

# ADULT BIBLE STUDY

THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM – THE VERACITY OF GOD

David Howard

## GOD'S PROMISES

Have you heard the word “veracity” lately? If you answered no, you’re not alone. It’s probably because the word is used little in our everyday society and is demonstrated even less. Yet the word is still descriptive and demonstrated in attributes of God.

*Veracity* –  
**habitual observance of truth in speech or statement**

It is also a legal term referring to the truthfulness or accuracy of a person or statement. Let’s read an example of this in the following passage:

**Genesis 21:1-2** **And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken. (2) For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.**

We have been reading in Genesis of God’s reassurance to Abraham that he and Sarah would have a child, now in these two verses the veracity of God is once again revealed. Promise fulfilled! There is never a need to doubt that God will fulfill his promises. He has a history of keeping His word. While some of the promises in His Word have not yet been fulfilled we know for certain that He shall. Below are three things to remember about God’s promises.

### 1. **God Works From His Own Timetable.**

He is not in a hurry and will not be rushed by our panic, insistence, and our inability to view events from His height. We are viewing things at ground level instead of God’s all-knowing (Omniscience) view of events. We learn that we should wait with anticipation instead of worry. Will Jesus come again one day? Absolutely! It’s not a matter of if He will come, but, when will he arrive.

### 2. **God Never Neglects His Promises.**

His promises are woven into the fabric of time and space. Since God exists beyond that fabric (He is Omnipresent), His promises are in reality accomplished, completed, finished, because He has already seen it through to the end before we ever read about it. How else would God be able to give us such detailed descriptions about future events. Look at this verse concerning the future coming of Christ.

**1 Thessalonians 4:16-18** **For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. (17) Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. (18) Therefore comfort one another with these words.**

In His foreknowledge, He inspired the Apostle Paul to write these words of hope, encouragement, and comfort because he knew we would need to see it often as a reminder that He has things under control.

We are also chosen according to God’s foreknowledge. Paul wrote of this foreknowledge concerning believers:

**Romans 8:29-30** **For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. (30) Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.**

God foreknew those of us who would choose to believe in Jesus, and He predestined that we would become conformed to the image of His Son, becoming regenerated children of God in His big family. In keeping with that eternal plan, He called us through the gospel, justified us (made us righteous) and will ultimately glorify us in His future kingdom.

### 3. **Not all of God’s Promises Are For You.**

Some of His promises are universal while other promises are confined to a specific context.

On the next page are some examples of His promises you can claim:

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- **Matthew 11:28** Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
- **John 3:36** He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."
- **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.

## Next we can see those promises that are not for us:

- **Exodus 3:17** and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey." ' '
- **2 Samuel 7:16** And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever." ' ' "
- **Genesis 15:5** Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

Everything will happen in its proper time. We are on a journey, God in His foreknowledge knows our decision to accept or reject His Son, Christ Jesus. In keeping with His foreknowledge our journey is guided by God himself. If you choose Christ, you will get from this life to an eternity in Heaven with Him. You may make a few side trips along the way but God has got your boat and you will reach your destination by His Grace. Read these words by Solomon concerning time:

## **Ecclesiastes 3:1-8**

*To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven:*

*A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted;*

*A time to kill, And a time to heal; A time to break down, And a time to build up;*

*A time to weep, And a time to laugh; A time to mourn, And a time to dance;*

*A time to cast away stones, And a time to gather stones; A time to embrace, And a time to refrain from embracing;*

*A time to gain, And a time to lose; A time to keep, And a time to throw away;*

*A time to tear, And a time to sew; A time to keep silence, And a time to speak;*

*A time to love, And a time to hate; A time of war, And a time of peace.*