

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).

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THINGS OF NO PROFIT

Nicolas Edwards

The Bible speaks of things that profit, as well as things that do not profit (things of no benefit, no gain, no avail). This is a list of things, the Bible says, profit nothing!

VAIN THINGS. *“And Samuel said unto the people, Fear not: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart; and turn ye not aside: for then should ye go after vain things, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they are vain” (1 Sam. 12:20-21).* When we turn aside from following the Lord, we go after things of no profit!

TREASURES OF WICKEDNESS. *“Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death” (Prov. 10:2).* Treasures gained by wickedness profit nothing, but living right can save your life.

RICHES IN THE DAY OF WRATH. *“Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death” (Prov. 11:4).* *“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth...lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven” (Mt. 6:19-20).*

IDOLIZED, DELECTABLE

THINGS. *“They that make a graven image are all of them vanity; and their delectable things shall not profit; and they are their own witnesses; they see not, nor know; that they may be ashamed” (Is. 44:9).* Graven images are vain. They that make them are useless. Things desired, taken pleasure in, coveted, which take God’s place shall not profit!

LYING WORDS. *“Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit” (Jer. 7:8).*

GAINING THE WHOLE WORLD AND LOSING THE SOUL. *“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mk. 8:36-37).* May we never exchange our soul for anything or anyone! What shall it profit?

THE WORD WITHOUT FAITH. *“For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it” (Heb. 4:2).* The gospel is the *“power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth” (Rom. 1:16).*

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS. *“What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? If a brother*

or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone” (Jas. 2:14-17).

THE EYES OF THE LORD

Nicolas Edwards

“For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he pondereth all his goings” (Prov. 5:21).

“The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good” (Prov. 15:3).

“The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry” (Ps. 34:15).

“For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil” (1 Pet. 3:12).

Let’s be sure we are righteous, we *“do that which is right in the eyes of the Lord” (Dt. 13:18),* and we seek to *“find favor in the eyes of the Lord” (2 Sam. 15:25).*

**NATION, SEED AND
LAND PROMISES —
ALL FULFILLED**

John Edwards

God made three great promises to the patriarch Abraham: nation, seed and land. The book of God shows these promises have been fulfilled.

NATION PROMISE. God promised Abraham: “*And I will make of thee a great nation*” (Gen. 12:2). “*And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth...*” (Gen. 13:16). “*Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be*” (Gen. 15:5). God kept His promise! The children of Israel, Abraham’s seed, became a “*great nation*” (Dt. 4:6-8). Moses affirmed in Deuteronomy 1:10, “*The LORD your God hath multiplied you, and, behold, ye are this day as the stars of heaven for multitude.*” Deuteronomy 26:5 records, “*And thou shalt speak and say before the LORD thy God, A Syrian ready to perish was my father, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation,*

great, mighty, and populous.”

SEED PROMISE. God promised Abraham: “*...in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed*” (Gen. 12:3). This spiritual promise is fulfilled in Christ. Peter’s second sermon pointed out: “*Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities*” (Acts 3:25-26). In Galatians 3, Paul connected the seed promise with justification through faith (vv. 6-9) and stated, “*And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise*” (v. 29).

LAND PROMISE. God promised Abraham: “*Unto thy seed will I give this land [the land of Canaan, v. 5]*” (Gen. 12:7). “*For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever*” (Gen. 13:15). “*Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates*” (Gen. 15:18).

The book of Joshua reveals the fulfillment of the land promise. “*And the Lord gave unto Israel all the land which he swore to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it, and dwelt therein....There failed not ought of any good thing which the Lord had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass*” (Josh. 21:43-45). At the end of Joshua’s life he stated: “*And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof....this good land which the Lord your God hath given you...the good land which he hath given unto you*” (Josh. 23:14-16). The kingdom of Solomon covered the precise territory of the land promise. “*And Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the river unto the land of the Philistines, and unto the border of Egypt...*” (1 Ki. 4:21; 2 Chr. 9:26).

Understanding that the nation, seed and land promises have all been fulfilled is fundamental to understanding the Bible!

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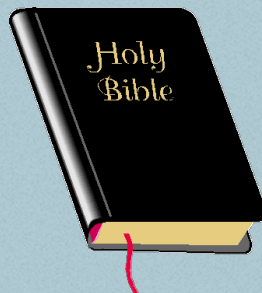
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