



FIRST WEDNESDAY: His Promise, His Presence, His Spirit

December 4, 2024 | Pastor Jon Rogers

Mount Paran North

The LORD replied to Moses, "I will indeed do what you have asked, for I look favorably on you, and I know you by name." Moses responded, "Then show me your glorious presence."

Exodus 33:17-18 NLT

²⁶But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. ²⁷"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."

John 14:26-27 NLT

I. HIS PROMISE

¹The LORD said to Moses, "Get going, you and the people you brought up from the land of Egypt. Go up to the land I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I told them, 'I will give this land to your descendants.' ²And I will send an angel before you to drive out the Canaanites, Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites. ³Go up to this land that flows with milk and honey. But I will not travel among you, for you are a stubborn and rebellious people. If I did, I would surely destroy you along the way." ⁴When the people heard these stern words, they went into mourning and stopped wearing their jewelry and fine clothes. ⁵For the LORD had told Moses to tell them, "You are a stubborn and rebellious people. If I were to travel with you for even a moment, I would destroy you. Remove your jewelry and fine clothes while I decide what to do with you." ⁶So, from the time they left Mount Sinai, the Israelites wore no more jewelry or fine clothes.

Exodus 33:1-6 NLT

- The Lord promised to drive out the "Ites" in their Promised Land. (v. 2)
- God loved them, but didn't really like them...in that moment. (v. 3)
- The Israelites were obedient to follow the Lord's instructions. (v. 6)

JESUS MADE PROMISES TO HIS DISCIPLES

"I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father."

John 14:12 NLT

- Jesus promised to work in them...even after He is gone.

"The promise is not that the disciples of Jesus will perform works that are greater in value or significance than His. Rather they are greater in scope and number. Because He was crucified, Jesus' earthly ministry was limited to only a few years, but after the Resurrection and Pentecost, His ministry was and continues to be multiplied through Spirit-empowered believers." (*Spirit-Filled Life Bible*, p. 1365)

¹³You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!

John 14:13-14 NLT

- Jesus promised to work through their prayers.

"If you love me, obey my commandments."

John 14:15 NLT

- Jesus reminds them that love is shown through their obedience.

II. HIS PRESENCE

It was Moses' practice to take the Tent of Meeting and set it up some distance from the camp. Everyone who wanted to make a request of the LORD would go to the Tent of Meeting outside the camp.

Exodus 33:7 NLT

- Everyone who wanted to make a request of the Lord could go.

“Here was the place of God’s presence. It was a sort of portable small-scale Tabernacle for special times of communion with God, especially before the full tabernacle was complete.” (New Spirit-Filled Life Bible, p. 113)

- Make it a practice of being in His Presence

⁸Whenever Moses went out to the Tent of Meeting, all the people would get up and stand in the entrances of their own tents. They would all watch Moses until he disappeared inside. ⁹As he went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and hover at its entrance while the LORD spoke with Moses. ¹⁰When the people saw the cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, they would stand and bow down in front of their own tents. ¹¹Inside the Tent of Meeting, the LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.

Exodus 33:8-11a NLT

- Moses set an example for Joshua...the next generation’s leader

Afterward Moses would return to the camp, but the young man who assisted him, Joshua son of Nun, would remain behind in the Tent of Meeting.

Exodus 33:11b NLT

“He (Moses) left his personal attendant, Joshua, to watch and guard the sacred structure during his absence. It is remarkable that the trust was committed to Joshua, rather than to Aaron, or any of the Levites. Probably the reason of this was, that Joshua alone had no involvement in the idolatry of the calf.” (Pulpit Commentary)

- Ask the Lord for MORE of His Presence.

¹²One day Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Take these people up to the Promised Land.’ But you haven’t told me whom you will send with me. You have told me, ‘I know you by name, and I look favorably on you.’ ¹³If it is true that you look favorably on me, let me know your ways so I may understand you more fully and continue to enjoy your favor. And remember that this nation is your very own people.”

Exodus 33:12-13 NLT

- Understand and believe the truth in their heart AND mind (Proverbs 3:5-6; Matthew 22:37; Psalm 19:14)

The LORD replied, "I will personally go with you, Moses, and I will give you rest—everything will be fine for you."

Exodus 33:14 NLT

- We experience peace in the presence of the Lord

¹⁵Then Moses said, "If you don't personally go with us, don't make us leave this place. ¹⁶How will anyone know that you look favorably on me—on me and on your people - if you don't go with us? For your presence among us sets your people and me apart from all other people on the earth."¹⁷The LORD replied to Moses, "I will indeed do what you have asked, for I look favorably on you, and I know you by name." ¹⁸Moses responded, "Then show me your glorious presence."

Exodus 33:15-18 NLT

- Moses asked the Lord for MORE of His Presence

"There are dimensions of our glorious King that will never be revealed to the casual, disinterested worshipper. There are walls of intercession that will never be scaled by dispassionate religious service. But when you take steps to break out of the ordinary and worship Him as He deserves, you will begin to see facets of His being you never knew existed. He will begin to share secrets with you about Himself, His plans, His desires for you. When you worship God as He deserves." (Pastor Jentzen Franklin, *Fasting*, p. 72-73)

- GOD agrees to show Moses more of HIS glory, BUT with conditions.

¹⁹The LORD replied, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and I will call out my name, Yahweh, before you. For I will show mercy to anyone I choose, and I will show compassion to anyone I choose. ²⁰But you may not look directly at my face, for no one may see me and live." ²¹The LORD continued, "Look, stand near me on this rock. ²²As my glorious presence passes by, I will hide you in the crevice of the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will remove my hand and let you see me from behind. But my face will not be seen."

Exodus 33:19-23 NLT

For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

1 Corinthians 13:12 NKJV

III. HIS SPIRIT

- Jesus promised His Presence through the Holy Spirit

¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate who will never leave you.

¹⁷He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.

John 14:16-17 NLT

- Jesus promises the gift of the Holy Spirit before He leaves

²⁵"I am telling you these things now while I am still with you. ²⁶But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. ²⁷"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."

John 14:25-27 NLT

- Jesus gave the Holy Spirit to His Disciples

¹⁹That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁰As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! ²¹Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." ²²Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

John 20:19-22 NLT

- Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to all believers

¹⁰For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹“You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? ¹²Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! ¹³So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.”

Luke 11:10-13 NLT