

Series: Pathway Through the Psalms

A GOD CENTERED LIFE

PSALMS 112

Text: Psalms 112:1

Psalm 112:1

¹ *Praise ye the LORD. **Blessed is the man** that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.*

Introduction:

We consider this evening “A God Centered Life.” A God Centered Life is a life that is blessed. The word blessed means to be happy.

I think most people want to be happy.

The phrase “Blessed is the man” is used 13 times in the Bible. In each case there are conditions connected to this promise. So if we are going to be blessed or happy we must meet the conditions.

Note

Psalm 1:1

¹ *Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.*

Psalm 32:2

² *Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.*

Psalm 34:8

⁸ *O taste and see that the LORD is good: **blessed is the man that trusteth in him.***

Psalm 65:4

⁴ *Blessed is the man whom thou choolest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple.*

Psalm 84:5

⁵ *Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them.*

Psalm 84:12

¹² *O LORD of hosts, **blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.***

Psalm 94:12

¹² *Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law;*

Psalm 112:1

¹ Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

Proverbs 8:34

³⁴ Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.

Isaiah 56:1-2

¹ Thus saith the LORD, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed. ² Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.

Jeremiah 17:7

⁷ Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

Romans 4:8

⁸ Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

James 1:12

¹² Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

I want to share this evening the characteristics of the individual who God blesses and the consequences of those blessings that God bestows on those He blesses.

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MAN WHO GOD BLESSES

A. Fears the Lord (vs. 1)

Psalm 112:1

¹ *Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that **feareth the LORD**, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.*

The word fear has a three-fold range of meaning:

- Dread, terror
- To stand in awe (in reference to a king)
- To revere, to respect.

To fear the Lord means also to think reverently concerning God, and to walk in His ways.

Fearing God has two aspects. The first is reverence. It is a sacred awe of God's utter holiness. It involves the kind of respect and reverence that results in fear in the presence of such absolute majesty. The second aspect is fear of God's displeasure. Genuine faith

acknowledges God's right to chasten, His right to punish, and His right to judge.

We read in Psalms 111:10:

Psalm 111:10

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do *his commandments*: his praise endureth for ever.

Some of the indicators of an individuals who doesn't fear the Lord are:

- A Casualness Towards God

Speaking in a flippant or frivolous manner about God? Treating Him like He's just one of the boys. Or we carelessly profane His name.

- A Cavalier Attitude Toward Sin

Sadly today even professing Christians have a careless attitude toward sin.

Note:

Proverbs 8:13

¹³ *The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.*

Psalm 1:1

¹ *Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.*

Proverbs 16:6

⁶ *By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.*

Quote:

Someone has stated, “The fear of the Lord: an inward attitude of humble reverence toward God that results in outward expression of Christlikeness.”

Not only does God bless the individuals the Fear Him but also:

B. God Blesses Those Who Delight Greatly in His Commandments (vs. 1)

Psalm 112:1

¹ Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man *that* feareth the LORD, **that delighteth greatly in his commandments.**

It is not enough to fear God, we must also love him.

Quote:

“Fear will deter us from evil; love will lead us to obedience.”

The more a man fears and loves God, the more obedient will he be; till at last he will delight greatly in the commandments of his Maker.

The man who God blesses obeys from the heart and not from coaxing, coercion or compulsion.

2 Chronicles 16:9

⁹ For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.

The word “perfect” has the idea of loyalty.

It is not having knowledge that will evidence you to be believers; the devil has knowledge—but lacks obedience, and that makes him a devil.

True obedience of faith is a cheerful obedience.

We need to ask ourselves, “Do I obey God cheerfully or with reluctance?”

Note also:

C. God Blesses Those Who Are Gracious (vs. 4)

Psalm 112:4

⁴ Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

The man God blesses is "gracious," that is, full of kindness to all around him.

The man who God blesses is God's image bearer.

Note:

Psalm 111:4

*⁴ He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: **the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.***

The individual that God blesses emulates the graciousness of God.

Remember the Words of the Lord:

Luke 6:27-35

²⁷ But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, ²⁸ Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.

²⁹ And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also. ³⁰ Give to every man

that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. ³¹ And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. ³² For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. ³³ And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. ³⁴ And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.

Note also:

D. God Blesses Those Who Are Compassionate
(vs. 4)

Psalm 112:4

*⁴ Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and **full of compassion**, and righteous.*

This individual feels for others, has pity on them and as far as he or she can assists them in their time of trouble.

Note 1 John 3:17:

1 John 3:17

¹⁷ But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

Remember:

People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

No man is like Christ who does not care for others. And no Christian truly cares for others without caring for the souls of others.

Note also:

E. God Blesses Those Who Are Righteous (vs. 4)

Psalm 112:4

*⁴ Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, **and righteous**.*

As God is righteous in all His dealings with men, the man God blesses is "righteous".

Psalm 106:3

³ Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times.

Note also:

F. God Blesses Those Who Have a Steadfast Confidence in the Lord

Psalm 112:7-8

⁷ He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD. ⁸ His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies.

We read in Daniel 11:32:

Daniel 11:32

*³² And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but **the people that do know their God shall be strong**, and do exploits.*

These are the Characteristics of those Whom God Blesses, let's briefly consider:

2. THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE BLESSINGS GOD BESTOWS UPON THOSE WHO MEET THE CONDITIONS

Note:

A. God Provides a Lasting Legacy (vs. 2)

Psalm 112:2

² *His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.*

B. God Supplies His Every Need (vs. 3)

Psalm 112:3

³ *Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.*

C. God Makes His Presence Known In the Midst of Difficulties (vs. 4)

Psalm 112:4

⁴ *Unto the upright there ariseth **light in the darkness**: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.*

D. God Gives Him Victory Over His Enemies (vs. 10)

Psalm 112:10

¹⁰ *The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish.*

Close:

No doubt we all desire these results and blessings of happiness in our life.

It's quite simple, we must meet the conditions in order to enjoy the consequences.

This is what a "God Centered Life" looks like.