

VICTORY PROMISES

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The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the Hawaiian Islands*

"This is the Promise of God, which I give unto you. Rise! and serve the Power of God."

"Putting on the armor of His love, firmly buckling on the shield of His mighty Covenant, mounted on the steed of steadfastness, holding aloft the lance of the Word of the Lord of Hosts, and with unquestioning reliance on His promises as the best provision for their journey, let them set their faces towards those fields that still remain unexplored and direct their steps to those goals that are as yet unattained, assured that He Who has led them to achieve such triumphs, and to store up such prizes in His Kingdom, will continue to assist them in enriching their spiritual birthright to a degree that no finite mind can imagine or human heart perceive."

Messages to the Bahá'í World, page 102

The following pages shower upon every individual Bahá'í PROMISES of "complete and total victory" wherever you may be teaching.

These magnificent PROMISES come from five separate Sources of Divine Infallibility:

THE BÁB
BAHÁ'U'LLÁH
'ABDU'L-BAHÁ
SHOGHI EFFENDI
THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

These PROMISES are a flaming torch that can help you "set on fire" the hearts of men and women in every village, town, city, reserve, judicial district and township across the entire face of the North American Continent.

Bahá'u'lláh's mighty spiritual Army is now "mobilizing" on all fronts, preparing to launch an unprecedented and uninterrupted teaching Campaign that will sweep His Cause on to Victory

TARGET: MORE ASSEMBLIES
MORE LOCALITIES
MORE NEW BELIEVERS
MORE PIONEERS
MORE TRAVELLING TEACHERS
MORE SACRIFICE

Each "hero" and "heroine" in Bahá'u'lláh's onward-marching, victorious legions, longs to see but one standard flying in triumph over every Bahá'í Fortress at sundown, April 20, 1979: "ALL GOALS WON!"

Let us ARISE and persevere to the very end. Let us become worthy "warriors" of Bahá'u'lláh until, in the words of our beloved Guardian, weary but triumphant we bring in the harvest.

No hesitation! No delay! No retreat!

Onward to victory!

VICTORY PROMISES

"...the confirmations of the Holy Spirit are descending
in great torrents upon those who arise to teach." (2)

[SE to an individual dated 7/17/1953]

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"The Lord of Hosts, the King of Kings, has pledged unfailing aid to every
crusader battling for His Cause. Invisible battalions are mustered, rank
upon rank, ready to pour forth reinforcements from on high." (3)

Messages to the Bahá'í World, page 44

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[Photograph of the Shrine of the Báb occupies most of this page with the caption:]

THE SHRINE OF THE BÁB

*"The Queen of Carmel enthroned on God's holy mountain crowned with glowing gold,
robed in shimmering white and gilded with emerald green, enchanting every eye . . ."*

PROMISES OF VICTORY THE BÁB

PROMISE "The Day is approaching when God will render the hosts of Truth victorious . . ." (4)

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PROMISE "For verily I say, the heavenly Father is ever with you and keeps watch over you. If you be faithful to Him, He will assuredly deliver into your hands all the treasures of the earth, and will exalt you above all the rulers and kings of the world." (5)

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PROMISE "O Lord! Assist those who have renounced all else but Thee, and grant them a mighty victory . . . make them triumphant with a wondrous triumph . . . Strengthen this Faith, O Lord, through the power of these servants and cause them to prevail over all the peoples of the world . . . strengthen, O Lord, their hands with the tokens of Thy wondrous power that they may manifest Thy power before the gaze of all mankind." (6)

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PROMISE "Say, verily any one follower of this Faith can, by the leave of God, prevail over all who dwell in heaven and earth . . . Therefore fear ye not, neither be ye grieved." (7)

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PROMISE "Heed not your weaknesses and frailty; fix your gaze upon the invincible power of the Lord, your God. the Almighty." (8)

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PROMISE "Arise in His name, put your trust wholly in Him, and be assured of ultimate victory." (9)

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[Photograph of the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh occupies most of this page with the caption:]

THE SHRINE OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

". . . the holiest spot in the entire Bahá'í world . . . enshrining the precious Dust of the Most Great Name."

**PROMISES OF VICTORY
BAHÁ'U'LLÁH**

PROMISE "Arise to further My Cause, and to exalt My Word amongst men. We are with you at all times, and shall strengthen you through the power of truth. We are truly almighty. Who so heath recognized Me, will arise and serve Me with such determination that the powers of earth and heaven shall be unable to defeat his purpose."⁽¹⁰⁾

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PROMISE "He that summoneth men in My Name is, verily, of Me, and he will show forth that which is beyond the power of all that are on earth."⁽¹¹⁾

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PROMISE "Should anyone arise for the triumph of our Cause, him will God render victorious though tens of thousands of enemies be leagued against him. And if his love for Me wax stronger, God will establish his ascendancy over all the powers of earth and heaven. Thus have We breathed the spirit of power into all regions."⁽¹²⁾

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PROMISE "He, verily, will aid every one that aideth Him, and will remember every one that remembereth Him."⁽¹³⁾

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PROMISE "O people of God! That which can ensure the victory are such righteous deeds, such conduct and character, as are acceptable in His sight. Who so ariseth, in this Day, to aid Our Cause, and summoneth to his assistance the hosts of a praiseworthy character and upright conduct, the influence flowing from such an action will, most certainly, be diffused throughout the whole world."⁽¹⁴⁾

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PROMISE "If he be kindled with the fire of His love, if he foregoeth all created things, the words he uttereth shall set on fire them that hear him."⁽¹⁵⁾

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PROMISE "God will, no doubt, inspire whoso ever detacheth himself from all else but Him, and will cause the pure waters of wisdom and utterance to gush out and flow copiously from his heart."⁽¹⁶⁾

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PROMISE "These few have been endued with the Divine Elixir that can, alone, transmute into purest gold the dross of the world, and have been empowered to administer the infallible remedy for all the ills that afflict the children of men."⁽¹⁷⁾

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PROMISE "If ye obey Me you will see that which We have promised you, and I will make you the friends of My Soul in the realm of My Greatness and the Companions of My Beauty in the heaven of My Might forever."⁽¹⁸⁾

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[Photograph of the Bahá'í House of Worship in Wilmette, Illinois occupies most of this page with the following caption:]

**THE BAHÁ'Í HOUSE OF WORSHIP
WILMETTE, ILLINOIS**

"When...that Divine Edifice is completed, a most wonderful and thrilling motion will appear in the world of existence... From that point of light the spirit of teaching...will permeate to all parts of the world." "It marks the inception of the Kingdom of God on Earth."

PROMISES OF VICTORY 'ABDU'L-BAHÁ

PROMISE "Verily, I say unto thee, every soul which ariseth today to guide others to the path of safety and infuse in them the Spirit of Life, the Holy Spirit will inspire that soul with evidences, proofs and facts and the lights will shine upon it from the Kingdom of God." (19)

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PROMISE "Verily, the perfect and divine power will breathe in you with the bounties from the Holy Spirit and enable you to accomplish a thing the like of which heath never been seen by the eye of existence." (20)

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PROMISE "O my beloved! if thou didst know what God had ordained for thee, thou wouldst fly with delight and thy happiness, gladness and joy would increase every hour." (21)

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PROMISE "Forget yourself. God's help will surely come! When you call on the Mercy of God waiting to reinforce you, your strength will be tenfold." (22)

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PROMISE "In this day, the beloved of God must not hesitate or delay an instant in teaching the Cause . . . to the soul who is the cause of guidance to another soul the recompense of a martyr in the way of God will be assuredly recorded by the pen of the Cause for his deed . . . Do according to what host been commanded and do not be of those who tarry." (23)

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PROMISE "And now you, if you act in accordance with the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh, may rest assured that you will be aided and confirmed. In all affairs you undertake, you will be rendered victorious, and all the inhabitants of the earth cannot withstand you. You are the conquerors because the power of the Holy Spirit is your assistant." (24)

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PROMISE "In this century of the 'latter times' Bahá'u'lláh has appeared and so resuscitated spirits that they have manifested powers more than human." (25)

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PROMISE "An humble man without learning, but filled with the Holy Spirit, is more powerful than the most profound scholar I without that inspiration." (26)

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PROMISE "Whosoever receives this power is able to influence all with whom he comes in contact." (27)

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PROMISE "Be not concerned with the smallness of your numbers, neither be oppressed by the multitude of an unbelieving world . . . Exert yourselves; your mission is unspeakably glorious." (28)

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PROMISE "You shall in truth, become lighted torches of the globe. Fear not, neither be dismayed, for your light shall penetrate the densest darkness. This is the promise of God, which I give unto you. Rise! and serve the power of God!" (29)

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[This page contains 6 black and white photographs of Bahá'í Houses of worship, with this caption:]

BAHÁ'Í HOUSES OF
WORSHIP
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

" . . . of all the institutions that stand associated with His Holy Name, surely none save the institution of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar can most adequately provide the essentials of Bahá'í worship and service, both so vital to the regeneration of the world."

PROMISES OF VICTORY
SHOGHI EFFENDI

PROMISE "The glorious vision now unveiled to your eyes must never be dimmed. The illuminating promises enshrined in 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Tablets should not be forgotten for a moment." (30)

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PROMISE "If one seeks the confirmations of the Holy Spirit, they can find it in rich abundance in the Teaching Field . . . and if the Friends will arise with new determination, fully consecrated to the noble task ahead of them victory after victory will be won for the glorious Faith of God." (31)

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PROMISE "If only the friends could realize it, the glory of our Faith is not that people with unique abilities do the work of the Cause, but that it is done by the sacrifice of loving and devoted souls who arise selflessly to undertake work they feel themselves incompetent, sometimes, to achieve. God works through them and endows them with gifts they did not dream they could ever possess." (32)

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PROMISE "... the all-conquering potency of the grace of God, Vouchsafed through the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh, will, undoubtedly, mysteriously and surprisingly, enable whosoever arises to champion His Cause to Will complete and total victory." (33)

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PROMISE "Today the need is so great on the part of humanity to hear of the Divine Message, that the believers must plunge into the work, wherever and however they can, heedless of their own shortcomings." (34)

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PROMISE "... have a perfect reliance upon God; let your heart burn with the desire to serve His Mission and proclaim His call; and you will observe how eloquence and the power to change human hearts will come as a matter of course." (35)

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PROMISE ". . . when we put our trust in Him, Bahá'u'lláh solves our problems and opens the way." (36)

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PROMISE "... we are filled with feelings of unworthiness and dismay, and would feel truly disheartened but for the comforting thought that if we rise to play nobly our part every deficiency in our lives will be more than compensated by the all-conquering spirit of His grace and power." (37)

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PROMISE "Bahá'u'lláh and the Master have both urged us repeatedly to disregard our own handicaps and lay our whole reliance upon God. He will come to our help if we only arise and become an active channel for God's grace." (38)

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PROMISE "The greater your handicaps the firmer your determination should wax, and the more abundant will assuredly be the blessings and confirmations of Bahá'u'lláh." (39)

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PROMISE "The Bahá'ís all over the world are subject sometimes to suffering, along with their fellow-men. Whatever vicissitudes befall their country, they will be protected . . . and watched over by Bahá'u'lláh, and should not fear the future but rather fear any failure on their part to carry out the work of His Cause." (40)

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PROMISE "What is needed to achieve success in the teaching field is a complete dedication on the part of the individual, consecration to the glorious task of spreading the Faith, and the living of the Bahá'í life, because that creates the magnet for the Holy Spirit, and it is the Holy Spirit which quickens the new soul. Thus the individual should be as a reed, through which the Holy Spirit may flow, to give new life to the seeking soul." "We give the Message, and explain the Teachings, but it is the Holy Spirit that quickens and confirms." (41)

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PROMISE "Entire and selfless devotion is what is most needful. The brighter our torch burns; the more light will it give and the more readily will it impart its blaze to others." (42)

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PROMISE ". . . it is spirit, determination, faith and devotion which bring victories into being, one after another . . . and not luxury and leisure . . ." (43)

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PROMISE "The harder you strive to attain your goal, the greater will be the confirmations of Bahá'u'lláh..." (44)

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PROMISE "But the very act of striving to serve, however unworthy one may feel, attracts the blessings of God and enables one to become more fitted for the task." (45)

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PROMISE "In fact the mere act of arising will win for you God's help and blessings." (46)

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PROMISE "For Bahá'u'lláh has promised His Divine assistance to everyone who arises with a pure and detached heart to spread His holy Word." (47)

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PROMISE "It should not be overlooked, however, that the most powerful and effective teaching medium that has been found so far is the fireside meeting, because in the fireside meeting, intimate personal questions can be answered, and the student find the spirit of the Faith more abundant there." "In fact this personal, informal, home teaching is perhaps the most productive of results." "Individual teaching of this type is more effective than any other type. The principle of the fireside meeting . . . has been proven the most effective instrument for spreading the Faith." (48)

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PROMISE "There is no refuge in the world today except the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh. The believers must rest assured that, having the Faith, they have everything. They must place their lives in the Hand of God, and, confident of His mercy and protection, go on teaching the Cause and serving it, no matter what happens." (49)

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PROMISE ". . . the great spiritual Revolution which the Almighty is causing to be accomplished through us, in the hearts of men is destined to achieve steadily and surely, the complete regeneration of all mankind." (50)

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PROMISE "So glorious a vision, now unfolded before the eyes of the . . . followers of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh, cannot but galvanize them into action, at once swift, resolute and unrelaxing, and fire their souls with a spirit so consuming as to melt away every obstacle that may intervene between them and the achievement of their present goal." (51)

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PROMISE "The firm and irrevocable promise is given . . . The powers of heaven and earth mysteriously assist in its execution. Such an opportunity is irreplaceable. Let the doubter arise and himself verify the truth of such assertions. To try, to persevere, is to insure ultimate and complete victory." (52)

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[A large portion of this page is occupied by a drawing of the Seat of the Universal House of Justice with this caption:]

THE SEAT OF THE
UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE
MT. CARMEL, HAIFA, ISRAEL

" . . . the living waters of everlasting life will stream forth from that fountain-head of God's World Order upon all the warring nations and peoples of the world to wash away the evils and iniquities of the realm of dust and heal man's age-old ills and ailments."

**PROMISES OF VICTORY
THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE**

PROMISE "We are not alone nor helpless. Sustained by our love for each other and given power through the Administrative Order - so laboriously erected by our beloved Guardian - the Army of Light can achieve such victories as will astonish posterity." (53)

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PROMISE ". . . if the Bahá'ís will but do their part_however unpromising the prospect_Bahá'u'lláh is able to open doors and change conditions in ways far beyond our understanding." (54)

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PROMISE "When the friends realize that the hosts of the Kingdom are waiting to rush forth and assist them, that others from their own ranks have arisen and have been successful . . . they will then no doubt arise with greater confidence to take the first step, and this, we know, will be aided and guided from on high, for the very act of striving to respond to God's call will bring in its wake countless divine blessings." (55)

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PROMISE ". . . it is the purity of heart, detachment, uprightness, devotion, and love of the teacher that attracts the Divine confirmations and enables him, however ignorant he be in this world's learning, to win the hearts of his fellowmen to the Cause of God." (56)

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PROMISE "It is now imperative for every Bahá'í to set for himself individual teaching goals. The admonition of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to lead at least one new soul to the Faith each year and the exhortation of Shoghi Effendi to hold a Bahá'í fireside in one's home every Bahá'í month are examples of individual goals. Many have capacities to do even more, but this alone will assure final and complete victory for the Plan."(57)

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PROMISE "Your aim is the redemption of mankind from its godlessness, its ignorance, its confusion and conflict. You will succeed, as those before you succeeded, by sacrifice to the Cause of God. The deeds and services required of you now, will shine in the future, even as those of your spiritual predecessors shine today and will forever shine in the annals of the Cause." (58)

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PROMISE "Forward then, confident in the power and protection the Lord of Hosts, Who will, through storm and trial, toil and jubilee, use His devoted followers to bring to a despairing humanity the life-giving waters of His supreme Revelation." (59)

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PROMISE "Let them... rise as one man to demonstrate their love for Him Who suffered for them, by such deeds of sacrifice and devotion as shall outshine the deeds of the past, and sweep away ever obstacle from the onward march of the Cause of God." (60)

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PROMISE "...we must seize the opportunities of the hour, and go forward confident that all things are within His mighty grasp and that, if we but play our part, total and unconditional victory will inevitably be ours." (61)

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[Photo of the eagle that surmounts the column above Shoghi Effendi's grave occupies much of this page. It has this caption:]

"*CALL TO ARMS!*"

An urgent, loving appeal from one of the STANDARD BEARERS of His Cause to every "stalwart warrior" of Bahá'u'lláh fighting gallantly and courageously on every Homefront throughout the North American Continent during this final and crucial year of the FIVE YEAR PLAN.

[Photo of an outline map of North America with pictures of Bahá'ís filling the space. These are the quotations on this page:]

"Where are the spiritual souls who will now seize their opportunity, and achieve immortal glory in the service of the Faith!" (62)

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"Let those who wish to achieve immortality, step forth and raise the Divine Call. They will be astonished at the spiritual victories they will gain." (63)

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Beloved friends, fellow Bahá'ís:

To compile all of the wonderful PROMISES of victory given to us in our Writings would take several volumes. These have been but one leaf from one tree of that endless forest of inspiration and encouragement.

The following SPECIAL PROMISES might have been written today to help us win our goals. They are alive with confident hope. They deal directly with today's problems and the obstacles each one of us faces in our teaching work.

1. WHEN THE TASK SEEMS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE

PROMISE "We can truly say that this Cause is a cause that enables people to achieve the impossible." (64)

2. WHEN IT APPEARS THAT A MIRACLE IS NEEDED TO WIN

PROMISE "They must remember the glorious history of the Cause, which . . . was established by dedicated souls who, for the most part, were neither rich, famous, nor well educated, but whose devotion, zeal, and self-sacrifice overcame every obstacle and won miraculous victories for the Faith of God." (65)

3. WHEN THE APATHY OF THE WORLD AROUND US STIFLES OUR TEACHING WORK AND IS DIFFICULT TO COPE WITH

PROMISE ". . . The Bahá'í teacher must be all confidence. Therein lies his strength and the secret of his success. Though single-handed, and no matter how great the apathy of the people around you may be, you should have faith that the Hosts of the Kingdom are on your side, and that through their help you are bound to overcome the forces of darkness that are facing the Cause of God. Persevere, be happy and confident, therefore." (66)

4. WHEN THE OBSTACLES SEEM OVERWHELMING AND THE TASK VIRTUALLY HOPELESS

PROMISE "... dependence upon Him [Bahá'u'lláh] enables the Bahá'ís to formulate audacious plans and confidently carry them through to completion in the face of seemingly insuperable (67)

PROMISE ". . . however hopeless the prospect may seem . . . Bahá'u'lláh will reinforce them with His Hosts and will open the doors of victory before them." (68)

Were any people in the world as fortunate as we? Carrying this mighty arsenal of divine PROMISES in our hands, let us sweep out into the Teaching Field and, shoulder to shoulder, arise as never before. Let us truly become Bahá'u'lláh's "forward marching victorious battalions!"

Onward then, to victory!

From the Polar Seas to the Gulf of Mexico! Until we see, at Ridvan 1979, that BANNER flying in triumph: "ALL GOALS WON!"

ONE FINAL PROMISE

The beloved Guardian was so deeply moved and stirred by one of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's ringing Calls to North America, that he, himself, cried out to each one of His soldiers:

"To his valiant combatants on earth, who at times may feel disheartened, our ever-victorious Commander, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, gives you the following assurance: 'The triumphant Hosts of the Celestial Concourse, arrayed and marshal led in the Realms above, stand ready and expectant to assist and assure victory to that valiant horseman who with confidence spurs on his charger into the arena of service . . . He hath achieved a glorious triumph and obtained the true victory ...'

"With such inspiring words as these, are we to remain any longer unmoved and inactive? His trumpet-call resounds on every side, and summons us to service; are we to tarry and hesitate? His voice is calling aloud from every land; let us march on, unfettered and unafraid, and fulfill our glorious Destiny." (69)

With warmest, grateful love to my fellow-warriors, the "heroes and heroines" of Bahá'u'lláh throughout the North American Continent. We shall be watching for you out there on the battle lines, as we rush to join you.

[signed] William Sears

William Sears, Hand of the Cause of God,
one of the Standard-Bearers of His Faith

A - ARISE!
R - REACH
I - INDIVIDUAL
S - SOULS
E - EVERYWHERE!

"The American Bahá'í community, already responsible, over such a long period, for such heroic acts, under such severe handicaps, cannot and will not hesitate or falter. The past is a witness of their splendid triumphs. The future will be no less a witness of their final victory." (70)

REFERENCES

ADJ	Advent of Divine Justice
BA	Bahá'í Administration
BN	Bahá'í News
BW	Bahá'í World
BWF	Bahá'í World Faith
CF	Citadel of Faith
DB	Dawnbreakers (The)
DND	Dawn of a New Day, Shoghi Effendi, Letters to India
DAL	Divine Art of Living
GWB	Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh
GPB	God Passes By
TC	Individual (The) and Teaching, Compilation from the Universal House of Justice
UHJ/G	Letter from the Universal House of Justice to the National Spiritual Assembly of Germany
MA	Messages to America, Shoghi Effendi, 1932-1946
MBW	Messages to the Bahá'í World, Shoghi Effendi
MC	Messages to Canada, Shoghi Effendi
M/UHJ	Messages from the Universal House of Justice, 1968-1973
PT	Paris Talks
SWB	Selections from the Writings of the Báb
SE/Indiv	Shoghi Effendi to an Individual Bahá'í
SE/AN	Shoghi Effendi, Letters to Australia_New Zealand
SE/BI	Shoghi Effendi, Letters to the Bahá'ís of the British Isles
SW	Star of the West
TDP	Tablets of the Divine Plan
WSG	Wellspring of Guidance
WOB	World Order of Bahá'u'lláh

1. MBW, p. 102 27. PT, p. 16i
2. SE/Indiv., 7/17/1953 28. ADJ, p. 52
3. MBW, p. 44 29. PT, p. 168
4. SWB, p. 153 30. MC, p. 11
5. DB, p. 93 31. TC, p. 35
6. SWB, p. 192 32. SE/Indiv. 12/18/144.
7. SWB, p. 153
8. DB, p. 94
9. DB, p. 94
10. GWB, p. 137
11. BWF, p. 60
12. WOB, p. 106
13. ADJ, p. 64
14. GWB, p. 287
15. TDP, p. 6
16. GWB, p. 314
17. GWB, p. 183
18. GPB, p. x
19. BWF, p. 369
20. BWF, p. 404
21. BWF, p. 363
22. PT, pp. 38-39
23. BN, #254. p. 4
24. SW, vol.8, p. 103
25. SW, Vol. 4, p. 118

26. DAL., p. 45
33. CF, p. 149
34. TC, p. 25
35. TC, p. 21
36. TC, p. 29
37. BA, p. 88
38. TC, p. 20
39. DND, p. 87
40. DND, p. 102
41. TC, pp. 32, 34
42. TC, p. 19
43. TC, p. 27
44. TC, p. 23
45. TC, p. 25
46. TC, p. 21
47. TC, p. 23
48. TC.,pp.29,31,33
49. DND, p. 191
50. BW, p. 80
51. SE/BI, 10/16/1953
52. M A, p. 17
53. WSG, p. 120
54. UHJ/G, 1/11/1971
55. TC, viii
56. WSG, p. 125
57. M/UHJ, 1968-73, p. 35
58. Ibid, p. 56
59. WSG, p. 8
60. M/UHJ, 1968-73, p. 14
61. WSG, p. 27
62. TC, p. 33
63. TC, p. 32
64. SE/AZ, pp. 70-71
65. WSC, p. 128
66. TC, pp. 23-24
67. UHJ/G, 1/11/1971
68. Ibid
69. BA, pp. 42-43
70. MA, p. 37

The Báb, BW, Vol. 13, p. 130
 Bahá'u'lláh, MBW, p. 46
 Wilmette Temple, GPB. p. 351
 Houses of Worship, BA, p. 186
 Seat of the Universal
 House of Justice SE/Indiv.,
 11/1929; 12/1929

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