

## **Promises, Promises, Promises**

**How many of you are already sick of the election?** I think the only people in America that are not sick of all this are the politicians themselves and the advertisers making millions of the politicians. It has been estimated that over \$5 billion will be spent on just the presidential election!

As we watch all the ads from presidential candidates to candidates for state offices they nearly all have one thing in common, promises. The typical candidate will promise to fix just about anything and everything to get your vote. Their basic message is, "Elect me and all your problems will go away." The problem now is that many Americans have grown leery of the promises that have been made and the failure to meet those promises. We have heard it all before and now when an ad comes on we either turn the channel or tune out what is being said. We are basically becoming cynical wondering who we can trust.

**Today as we get ready to take up the offering I want to share with you two promises you can trust.** The first comes from God on the subject of giving. God says in the Bible, "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." That is just one of many countless promises God makes that those that give generously will always be rewarded. God is always faithful to His promises. So, this morning as you give think about this promise.

**The second promise that I want to share with you is that a gift here is used to build the Kingdom.** We view your gifts as sacred given to God through our church. We must and do give account of what is given. We can assure you that we maintain the highest standards of integrity when it comes to tithes and offerings. Our budget is open for you to see and we would gladly answer any questions you might have.

Your generosity allows us to keep the lights on and the sanctuary comfortable. It pays the salaries of our staff who minister on a daily basis to the needs of our church and the surrounding community. Portions of your gifts are used not simply here but around the world spreading the life changing message of the Gospel.

**So unlike politicians, we can promise you with assurance that what you give will not only be a blessing to others but that God will in turn bless you!** That is a promise that is and will be fulfilled now and forever!