

## ONE MINUTE MESSAGE

### EMPTY PROMISES (*Psalm 62:1*)

**I**t's hard to imagine how excited Norreasha Gill must have been when she won the big "Hundred Grand" contest run by her local radio station, WLTO-FM. She won by listening to the station for several hours and being the tenth caller at a specified time. That night she promised her three young children that they would get a minivan and a home with a backyard.

When she went to the station to collect the prize, she was sent home. Later she received a phone message from the station manager explaining that she had won a Nestle's 100 Grand *candy bar*, not \$100,000 cash.

Norreasha sued for deceptive advertising. The station insisted it was just a joke; they assumed their listeners understood. The station manager offered Ms. Gill \$5,000, but she wouldn't accept it. "I said I wanted \$95,000 more. Nobody would watch and listen for two hours for a candy bar."

When Satan tempted Christ, he offered the kingdoms of the world to Jesus -- "*All these things I will give you, if you fall down and worship me,*" he said.

Though Satan may have influence with the kingdoms of this world, they don't really belong to him. In fact, nothing does. He has nothing to offer, nothing to give. He's a defeated foe. That doesn't keep him from trying, though. It doesn't prevent him from promising again and again what he cannot deliver.

And it doesn't prevent us from getting our hopes up again and again — thinking *this time* the world's promises will pay off, this time I'll be happy, this time I'll be satisfied...until, once again, we find ourselves fooled by an empty promise, by the world's equivalent of a gag gift.

May we learn what the Psalmist learned long ago — that the world and all it offers can never satisfy. May we learned that "My soul finds rest in God alone."  
(Psalm 62:1) • Steve May

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Project Brasil is a Christian ministry located in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, devoted to bringing the gospel of Christ to poor communities. We offer English courses, computer classes, job training, children's activities, medical care and spiritual help.

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