The Last Enemy
John 8:51

The Condition of the Promise

The Promise

The Assurance of the Promise
The Condition of the Promise

- “if” means us first and then the promise
- We are to keep His Word
- What does it mean to keep God’s Word

1. You must hear Christ’s Word with understanding – John 5:24
2. You must commit to Christ, “to believe Him”
3. You must obey Him – guarding as a prisoner

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The Promise

- “he will never see death”
- Not referring to physical death primarily
- Parallel to John 5 in “has eternal life”
- Death is separation
  - Physical – soul and spirit from body
  - Spiritual – soul and spirit separated from God – Ezekiel 18:4,20 and Romans 6:23 compared with 1 Corinthians 15:55
The Assurance of the Promise

- Jesus gives assurance of the promise at the beginning – verily, verily or in the Greek *amen, amen*
- Hebrew – that which is supported or shored up with the idea of carrying
- Isaiah 22:23 – came to mean firm or unshakable
The Assurance of the Promise

In Biblical language it took on two meanings

1. The word was used of God as one of His attributes – unshakable or the *amen*

   - This became the God of truth in some versions as found in Isaiah 65:16

2. Most common use of the word was by men to express agreement
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The Assurance of the Promise

- In the N.T., *amen* occurs 127 times
- 76 at the beginning of a sentence
  - Each one is a new point
  - Each one is God speaking
- 48 at the end of a sentence
  - Each one is in agreement
  - Each one is man speaking
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The Assurance of the Promise

- God says *Amen* – that He solemnly affirms that what He is saying is true
- Man responds with *amen* – that he acknowledges and believes that God is faithful
- The truth of God is the foundation of all truth in all life
- The superstructure is our faith in His reliability
The Last Enemy

Application

Isaiah 28:16  "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed."

In the confrontation of death, the last enemy, can you say *amen and amen* to the statement, “I tell you the truth, whoever keeps my word, he will never see death”? 