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# The Ultimate Promise

## Resurrection Sunday

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### He is the God Who sees!

Because He sees us — our brokenness, sinfulness and various needs —  
He has made promises to meet our greatest needs.  
What a loving Father!

*Start — by bragging on Jesus and **some** of the promises He has made to you and me.*

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### 1. No Rejection — Acceptance

- **John 6:37**  
Jesus said, “All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.”
  - **No Rejection — Acceptance**
    - idea of a broken, begging criminal coming to house of wealthy, powerful, Nobleman for help.
    - we come —no rejection, life-saving acceptance!
    - Jesus embraces us, bandages our wounds, seats us at the banquet table
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### 2. No Darkness — Light of Life

- **John 8:12**  
— Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”
  - **No Darkness — Light of Life**
    - no wandering in spiritual darkness, ignorance, confusion, in lies like the lost do
    - clarity, conviction, confidence; you know Whose you are, who you are, what you’re doing, where you’re going... you’re not wandering aimlessly
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### 3. Rest — Not Stress

- **Matthew 11:28**  
Jesus said, “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”
- **Rest — Not Stress**
  - at ease in heart and mind about your salvation, be able to holy exhale, and to have a time of recovery from days of striving and stress about your unknown spiritual condition.
  - I’m home — accepted just as I am

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## 4. Peace — Not Panic

- **John 14:27**

Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you.”

- **Peace — Not Panic**

- peace that surpasses understanding because you’re in right relationship with the God of the universe, Who is for you, loving you, caring for you, strengthening you!
- peace that isn’t dependent upon favorable circumstances (*like worldly peace*), rooted in the depths of Christ’s promises to you.

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## 5. Freedom — Not Captivity

- **John 8:31-21, 36**

Jesus said, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”

- **Freedom — Not Captivity**

- freedom from the power of sin *and* the penalty of sin — meaning — *sin has no dominion over me!*
- fear, doubt, addiction, strongholds — hell itself has no power over me.
- That’s what He came to do — set us free!

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## 6. Satisfaction — Not Searching (Woman at the Well)

- **John 4:13-14**

Jesus said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a *fountain of water* springing up into everlasting life.”

- **Satisfaction — Not Searching**

- when you drink the living water Jesus offers — no more thirst — *the search is over!*
- trying to find satisfaction in stuff and things, lovers and losers, drugs alcohol...

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## 7. Abundant Life — Not Devilish Destruction

- **John 10:10**

Jesus said, “The thief does not come except to *steal*, and to *kill*, and to *destroy*. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

- **Abundant Life — Not Devilish Destruction (your choice)**

- abundant life — superabundant, advantaged, privileged, favored
- not destruction — *why would I choose that after I’ve experienced what I have?*

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## 8. No Abandonment — Eternal Acceptance

- **Matthew 28:20**

Jesus said, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

- **No Abandonment — Eternal Acceptance**

- no rejection opens opportunity to promises, no abandonment points me to them continually.
- He will never leave you or forsake you — even in toughest times!

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## 9. He's Preparing a Place

- **John 14:1-2**

Jesus said, "Don't let your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."

- **He's Preparing a Place**

- no more crying, tears, pain, sorrow, sin, death
- joy, peace, beauty, harmony, purity, creativity, ability beyond compare
- we will have the same resurrection body that Jesus has

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## 10. He's Coming Back

- **John 14:3**

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

- **He's Coming Back**

- all signs, prophecies, world events, societal ills point that way. ***Are you ready?***

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## The Ultimate Promise

***Jesus said this to Martha at the grave of her brother Lazarus...***

- **John 11:25-26**

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. **Do you believe this?**"

**The ultimate promise is that for the follower of Jesus, they will never die!**

- **John 5:24**

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life."

- **2 Corinthians 5:4**

For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life.

“Someday you will read in the papers that D. L. Moody is dead. Don’t you believe a word of it! At that moment I shall be more alive than I am now. I shall have gone up higher, that is all; out of this old clay tenement into a house that is immortal—a body that death cannot touch; that sin cannot taint; a body just like Jesus’ glorious body.”<sup>1</sup>

~ D.L. Moody

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## Repent — Judgment Is Promised

*All these promises sound amazing — what must I do?*

- **Acts 17:30-31**

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.

- **Repent — Judgment Is Promised**

- **Psalm 10:13**

Why do the wicked renounce God? He has said in his heart, “You will not require an account.”

- **Mark 1:15**

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

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## Believe Good News — Forgiveness Is Available

- **John 1:12**

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God.

- **Believe Good News — Forgiveness Is Available**

- you broke law, earned death for that, Jesus paid price, offers free gift of salvation.

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## Receive Jesus — Accept Him, He’ll Accept You

**Biggest decision of your life —  
Jesus is inviting you now —  
humble yourself, find courage —  
come!**

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## Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to your life — to be able to have a deep peace that is not dependent upon favorable circumstances?
2. What did Jesus set *you* free from? How do you maintain that freedom?
3. What kind of things have you tried to find satisfaction in? Has your relationship with Jesus quenched that thirsty search?
4. Do you know anyone with abandonment challenges? How can Matthew 28:20 heal?
5. What is the Ultimate Promise for the follower of Jesus? Do you believe this?

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<sup>1</sup> William Revell Moody, *D.L. Moody* (Fleming H. Revell, 1900) 554

# NOTES