

## Arm Yourself with Promises by John Piper

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."* (Matthew 5:8)

When Paul says to put to death the deeds of the body "by the Spirit" (Romans 8:13), I take him to mean that we should use the one weapon in the Spirit's armor that is used to kill; namely, the sword, "which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:17).

So, when the body is about to be led into a sinful action by some fear or craving, we are to take the sword of the Spirit and kill that fear and that craving. In my experience, that means mainly severing the root of sin's promise by the power of a superior promise.

For example, when I begin to crave some illicit sexual pleasure, the sword-swing that has often severed the root of this promised pleasure is, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8). I recall the pleasures I have tasted of seeing God more clearly from an undefiled conscience; and I recall the brevity and superficiality and oppressive aftertaste of sin's pleasures, and with that, God has killed the

conquering power of sin.

Having promises at hand that suit the temptation of the hour is one key to successful warfare against sin.

But there are times when we don't have a perfectly suited word from God in our minds. And there is no time to look through the Bible for a tailor-made promise. So, we all need to have a small arsenal of general promises ready to use whenever fear or craving threaten to lead us astray.

Here are three of my most oft-used promises in fighting against sin:

Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

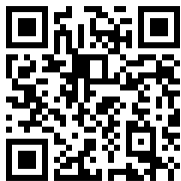
Philippians 4:19, "My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

And the promise implicit in Philippians 3:8, "I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord."

### Events

**TODAY**  
**Baptisms**  
**3/23-24 Men's**  
**Conference Roanoke, VA**  
**John.dedieg@gmail.com**  
**3/25 & 4/8 Annual**  
**Meetings 7 PM**  
**3/30-31 VisionYouth Lockin**  
**6 PM - 11 AM**

### Give



### Upcoming Events



### Pastors

Gary Hendrix	Stephen Byrd
Charles Fortner	Robert Fisher
Stu Johnston	Bob Prentice
Andy Dunkerton	Michael Lopes

### Service Times

- Sunday School 9:30 am
- Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am
- Sunday Evening Worship 5:30 pm
- Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm

919-563-9249  
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**GRACE**  
REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

March 18, 2018

“I am the  
RESURRECTION  
& the LIFE”

Traducción  
simultanea  
al español  
disponible en  
servicios  
de AM y PM

JOHN 11:25

## Morning Worship

Call to Worship

Pastor Stephen Byrd

Opening Hymn

Beautiful Savior

All my days I will sing this song of gladness,  
give my praise to the Fountain of delights;  
For in my helplessness You heard my cry,  
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.

**(Chorus) Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor.**

**Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,**

**You're the Way, the Truth, the Life.**

**Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,**

**You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion,**

**and You reign, You reign over all!**

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer;  
I will sing of the blood that never fails,  
Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,  
of death defeated and life without end.

**(Chorus)**

I long to be where the praise is never ending;  
Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades,  
Where countless worshipers will share one song,  
and cries of 'Worthy' will honor the Lamb!

**(Chorus)**

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Scripture Reading

John 3:16-36, page 888

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

We Stand in Grace

We are dead to sin and alive in Christ, and we long to be a living sacrifice.  
Purify our hearts and cleanse our hands to live holy lives in Your sovereign plan.

**We stand in grace. We stand in grace.**

**Justified through faith in Christ, who is the Perfect Sacrifice,  
we stand in grace.**

We have peace with God through the Spotless Lamb  
whose blood was shed so we may be born again.  
Let us drink our fill from this Fount of Grace and be faithful to Him  
'til we behold His face.

**We stand in grace. We stand in grace.**

**Justified through faith in Christ, who is the Perfect Sacrifice,  
we stand in grace. (key change)**

**We stand in grace. We stand in grace.**

**Justified through faith in Christ, who is the Perfect Sacrifice,  
we stand in grace. We stand in grace.**

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Preparatory  
Sermon

#705 Marvelous Grace  
Pastor Gary Hendrix

## Evening Worship

Call to Worship

Pastor Charles Fortner

Opening Hymn

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

Hallelujah! Praise Jehovah! O my soul, Jehovah praise!  
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days!  
Put no confidence in princes, nor for help on man depend;  
He will die, to dust returning, and his purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses Israel's God to be his aid;  
He is blessed whose hope of blessing on the Lord his God is stayed.  
Heaven and earth the Lord created, seas and all that they contain;  
He delivers from oppression, righteousness He will maintain.

Food He daily gives the hungry, sets the mourning prisoner free.  
Raises those bowed down with anguish, makes the sightless eyes to see.  
Well Jehovah loves the righteous, and the stranger He befriends;  
Helps the fatherless and widow, judgment on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah! Praise Jehovah! O my soul, Jehovah praise!  
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days!  
Over all God reigns forever, through all ages He is king;  
Unto Him, thy God, O Zion, joyful hallelujahs sing!

Text: The Psalter, based on Psalm 148 Music: Darwin Jordan  
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Scripture Reading

Job 12:9-25, page 424

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

Mercies Anew

1. Every morning that breaks there are mercies anew.  
Every breath that I take is Your faithfulness proved,  
And at the end of each day, when my labors are through,  
I will sing of Your mercies anew.

2. When I've fallen and strayed there were mercies anew.  
For You sought me in love and my heart You pursued.  
In the face of my sin, Lord, You never withdrew.  
So I sing of Your mercies anew.

**(Chorus) And Your mercies they will never end;**

**For ten thousand years they remain.**

**And when this world's beauty has passed away,  
Your mercies will be unchanged.**

3. And when the storms swirl and rage, there are mercies anew.  
In affliction and pain, You will carry me through,  
And at the end of my days, when Your throne fills my view,  
I will sing of Your mercies anew, I will sing of Your mercies anew.

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Preparatory

Show Us Christ

Sermon

Pastor Stu Johnston