God has said He will hear. And there hath not failed one word of all that He has promised. Beloved, you have a rock to stand on—the Word of God. All other ground is sinking sand.

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Principle 5- God Is Omniscient; Therefore He Understands.

The Problem- The problem is that when we are in the midst of unpleasant circumstances, we forget that God knows the depth of our hearts and understands how we feel.

The Principle- The principle is that God is never taken by surprise; He is omniscient: therefore, never does He leave us to face those obstacles alone.

The Promise and the Passages- The promise is found in I Kings 8,

When there is famine in the land, pestilence or blight or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers; when their enemy besieges them in the land of their cities; whatever plague or whatever sickness there is;

Whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by anyone, or by all Your people Israel, when each one knows the plague of his own heart, and spreads out his hands toward this temple:
(I Kings 8:37,38 NKJV)

And what blessed confirmation is ours in Isaiah 43. Memorize it. It says this:

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you.
(Isaiah 43:2 NKJV)

How do I know I can stand on that incredible promise? There hath not failed one word! That's how you know.

Principle 6- The love of God: Whosoever Will May Come

The Problem- Believing that only a chosen few, or only those who have not sinned as you have sinned can find the heart of God.

The Principle- The heart of God is big enough for all who come. He is no respecter of persons.

The Promise and the Passages- I Kings 8:41-43 promise that even

a foreigner, who is not of Your people Israel, but has come out from a far country...shall hear thy great name, hear You in heaven their supplication, and maintain their cause.
(NKJV)

What blessed confirmation we find in John 6:37 where Jesus

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reminds us:

the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

(NKJV)

Has the enemy convinced you that you have been denied access to the Kingdom of God. It is a lie! A horrendous lie! The greatest lie of all! Don't listen to him. Listen to the Word of God. There hath not failed one word of all that He hath spoken. Come to Him; He will in no wise cast you out.

Principle 7- The Omnipotence of God

The Problem- In the midst of spiritual warfare, we hear the lie, "This battle is too much for God." or "the outcome depends on me."

The Principle- The principle is, however, that God is omnipotent. There is no battle He cannot win. And the extension of the principle is that therefore, the battle is not ours to fight. Praise God!

The Promise and the Passages- The promise then is found in I Kings 8:44 and 45... "When My people go to battle, maintain their cause". It is confirmed so wonderfully in II Chronicles 20, where we read,

You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD,

(II Chronicles 20:17 NKJV)

... for the battle is not yours, but God's.

(II Chronicles 20:15 NKJV)

Don't you see? When the enemy assails you, and seems to have surrounded you, and the battle is so intense there seems to be no hope, God expects you to set yourself; stand still; and see *Him win the battle*. It was never yours to fight. You say, but how can I know that's true?

You can know because God said it, and there hath not failed one word...that's how.

Principle 8- The mercy of God: even when you appear to be in bondage, God will not give up and leave you.

The Problem- The problem seems to be that when all else fails, Satan convinces the child of God that in that one area of his life he is in bondage forever and will never be delivered.

The Principle- The principle is the infinite mercy of God. He

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never stops loving and never stops waiting to deliver us.

The Promise and the Passages- The promise is found in verses 46-53,

yet when they come to themselves in the land where they were carried captive, and repent, and make supplication to You...

and when they return to You with all their heart

then hear [their prayer] in heaven Your dwelling place their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause,

(1 Kings 8:47a,48a,49)

And what wonderful confirmation is ours in Ezra 9:9. It says this:

...our God did not forsaken us in our bondage.

What a breath of glory fills our souls, then in John 8:36, where Jesus reminds us,

If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Satan possesses no stronghold too massive, no cord too unbreakable, no chains that cannot be torn asunder by the God whose very name is Mercy. You say, "But I don't feel that I can ever overcome that problem." Feeling isn't the issue. The Word of God is the issue. And the Word of God says; "There has not failed one word."

The great issues of life are not new ones. They were real to the people of Israel in Solomon's day, just as real as they are to you right now. The issue isn't does God have an answer? And the issue isn't "does God's promise still hold true? The issue is will we believe God or not? and will we stand without wavering or doubting?

For he who doubts [wavers] is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

(James 1:6b NKJV)

Will we stand without wavering on this one, irrefutable, unchangeable statement "There hath not failed one word of all his good promise"?

Try to imagine in your own minds, the magnificence of that hour. All of the leaders of the nation are gathered together to witness the dedication of the temple, some seven years in the building. Imagine that you are there. There is special music, congregational singing, and anthems of praise. Suddenly, the Glory of God surrounds the temple, and King Solomon, God's

There Hath Not Failed One Word

choice as David's heir, stands to his feet and literally shouts,

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, who with his own hand has fulfilled what he promised...

(I Kings 8:15 NIV)

Then imagine the awesomeness as that great king falls to his knees, lifts his arms heavenward, and proceeds to exclaim, "There is no God like You...what You have spoken, You have always done." Then, with childlike faith, but Godlike wisdom, he proceeds to walk through the basic problems of life, lifts up the basic principles of Scripture, and exalts the promises that answer the problems, one by one, with uncanny simplicity, yet perfect authority. Then just watch him as he stands to his feet, turns to the congregation and triumphantly proclaims:

Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised. There has not failed one word of all His good promise...

(I Kings 8:56 NKJV)

Let me ask you. Would not the magnitude of that moment, and the authority of that statement lift you into the heavenlies? Read verse 66,

On the eighth day he sent the people away; and they blessed the king, and went to their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the good that the LORD had done for his servant David, and for Israel His people.

(I Kings 8:66 NKJV)

Joyful and glad of heart they were. Because now they knew that no matter what happened in the days to come, God had an answer, and God had a promise, and God had given them His word. And now they knew for certain...there hath not failed one word of all his good promises.

Beloved, let your heart be filled with joy and gladness. Neither your questions nor your quests are too difficult for God. Your fears or your frustrations are not beyond His reach. He is omnipresent, He is perfect comfort, He is total availability, He is omniscient, He is perfect love, He is omnipotent, He is infinite mercy.

Thus has the Living Legend of Solomon spoken to us this day and reminded us of the one basic truth that transcends all other truths and makes all truth a reality. It is this:

There hath not failed one word and you might add there never will!

There Hath Not Failed One Word

THERE HATH NOT FAILED ONE WORD

There hath not failed one Word,
There's God's promise to you,
Not a single word of the Word of God
Will ever be found untrue.

There will not fail one Word
It cannot happen, my friend,
Not one single syllable God has said
Will be less than yea, and amen.

You can bank your life upon it
Though the winds of affliction assail
Your life is secure in the hands of a God
Whose Word simply cannot fail!

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