

DENAIR FRIENDS CHURCH

Devotions with Matt

March 27, 2020

PROMISE KEEPER

I promise I'll be there by 8. I promise to deliver the product on time. I promise to always love you. My word is my bond. How many times have we heard those promises only to be let down by the one who made them? How many times have we made promises that we have failed to keep? Is there anyone out there who has always kept their promises? The bad news is no. No human being has ever kept all their promises- including you and me. The good news is that God has, is and always will keep all of His promises to us. His Word really is His bond. That's the third title of God in the song "Way Maker" and what I want to talk about today.

My brother-in-law really likes a Christian talk show host in his area.

People call in everyday to his show to ask questions about God, the Bible and kingdom life. Sometimes people call in to challenge him on his belief in God. Most times, those who challenge him, don't like it when he talks about sin. So many people don't like to see themselves as sinners, but rather good people who sometimes make mistakes. Sin is a delicate subject and sometimes it can hit a nerve.

When those who challenge him on the biblical point made by the Apostle Paul in the book of Romans (3:23) where he says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" they do so because they do not believe they fall into the "all" category. They have a view of themselves that is different from God's view. They think they are a good person and don't like the title "sinner". To be honest, none of us do, but facts are facts.

When those who challenge him on this point call in, this radio host begins to ask them some simple questions: Have you ever lied to anyone at any time in your life? Have you ever desired something that your neighbor had and you didn't? Have you ever not rested on the Sabbath? Have you ever misused the name of God? Have you ever dishonored your father and mother in any way? Have you ever been angry with your brother or friend, or anyone else for that matter, to the point that, even in the moment, you wanted to harm them or even wish they were dead? Has anything in your life ever been more important to you than God? Have you ever said anything bad about another person that might have gone too far? And of course, they all have to answer yes to all of those questions- and so do we. And when we do answer yes to them, we recognize that we broke everyone of God's Ten Commandments. Facts are facts- we are truly sinners. And because we are sinners we will break our promises.

But God is not like us. He is holy, righteous and just. His ways are perfect. His Word tells us that it is impossible for Him to lie (1 John 1:5). His Word cannot be broken (John 10:35). God promises to do what He says He will do and He delivers every time! When God says "I love you" we can trust Him. When He says "I will uphold you with my mighty right hand" we can trust He will. When His Word says that "anyone who believes in Him will never be put to shame" we can believe it. And when He says that we are sinners and have fallen (far) short of His glory, but that we are saved freely by His grace and that Jesus's great sacrifice cleanses us from our sins and restores our relationship with God, we can rest assured that it is true. God never lies, it is impossible for Him to do so, so we can trust Him in all He says and promises.

Whatever you are going through today there is a promise from God to you. He will never leave you nor forsake you and will walk with you in the good times and the bad. It is impossible for God to ever break His promises. He truly is The Promise Keeper. Will you rest in that today?

" ... The LORD is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does." Psalm 145:13b

