

that you may obtain *a blessing*.¹⁰ For “*Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue* (to do something with intense effort and with definite purpose or goal²) *it*.¹² *For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.*”
(Psalm 34:12–16 – Read for Preparation)

Blessing Our Enemies

...Fired at our Life & Heart

The way we obtain a blessing is by being a blessing.

**Jesus Blessed His Enemies...for Our Blessing!
We are Called to Follow in His Footsteps...**

Matthew 5:43–48 (Cf. Paul’s teaching - Titus 3:1–7)

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘*You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.*’⁴⁴ But I say to you, *Love your enemies* and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ...⁴⁸ You therefore must *be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

**Peter’s Point: God Uses Our Imitation of the Patient
Sufferings of Jesus to Bring His Blessings!**

(To Us, *godliness* & Through Us, *repentance*)

**Patience in the Face of Unjust Suffering is a Nobel
Calling!**

² Ibid. (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 662).

Our Christian Identity: 1 Peter

[#7] The Power of Submission – 1 Peter 2:11-3:12

Sermon Outline – July 17, 2016

Children’s Sermon: Real Life...not Pictures

- ❖ What is one of your favorite things to do?
- ❖ Who is a person you like to spend time with?
- ❖ What is one of your favorite gifts?

Did you know that these are only pictures of life with our good heavenly Father?

We fight each other to have these pictures

Titus 3:1–7

³ For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, *slaves to various passions and pleasures*, passing our days in malice and envy, *hated by others* and *hating one another*.

Notes:

Today’s Biblical Bullet...

God’s way is a life of eternal blessing.
Our way leads to hatred & death.

The Futility of Our Way

The Culture of Death

Self-Serving Folly

1 Peter 1:14, 17–18a, 24–25

¹⁴ As obedient children, *do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance*,¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also *be holy in all your conduct*...¹⁷ And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, *conduct yourselves with fear* throughout the time of your exile,¹⁸ *knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers*...

²⁴ “All flesh is like grass and *all its glory like the flower of grass*. The grass withers, and the flower falls,²⁵ **but the word of the Lord remains forever**.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

1 Peter 2:1–2, 4

¹ **So put away** all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.² Like newborn infants, **long for the pure spiritual milk**, that by it you may grow up into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ As you come to him, a living stone *rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious...*

Matthew 16:26–27

For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

Passions of the Flesh (Securing our own Blessing)

¹¹ Beloved, **I urge you** as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the *passions of the flesh*, which **wage war** against your soul.

Galatians 5:19–21

¹⁹ Now the *works of the flesh* are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

To Secure our own Blessing We Hate & Hurt...

The Law Teaches Us to Stop Hating & Hurting

(Ten Commandments; Honor...)

The Way of Jesus: The Life of Blessing

The Culture of Heaven

Jesus Moves Us from Hate to Love, to Gospel Love

(Love of Neighbor to Love of Enemy)

Luke 10:25–29

²⁵ And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” ²⁷ And he answered, “**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.**” ²⁸ And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹ **But** he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

The Self-Sacrificing Love of the Gospel

¹² *Keep[ing] your conduct* among the Gentiles honorable, so that when **they speak against** you as evildoers, **they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.** [Wives...unbelieving husbands]

¹³ **Be subject** for the Lord’s sake to every human institution...

[Emperors, etc.]

[Servants]...But if **when you do good** and suffer for it **you endure** (to continue to bear up despite difficulty and suffering¹), *this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.* ²¹

*For to this **you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example,** so that you might **follow in his steps.*** ²² **He committed** no sin, neither **was** deceit **found** in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, **he did not revile in return;** when he suffered, **he did not threaten,** but **continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.** ²⁴ **He** himself **bore** our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. **By his wounds you have been healed** (Cf. Isaiah 53:3–12). ²⁵ For **you were** straying like sheep, but **have** now **returned** to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1. The Righteousness of Jesus...

- a. The very fact that He Entrusted Himself to His Father
- b. He took the wounds of his enemies to heal them

2. God brought Us Blessings through His Righteous Sufferings

Examples for Us

^{2:18} Servants, be[ing] subject to your masters with all respect

^{3:1} Likewise, wives, be[ing] subject to your own husbands...

⁷ Likewise, husbands, live[ing] with your wives *in an understanding way*

Blessing not Cursing

⁸ Finally, ~~all of you, have~~ unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. ⁹ **Do not repay[ing] evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bliss[ing], for to this **you were called,****

¹ Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). *Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains* (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 307). New York: United Bible Societies.