

Jeremiah 1:11, 12

It is time that we “saw” in the eyes of faith! The lost of this world need seers- true visionaries who see what God is saying and who make it known without editorializing.

God confirmed His call to Jeremiah with two visions. The first vision involved an **almond tree**, which blossoms when other trees are still dormant. The almond tree served as a harbinger of spring, as though it “watched over” the beginning of the season.

1:12. The branch represented God who was **watching to see that His word is fulfilled**. God used a play on words to associate the almond branch with His activity. The word for “watching” is related to the Hebrew noun for “almond tree.” The term literally means ‘wakeful and vigilant’. Jeremiah’s vision of the “awake tree” reminded him that God was awake and watching over His word to make sure it came to pass. It was meant for you and I to be confident and sure as to the speedy and certain fulfillment of God’s promises.

1) Note, first, that *God never forgets a promise*. We do not remember all our promises. How often are they made only to be broken; but God never forgets one that he has given. We even forget God’s promises; and, often, when we are in trouble, we can hardly recollect one that we can plead before him. But God never yet forgot a promise!

2) *God has never forgotten a single person to whom a promise belonged*, — not even the least. Even if they have only desired to seek him, or if they have only commenced to seek him, he has been gracious to them, he has heard their cry, and has delivered them.

3) *There has never been a single occasion for the fulfillment of a promise that God allowed to slip*. When the promise has come due, he has discharged it to the tick of the clock. There are no dishonored bills recorded against God in the archives of men or of angels. No one can look up to the heavens, and say to him, “You deceived me, and I was deceived;” but we can say, “Faithful and true art thou, O God; this is part of your Son’s title, for he is the faithful and true Witness, and you are the faithful Promiser, who always performs what he has promised.” “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness.”

I want to point out that according to the vision and relating to the almond tree, it is in haste to blossom and bear fruit. Indeed, The almond tree was named the “awake tree” because in Palestine it is the first tree in the year

to bud and bear fruit. Its blooms precede its leaves, as the tree bursts into blossom in late January. I know what some here are thinking: God is slow!

No! We are slow to believe and to submit to Him or to the conditions of His promises! God is far more eager to change us than we are eager to change! We cause the delay of peace by resisting the Prince of peace! When the prodigal, like so many of us, ran off with the blessings and wasted them all in compromise and sin, his peace didn't delay because of his father. It took him time to figure out he had had enough with all his sin, and when he started back, while still a far way off, the Father came running to him. How fast do you think God can run? Don't you see tonight that God has seen us afar off, wavering between two opinions, and He is at the block even now, ready to run to bring about what He has promised concerning us? Why do you wait?

What do you see my fellow Jeremiahs? I see an almond tree! Think of that remarkable passage in **Isaiah 65:24**: "It shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." That is quicker than the Internet or instant messaging: "Before they call, I will answer."

What do you see in the eyes of your spirit? I see an almond tree, nay, I see something more! I see Jesus right now at the gate, ready to begin the fulfillment of every promise He has made to you!

Is there anyone here who is struggling with a sin or bondage? Jesus will forgive and free you right now. Promise:

- 1) 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.' 1 John 1:9
- 2) '[Jesus] loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve God'- Rev 1:5, 6
- 3) 'If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.'- John 8:36
- 4) 'Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.'- Isaiah 1:18

Is there anyone here who needs loved ones to be saved and God's blessing in the home? Promise:

- 1) 'The Lord blesses the home of the just.' *Prov 3:33b*
- 2) 'All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children. In righteousness you shall be established; you shall be far from oppression...'- Isaiah 54:13, 14

- 3) 'Thus says the Lord: "Refrain your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears; for your work shall be rewarded," says the Lord, "and they shall come again from the land of the enemy. There is hope in your future" says the Lord, "that your children shall come again to their own border.'" - Jeremiah 31:16, 17
- 4) 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved, you and your household.' - Acts 16:31

Is there anyone here who is struggling with anxiety and fear?

Promise:

- 1) "Take heart (Jesus said)! I have overcome the world!" John 16:33
- 2) "Have not I commanded you? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be dismayed: for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9
- 3) 'Be strong and of good courage... fear not, nor be dismayed: for the Lord God, even my God, will be with you; he will not fail you, nor forsake you...' 1 Chr 28:20
- 4) 'Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.' Is 41:10
- 5) God has not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, love and of a sound mind- 2 Tim 1:7

Is there anyone here sick who needs healing? Promise:

- 1) 'I am the Lord who heals you.' - Ex 15:26
- 2) 'He sent His Word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.' - Ps 107:20
- 3) "For I will restore health to you and heal you of your wounds." - Jer 30:17
- 4) Psalm 118:17- I shall not die but live and declare the works of the Lord
- 5) 'Jesus Himself took our infirmities and our sicknesses' - Matt 8:17
- 6) 'By His stripes you were healed' - 1 Peter 2:24

Is there anyone here struggling with finances or work? Promise:

- 1) 'Who, then, is the man that fears the LORD? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him. He will spend his days in prosperity, and his descendants will inherit the land.' - PS 25:12, 13

- 2) 'The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.' Ps 34:10
- 3) "If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land." Is 1:19
- 4) "In the house of the righteous is much treasure."- Prov 15:6
- 5) "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in Glory by Christ Jesus"- Phil 4:19

Let's all come up for the last of His promises poured out!

Are any not filled with the Holy Spirit?

God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit on all people.' Joel 2:28

And again God says, "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"- Luke 11:11-13