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but if not

"our God whom we serve is able to deliver us ... but if not, let it be known to you, o king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up." dan 3:17-18

the book of daniel is a very important book, especially to those who are researchers of the end times. daniel was gifted by God to see far beyond his own times into the ends of time itself. i remember the famous quote by martin luther king, jr - "i've seen the promised land. i may not get there with you. but i want you to know tonight, that we, as a people will get to the promised land." (for those wishing to review the whole speech, see here: http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/speeches/mlk_promised_land.html)

yes, we as christians will get there. daniel, as well as prophets through the ages foresaw it and witnessed to us about it. i wish i remembered the percent of prophecies made in the bible that have already been fulfilled, but it's accuracy is unmatched. that alone should serve as our witness to God's faithfulness. "that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." 1 cor 2:5

i believe in the God i serve and shall never be dissuaded otherwise. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." heb 13:8 there is no "passing away" of the gifts and promises of God. there are those who would try to convince us that we now have

the completed bible text and now we're "on our own," so to speak. yes, they may say "God can do anything," all the while doubting that He will. my scriptures say, "according to your faith let it be to you." matt 9:29

i believe my "my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (phil 4:19) and yet i see all around me so much need.

i believe He "heals all your diseases ... redeems your life from destruction." (psa 103:3-4) and yet i watch cancer and other diseases as they destroy the lives of loved ones.

i believe "whoever says to this mountain, 'be removed and be cast into the sea," (mark 11:23) shall have it. and yet i see mountains of fear, finances and fruitlessness in so many lives.

i believe "when a man's ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him." (pro 1:7) and yet i see warring factions in countries and the hearts of people all around.

i believe i shall "shall run and not be weary ... walk and not faint." (isa 40:31) and yet here i sit in my wheelchair unable to walk across the room without falling.

it doesn't matter if i pray and believe for healings and deliverances a million times and never see a single result, i will still cling to the truth of scripture ... "the same yesterday, today, and forever."

my faith - our faith - is not dependent upon the performance of God but the person of God.

He is the great "I AM" and sees much further than we can. there is always a purpose for good in His plan. i may be detoured on my pilgrimmage of faith to direct another on their path or offer aid to one in need. these are not stop signs. they are just speed zones, perhaps to teach us endurance, perhaps a sacrifice for another.

there are many who have stood on His promises for years upon years. what is our wait next to theirs? for years my confession has been "we don't have to leave this world sickly and decrepit (broken down and worn out)." i still believe that, even as i am now confined in my movements. "did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" john 11:40 don't stop believing no matter what ... but if not?