

## Introduction

### The significance of a day

- What a difference a day can make!
- Things can change in a single day!  
For example, can you remember where you were when ...
  - The towers fell
  - Kennedy was assassinated
  - Pearl Harbor was bombed
- All negative examples - but the world changed in a day
- **Point:** A day can make a difference

### “On that very day”

- I want to look at two days in scripture that were significant relative to God’s promise
- Highlighted by the phrase *On that very day*
- Want to draw applications for us from that passage

### Another message...

- This morning I want to bring another message of God’s faithfulness
- I want to urge you to hang on to His promises
- See **Jude 1:3 (ESV)** (3) *Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.*
- This theme keeps recurring because the enemy is doing everything he can to weaken our faith!

## Exegesis

### The promise

### **Text**

**Gen 15:13-16 (ESV)** (13) *Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. (14) But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. (15) As for yourself, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. (16) And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete*

### **Background**

- Promise to Abraham when he complained he had no descendent
- God speaks of future generations
- God speaks of a promised land

## **As God begins to fulfill it**

### **Text**

**Ex 12:41 (ESV)** (41) *At the end of 430 years, on that very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.*

### **Background**

- Went to Egypt during the famine
- Joseph was there - and saved the entire race
- Became slaves in Egypt
- Time passes
- God raises up Moses
- Reveals himself to his people
- Sends the 10 plagues
- Leads them up!

## **As their faith becomes sight**

### **Text**

**Josh 5:11 (ESV)** (11) *And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain.*

## Background

- They've now made it into the promised land
- 40 years in the desert - but God has brought them into Canaan
- Previous chapter - they crossed the Jordan
- Observing Passover, and enjoying the produce of the land God had promised them
- He's sustained them throughout the journey with manna
- Now they're taking their first taste of God's promises

## Applications

### God keeps His promises

#### He is faithful to do what He's promised

- Consider **Isa 55:11 (ESV)** *(11) so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*
- Everything he's said will come to pass
- See the end of Joshua **Joshua 21:43-45 (ESV)** *(43) Thus the LORD gave to Israel all the land that he swore to give to their fathers. And they took possession of it, and they settled there. (44) And the LORD gave them rest on every side just as he had sworn to their fathers. Not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for the LORD had given all their enemies into their hands. (45) Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.*
- They've conquered Jericho and all the other cities, they've divided the land they've entered fully into the promise
- No matter how impossible it seems!

#### His timing is perfect

- It may seem like nothing's happening - but God is working according to his timeline
- 430 years in Egypt +40 in the wilderness = **Gen 15:16 (ESV)** *(16) And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."*
- Even today, we wait for His promised return.
- Seems like nothing is happening, but God is working.

- See our promise of the day **2 Peter 3:9 (ESV)** (9) *The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.*
- Point of message *On that very day*
- One day slaves, having been so for 400+ years - next day God's people freed by His power
- One day wandering in the wilderness, the next day - the promised land
- 2 Peter speaks to those who scoff and doubt - saying everything goes on as it always has
- But one day **1 Cor 15:51-52 (ESV)** (51) *Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, (52) in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.*
- **Note:** Signs - eg the plagues. Also note Jesus prophesied signs leading to His return. These are being fulfilled!

## **We must position ourselves to receive**

### **We've been chosen to receive**

- First note: God chose His people and gave His promises to them
- We are chosen by God to receive His promises through Christ
- See **2 Cor 1:20 (ESV)** (20) *For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.*
- See also **2 Peter 1:4 (ESV)** (4) *by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.*

### **We must choose to believe and receive**

- They were all Abraham's children
- All came out
- All followed the cloud, crossed the Red Sea, heard the voice of God, etc.
- Most didn't believe and receive
- Consider **2 Cor 7:1 (ESV)** (1) *Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.*

## Hold on until faith becomes sight

### One day our faith will be sight

- This is the point of the message - one day our “On that very day” will happen
- No matter which of God’s promises you’re holding on to, he will keep his word
  - Healing
  - Provision
  - Rapture

### Until then we must contend for the faith

- Faith is not passive
- Gift of God
- Under attack
- We must fight to hold on
- See **Jude 1:3 (ESV)** (3) *Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.*
- And Paul’s admonition to Timothy **1 Tim 6:12 (ESV)** (12) *Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

### How?

#### **Take in the word**

- Faith comes by hearing - and hearing the Word
- **Rom 10:17 (ESV)** (17) *So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.*
- My own example

#### **Fight against sin**

- Sin weakens our relationship with God
- **Isa 59:2 (ESV)** (2) *but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.*
- I need fresh revelation from God to build my faith
- May seem insignificant and unconnected - but keeps me away

#### **Come together**

- Forsake not - we need each other
- **Heb 10:23-25 (ESV)** (23) *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without*

*wavering, for he who promised is faithful. (24) And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, (25) not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

- We are here to build one another up!
- Daily grace, daily dependence, daily striding toward him