

Promises, promises

Have you ever felt that God hasn't kept his promises to you? Have you found it hard sometimes just to trust him when nothing happens?

Perhaps we feel that as Christians we can expect God to banish our troubles. But has God promised that? John 16.33. Notice that we can have peace in our troubles. How?

Paul certainly knew about troubles, 2 Corinthians 1.8, 11.23-28 – can anyone beat his list of troubles? Read Acts 9.15,23 for his introduction to Christianity.

Did Jesus heal every sick person he met? See e.g. John 5.2-8. We live in a sinful world, and we are affected by our own sin, the sin of others, and the world is also affected by sin. How do we see the effect of sin on our world?

God did keep his promise to David, but he warned him that there would be consequences if his descendants didn't obey him. David also felt the consequences of disobedience. What were they?

Ethan determined to praise and honour God – even after he had listed the ways in which it seemed God had failed to keep his promise, Ps 89.38-45. Even when it seemed that God would never answer his prayer, 89.46, even when he was mocked for his faith in God 89.50, he ended with praise to God, Amen and Amen.

Can you truly believe in God's faithfulness even when everything goes wrong? 1 Thessalonians 4.23-24 is Paul's assurance, is it yours?