

J E F F S C I S L O W

T H E
P R O M I S E



THE
P R O M I S E

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THE PROMISE

*“Be an imitator of those who through faith
and patience, inherit the promises”*

– The Writer of Hebrews

Consider the following: How do you personally respond when facing a trial or crisis? Are your responses deliberate or unpredictable? Do you take action, or do you feel helpless? What about your emotions... are they cool, calm and collected, or filled with stress and anxiety, or perhaps even anger? How satisfied have you been with your method of response and the resulting outcomes?

Over the years I have observed a great contrast in human response to the trials and challenges that confront us. As a result of these observations, as well as personal experiences, I have learned that the outcome of any challenge is significantly tied to the response given it.

While specific responses are virtually unlimited in possibility, I have found that any response has a tendency to fall into one of two predominant and opposing categories: faith-based or fear-based.

Consider the differences: Faith refreshes, and ultimately delivers, while fear grips and ultimately destroys!

When a person chooses to believe in a positive outcome through faith, it births hope and hope inspires and fuels the journey toward the goal of what is expected through faith. The outcomes of faith-based action are overwhelmingly positive and at times even miraculous! Fear-based response on the other hand, while it could motivate one into taking an initial action, many times immobilizes and keeps a person from taking any action at all, and leaves them in a realm of self-pity, depression or worse.

What a contrast between these two approaches! Why would everyone not respond out of faith instead out of fear when confronted with their problems, especially when there is solid evidence that faithful responses bring about more successful outcomes? Perhaps some are not sure what they believe. Others may not know what to have faith in. Still others may be unsure what faith is all about. In fact, the entire issue of "faith" is oftentimes confusing and difficult to wrap our minds around.

There is much to learn about faith from the Old Testament account of Job. Job was a man of integrity, upright in all his ways. In fact, he was described as the “most righteous” man in all the land. In addition to being a man of great character, he was also a man of great wealth. His possessions were vast in number and he had many servants.

One day, in the midst of his great success, calamity struck with a vengeance. In a matter of hours, one catastrophe after another stripped him of everything he owned! Shortly thereafter, boil-like sores broke out all over his body. Next, his wife and friends turned on him and accused him falsely of things he must have done to have brought such calamity upon himself! Even though Job was financially, physically and emotionally devastated, he *chose* to respond out of faith and not out of fear in the midst of his dire circumstances.

As a result of Job’s “faith” response to these challenges – a response he persisted in each and every day – he was rewarded with the restoration of his health and the *doubling* of the great wealth he once had. What was this faith that Job had and where did he get it?

Job simply chose to believe in the Promises of God that are recorded in the most published book in the history of the world – the Bible.

No matter how devastating his circumstances, he made a conscious decision to believe in the Promises, rather than what he visually saw, emotionally felt or had a tendency to otherwise believe.

Job's is not an isolated story of overcoming challenging circumstances through faith. There are many miraculous stories of how faith delivers people today from dismal circumstances. I have also experienced the power of faith when I chose to believe in the Promises for deliverance from a deadly medical prognosis.

In 2001 I was diagnosed with *severe* aplastic anemia, an autoimmune disease that attacks the bone marrow and related stem cells. In a period of three short weeks this deadly disease killed all my bone marrow, left me with no immune system and completely altered the course of my life.

Blood tests revealed a neutrophil count of 0.0; meaning there was no means of fighting any germ or infection that might be

encountered. As a result, I was confined to a special “neutropenic” room in the hospital that was designed to minimize possible germ contact. There were precautionary signs posted outside my door; “No fresh fruits or flowers” and “Please see nurse before entering” .

No blood cells were being produced as a result of this disease, so I required blood transfusions every 3-4 days. My siblings were tested and worldwide databases were searched for a possible bone marrow donor. None was ever found. While in their care, the doctors said things such as, “You are like a guy that got hit by lightning”, and “You have an unfortunate case of bad luck”, and “We are sorry, we wish there was something we could do”. None of the specialists were able to determine why the disease struck me, nor did they offer any hope.

After nearly a month in the hospital the doctors informed me that I could not stay there indefinitely and was sent home with these instructions: “Stay away from your kids, do not kiss your wife, get rid of your pets, and do not go out in public”. The doctors warned of the many ways the disease could bring about death, and that it

was only a matter of time before I would succumb to one of them.

I had a choice as to how I was going to respond. I made a deliberate choice to have faith in the Promises and not allow the fear of the circumstances to gain the advantage it sought.

My choice became a daily, even an hourly exercise of determination as I fought fear with faith. To better help do this I followed the same approach I have always done in life and business: I wrote out a plan that outlined my expectation of being healed. I selected Promises that pertained to physical healing and believed they were meant for me. Each day I verbalized these Promises along with positive affirmations that I developed. As I did this, fear fled, faith rose up and hope inspired me to where I knew I *would* and not merely could, be healed!

This faith-based, deliberate response produced results – incredible results. Four months after the disease struck and 41 blood transfusions later, my expected miracle arrived! Without medical intervention or explanation, bone marrow began to grow

where none existed and began to produce strong, healthy blood cells to the amazement of the doctors.

I was completely healed from the disease and restored to health through prayer and faith in the Promises! My example proves once again that nothing is impossible to those who believe in the Promises!

The Bible defines faith as “the evidence of things not seen, and the substance of things hoped for”. This means that one must believe that he has that which he seeks before the evidence or substance has appeared! This must become a conviction, for it is the key to unlocking the divine power of the Promises!

Then, out of conviction, one must take action by living and speaking words that are consistent with the Promises. For it is written, “Faith without works (action) is dead (useless), being by itself.”

Below are just a few of the many affirmations and Promises that I wrote on Post-it-Notes and displayed in various locations within my home in 2001. I made a point of speaking these out several times each day with boldness, confidence and

expectation that they would become a reality in my life!

- My body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, where no darkness or disease can dwell!
- I know the plans I have for you says the Lord, plans for hope and a future!
- No weapon formed against me shall prosper!
- Jesus came to give LIFE and give it abundantly! Thank you, Lord for an abundant life!
- My immune system is working perfectly!
- Thank you, Father, for planting fresh, clean, strong bone marrow in my bones!
- I thank you Lord, for full and complete healing! According to Your Promise – I am healed!
- And the man said, “Lord, if thou will, you can make me whole.” And Jesus said, “I WILL!”

The Bible is a different book

*No other book claims to be "alive
and active"*

*No other book claims that it's over 8000
Promises "will never return empty", but in
power will accomplish the miraculous*

*No other book claims to reveal the
"knowledge of the truth"*

*No other book offers so many personal
Promises, that not only apply to everyone,
but also pertain to every possible
facet of life*

*No other book claims that the treasures
found within its pages are eternal:
"Heaven and earth will pass away,
but My words will never pass away"*

*No other book claims to be equal
with God:*

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the
Word was with God, and the Word was
God... and the Word became flesh and
dwelled among us"*

How can one understand these Promises
and obtain the faith necessary to overcome

the challenges of life? Faith arrives then grows by reading and knowing about the Promises! (That too is a promise!) While the Promises are free and available to all, each of us is reminded that we must believe in order to receive the manifestation of the great Promises found in this book. We are encouraged to follow by example: “... *be an imitator of those who through faith and patience inherit the Promises*” (Hebrews 6:12).

The Promises are available to you. They are available to all who seek, who ask and who would knock to have the door of understanding opened. Through the Promises nothing shall be impossible for you. There is no mountain so high you cannot climb it, no valley so low you cannot travel its barren ground, and no ocean so deep you cannot navigate its rough waters.

I have had the privilege of walking through the valley of the shadow of death and have experienced the miraculous power as a result of faith in the Promises. The Promises can and will produce miracles in your life and is your unmatched weapon in overcoming fear and rising above any challenge you may be facing now or in the future.

Salvation Prayer

Having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is essential to receiving all the benefits God has to offer you – both in this life and the life to come. For Jesus said, "... I came that you might have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

We learn from 1 Timothy 2:5, "There is one God, and one Mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." Jesus is our bridge to God; the only way we will see God is to receive Jesus into our heart in a personal way. For "... there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). Jesus is that name.

If you have never invited Jesus into your heart, or if you are not sure about your relationship with Him, I invite you to pray this prayer from your heart; it will change your life for good, as well as change your life forever.

Heavenly Father,

I come to You in all honesty asking for Your help. I know that I have messed up; I've done things I'm not proud of and have sinned against You and against others. I have lived selfishly, for myself. Please, forgive me of all this. I want to change and ask for Your help to do so.

I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sins. I also believe that He rose again from the dead and lives forever. Lord Jesus, I need You. I want to turn away from my sins. I ask for Your help. Come into my heart and give me strength to live for You.

Thank You for forgiving me, saving me, and giving me eternal life. Help me to become the person You want me to be. Thank you.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

About the Author

Jeff Scislow is a successful real estate agent residing in Apple Valley, Minnesota. Throughout his 20+ year career he has earned numerous international awards as a RE/MAX Realtor, including induction into the Hall of Fame, a Lifetime Achievement award, and the



coveted Circle of Legends award. He has won national marketing contests, developed detailed systems to enhance business operations, and has spoken on a variety of business and inspirational topics around the world.

In 2001, Jeff was diagnosed with an incurable disease and was told by medical specialists he would die. Jeff admits, *"Facing death was the biggest challenge of my life, but the promises of God are greater than any problem I could ever face!"* During this time Jeff began journaling his belief that God would miraculously heal him. This journal became a powerful book.

Journey to a Miracle is Jeff's story about unflinching belief in the midst of this challenge. It is a user manual for overcoming adversity and a guide to exercising faith in God's promises when the clouds of unpleasant circumstances close in. And it is a powerful testimony, written from the heart, with encouragement and wisdom to bless its readers and those they love. *Journey to a Miracle* is available at AMAZON.com or by visiting www.JourneyToAMiracle.com.

In life, *stuff* happens! And those unpleasant happenings come in all shapes and sizes. Some are mere challenges or obstacles, while others are catastrophic upheavals. The fact is, we all face them and respond differently to their unwelcomed arrival.

The Promise explores the ways many respond to the challenges in life and then illustrates how those responses bring forth predictable outcomes. By altering your response you can alter your outcome and experience rewarding – even extraordinary – results in the face of difficult times. With *The Promise* as your guide, what may seem impossible is now possible; no matter how big the obstacle or dire the circumstance.

Jeff's story is proof that a message need not be long to have a powerful impact. It provides tools available to each of us to create the life we desire; regardless of the challenges we face.

– Dan Proeschel, D.D.S.

A must read story for those wanting to be truly inspired!

– Tom Eckert, International 747 Captain

*Jeff shows us in *The Promise* that we can overcome insurmountable odds and find our purpose in life.*

His example gives me faith to believe that anything is possible!

– Pastor Rob Ketterling, River Valley Church

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