

PERFORMANCE OR PROMISE
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Performance is **me** — Promise is **Him**.

Romans 4:13-16

Clearly, God's promise to give the whole earth to Abraham and his descendants was based not on his obedience to God's law, but on a right relationship with God that comes by faith.

14 If God's promise is only for those who obey the law, then faith is not necessary and the promise is pointless. 15 For the law always brings punishment on those who try to obey it. (The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!)

16 So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham's. For Abraham is the father of all who believe.

*"Doubt discovers difficulties which it never solves; it creates hesitancy, despondency, despair. Its progress is the decay of comfort, the death of peace. **Believe** is the word which speaks life into man, but doubt nails down his coffin."*

CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON
Theologian, Preacher, Author

1) The Poverty of Performance

- Characterized by faith in feelings
- Characterized by the failure of feelings
- Satan is the accuser, God is the convictor
- Ask, what's the point of my struggle? To bring about change in me or to pile on the doubt and shame.
- Accusation (the enemy) says: God hates you
- Conviction (the HS) says: God loves you and wants you to be restored to Him.

2) The Power of the Promise

- Characterized by FAITH in facts
- From "Lifetime Guarantee" by Billy Graham
 - I am Holy – 1 Cor 1:12
 - I am accepted – Rom 15:7
 - I am blameless - Eph 1:4
 - I am already in heaven - Eph 2:6
 - I am complete – Col 2:10
 - I am totally forgiven – Col 2:13
 - I am a conqueror over evil – Rom 8:37
 - I am not condemned – Rom 8:1

GOD'S FACTS NEVER CHANGE

2 Corinthians 1:20 *For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for His glory.*

GOD'S FACTS FREE US FOR SERVICE IN HIS WORK

Galatians 5:1 *So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery to the law.*

Dear God, I know I am a sinner on the wrong path. I want to turn around and journey with You on the road to eternal life. I know that I cannot do it by myself. I believe You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to die for my sins. Right now, I trust in Jesus as the only One who can provide true life. I know now that no works done by me will get me into heaven. My salvation comes only through making Jesus my Lord and Savior. My faith is in Jesus Christ as the only One who can place me in an eternal relationship with You, Heavenly Father. In Jesus' Name. Amen.