

God's Shifting Process ... Part 4

Don't Let Go of Your Promises; the Result May be Dangerous

Welcome to part 4, the final series on *God's Shifting Process*. In this session I want to share the scriptural evidence about God's promises and the potential shift when we ignore the promises. Even though some people have seen some of their promises fulfilled, many of us have not yet seen the fulfillment of all our promises. Some of these promises even seem impossible of being fulfilled in our lifetime. We need to keep in mind that God is always working out the details and watching to see how our faith and hope is aligned to his precious promises.

Our response, action, and attitude toward our promises are critical. Scripture clearly illustrates that there is a shifting process that occurs when our promises are thrown away through a negative attitude and/or lack of faith toward the fulfillment of them. 2: Peter 1:3-4 states *"His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires."*

In this passage God starts with the assurance that His divine power has given us everything we need for life and to live a life of godliness through the new knowledge in Him. In addition, through this knowledge of Him, He gives us great and precious promises. The reason He gives them is so that you and I can participate in His divine nature and escape the corruption that is in the world. In essence, God is stating that His promises are used to allow us to pursue His divine nature in an effort to help us escape the evil world around us.

Let's think this through ... have you or someone you know ever been frustrated with the promises God gave you? If this has happened to you or someone you know, you would have easily noticed a change in their attitude and words toward God. They began to doubt the precious promises they once had and began to complain about unfairness and used words like *"What's the use,"* or *"why don't good things happen to me?"* You could say these people started to shift their attitude, and now some of the corrupt nature has snuck into their minds and hearts. In some cases, people have become completely dissatisfied with God and themselves. In these cases they are living out the shift that God refers to in this passage, In other words, God has a shifting process that first takes people from their corrupt nature, gives them knowledge, and then precious promises which keeps them away from evil desires. However, when we dishonor God by forgetting and throwing out our promises, we run the risk of re-shifting and re-entering the life we used to have through evil desires. The following words by Frank Outlaw characterize the behavior

*Watch your thoughts they become words,
Watch your words they become actions,
Watch your actions they become habits
Watch your habits they become your character*

Watch your character it becomes your destiny.

In this final part on “Shifting”, I want to encourage you to reclaim God’s precious promises that have been given to you. I believe if you can reclaim the very essence of what God promises, you will begin a process of shifting towards greater things in your life, simply by showing God the glory and honor due Him. Through this series we have attempted to biblically explain that ‘Shift Happens!’ For access to the full series including the micro-sermon video series please visit <http://www.focusonheaven.com> and select the sermon series link.