

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Contending
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Psalm 12.6 TPT

⁶For every **word God speaks is sure and every promise pure**. His truth is tested, found to be flawless, and ever faithful. It's as pure as silver refined seven times in a crucible of clay.

2 Corinthians 1.20 TPT

²⁰For **all of God's promises find their "yes" of fulfillment in him**. And as **his "yes" and our "amen" ascend to God**, we bring him glory!

The promises of God announce what He is going to do. Every promise God speaks to us is pure. No contamination or corruption. No flaw or weakness. No hidden agenda or undercurrent of control or manipulation. Every promise, every word God speaks is pure. Righteous. Holy. Reliable. Real. He watches over every word to perform it, accomplish it, fulfill it, bring it into fullness, uphold it, and bless you with it. God's promises are like ironclad contracts that are sealed shut. They cannot be perverted or twisted. They will be fulfilled. His word does not return void or empty.

He is the PROMISE KEEPER. He fulfills each and every promise. God keeps His word! Every word that God speaks is a promise. When God said, "Let there be light!" It was so! God's promises are decrees. In Job 22.28, it says that we can decree a thing, and it will be established. With confident expectation we can decree the promises of God. God's promises are alive – they are Spirit and life. They are sealed by the blood of Jesus in covenant. They WILL break forth and be established.

Prophetically we are in a time of contending. To contend means to defend a truth or keep affirming truth. Contending is a battle of words in a season of the mouth. Why are these words so important? Because the words that prevail over something are also words that govern. How do we contend? By affirming the truth – by declaring and decreeing the promises of God, which are His truth.

Right now we are in a battle over the economic future of our nation. There is a great contending over our nation – which way will our nation go? The nations belong to the Lord, yet there is a tremendous effort by demonic powers and principalities to dictate the future of nations.

I heard prophetic maturity defined as to hear God and speak from heaven. We, as the church, are to be the deciding factor on how a nation will go. The word of the Lord is in our mouth.

Matthew 16.18 NIV

¹⁸And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock **I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it**.

- The definition of church is ecclesia – a group of people called out to govern. In Greek culture the ecclesia was the governing arm of the land.
- Jesus said that we, the church, are the governing arm of the land and that the gates of hell would not overcome it. What does that mean?
 - Gates of hell refers to the governing declarations coming from hell. Hell has a governing authority.
 - The governing authority of hell is superseded by the governing authority of God's church.
 - Government is established by declarations and decrees of laws. A system of rules and regulations that people are to live by and enforceable by the courts.

Isaiah 41.21 NIV

²¹ **“Present your case,” says the LORD.** “Set forth your arguments,” says Jacob’s King.

- Present your case in God’s court.

Isaiah 59.4 NIV

⁴ **No one calls for justice; no one pleads a case with integrity. They rely on empty arguments,** they utter lies; they conceive trouble and give birth to evil.

- Nations suffer because no one calls for justice before the Lord.
- His throne is founded upon righteousness and justice.
- An empty argument no merit to it.
- As the ecclesia our argument is the promise of God. We come into the court of the Lord with His word of promise. His judgment is “yes” regarding His promises.
- A substantive argument is presenting before the Judge His own promises. Words that He has spoken. He will uphold His word.
- We execute His judgment by decreeing His promises.

Deuteronomy 32.1-3 NASB

¹ **Give ear, O heavens, and let me speak; and let the earth hear the words of my mouth.** ² Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As the droplets on the fresh grass and as the showers on the herb. ³ **For I proclaim the name of the LORD;** Ascribe greatness to our God!

- Describes what happens when we speak as the voice of the Lord over the earth.
- v2 describes how the voice of the Lord comes as a prophetic voice that covers all of the land.
- This is an accurate picture of the decree of the Lord released by the voice of the ecclesia, the church.
- God hears and responds to His prophetic word as the ruling, governing word that is established.
- When God says He looked for someone to stand in the gap so He would not have to destroy the land and found no one. There was no one who would step into the place of speaking His promises back to Him on behalf of the land and the people.

The Lord is NOT speaking economic collapse to our nation at this time. We as the ecclesia of God take our place – we stand in the gap – on behalf of the land and the people. We are seated next to Christ in the heavenly realms, far above all demonic forces of evil. We speak prosperity over Detroit, over Michigan and over the United States of America. We decree “recovery” to our economy. We call in wise council and the wisdom of God into the financial realm. God made Detroit a financial center for the nations. That even as God caused this nation to flourish financially through the success of the auto industry centered in Detroit, we call for new financial ways to spring forth and flourish in this time and era. The Lord Himself made Detroit a financial center; we decree that this word is true. We say to Detroit rise up in the identity God spoke into you – the promise of God over you.

The financial sector is shaking – what needs to be shaken out in this time will be removed. New creative financial prosperity is being released. It is blessed of God. The economic sector of Detroit will prosper. The businesses of Detroit will prosper. New creative strategies, inventions and new ways of implementing financial prosperity are breaking forth and taking root. Satan is trying to write the economic future of our city and nation. It is a false narrative. We contend with the forces of darkness by the decree of God’s heart in alignment with His timing. New patterns of prosperity have been dropped into the hearts of entrepreneurs. We declare that a new momentum and resourcing from heaven is rising up and being released into the nation. We declare that hope is resounding in the hearts and minds of the people, defeating discouragement and fear. The words of every false narrative of economic collapse and fear of loss are falling to the ground as lies. There is a new economic boom being birthed that will cover this nation and the people. That the economic sector is being redesigned and reclothed in integrity. That the power of transformation is bringing forth the new from heaven.