**Taking Hold of God’s Promises**

Now is the Time Part 2

21 days of prayer and fasting

Now is the Time!

Now is the time to **ENLARGE** our space, **STRETCH** our faith, **LENGTHEN** our reach, and **STRENGTHEN** our roots.

“Taking Hold of God’s Promises.”

**Philippians 3:12 NIV,**

**12**Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

We are waiting on God to do something when God is waiting on us.

* God speaks through His written Word.
* God speaks through the Inner voice of the Holy Spirit.
* God speaks through your Pastor.

There will always be a competition of whose voice you are going to listen to and believe.

**Matthew 13** we read the parable,

**18**“Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: **19**When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

**20**The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. **21**But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

**22**The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. **23**But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

God is a God who loves to give rewards.

**Hebrews 11:6 NIV,**

**6**And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he REWARDS those who earnestly seek him.

**Romans 4: NIV**,

**19**Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. **20**Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in HIS FAITH and gave glory to God, **21**being FULLY PERSUADED that God had power to do what he had promised.

**Hebrews 11:1 NIV**,

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Now is the time to pursue and take hold of that which God has spoken to you by faith.

Now is the time to **ENLARGE** our space, **STRETCH** our faith, **LENGTHEN** our reach, and **STRENGTHEN** our roots.

**Haggai 1 NIV,**

In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest: **2**This is what the Lord Almighty says: “These people say, ‘The time has not yet come to rebuild the Lord’s house.’”

**3**Then the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: **4**“Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?”

**5**Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. **6**You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.”

**7**This is what the Lord Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. **8**Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,” says the Lord.

**9**“You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?” declares the Lord Almighty. “Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house. **10**Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops.

**11**I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the olive oil and everything else the ground produces, on people and livestock, and on all the labor of your hands.” **12**Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the whole remnant of the people obeyed the voice of the Lord their God and the message of the prophet Haggai, because the Lord their God had sent him. And the people feared the Lord.

**13**Then Haggai, the Lord’s messenger, gave this message of the Lord to the people: “I am with you,” declares the Lord. **14**So the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of the whole remnant of the people. They came and began to work on the house of the Lord Almighty, their God, **15**on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month.

**2 Corinthians 1:20**, For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God.