Claiming the Promises
John Crawford

I. Introduction.

    A. There are conditions for claiming God's promises.

    B. The main condition is obedience. (Luke 9:23)

II. We are to deny ourselves.

    A. This does not mean to deny things, but deny self.

    B. One way to deny oneself is to think against the way the world thinks. (Romans 12:1-2)

        1. It is hard to change the mind.

        2. One must think like God thinks. (2 Peter 2:8) Think another thought – God's thoughts.

        3. The heart is basically wicked. (Genesis 6:5, Jeremiah 17:9)

        4. We are to take up the cross as an instrument of death and follow Jesus. (John 21)

        5. We follow the living Word Jesus through His written Word. (John 1:1,14)

        6. One of the best commentaries on the Bible is the Bible. (Joshua 14, Numbers 13:2-3, Deuteronomy 1:21)

            a. The Israelites in exile did not believe that God could keep their children safe and so were left in exile.

            b. Caleb fully followed the Lord God of Israel in contrast because he only asked for an opportunity to serve him.

III. We can give a thesis for why not to be obedient to God, but it is not right to murmur. (Philippians 2:14, Ephesians 5:4, Proverbs 26:19)

    A. God does great things through those who ignore murmuring.

    B. We are to trust God for great things.

    C. If God gives you orders to do something, He supplies.

    D. Find out how to do something and not how not to do something.

    E. Caleb trusted God for more and more.

    F. A soldier does not go where he is called—he goes where he is sent like believers are supposed to do. (Deuteronomy 1:21)

G. In good leadership you have to learn to back up your man.

H. The key to claiming the promises of God is obedience.

Application questions

1. What is the relationship of denying oneself to claiming the promises of God?
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2. How are we to respond rightly to murmuring?
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3. What does it mean to deny yourself and how would this look in your life?
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