

The Blessed Life

Psalm 1

Blessed

- Full
- Approved by God
- Settled
- Peaceful
- Wholesome
- Joyful

Background to Psalm 1

- Gateway to Jewish Worship Books
- Focus—Yahweh: The helper of His People
 - The Becoming One
 - “Becoming to His people whatever His rich favor pleases, in order to meet their need and at last becoming God.” Leupold

Not This...(Put-off)

- Counsel of the wicked
- Way of sinners
- Seat of mockers

- Where was this approach to the blessed life found in the days of O.T.?
- (No one seeks to have a cursed life) Prov.14:12
“There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.”

Not This...(Put-off)

- Idolatry , immorality, intermarriage with unbelieving nations
- Ill. Numbers 25:1-3 “the men began to indulge in sexual immorality with Moabite women, who invited them to sacrifice to their gods. The people ate and bowed down before these gods. So Israel joined in worshipping the Baal of Peor. And the Lord’s anger burned against them.”
- 2Cor.11:14,15 “Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, that his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness.”

(Where is it found today?)

- Everywhere!
- Atheism—Penn Jillette, Story of Suzie (the thinking atheist)
- Pornography—treasure to tragedy
- Love in the modern age (the creators project)
- Popular religion—Joel Osteen on Oprah(the power of I Am)
- Water coolers, locker rooms, break rooms
- Jer.17:5 “ Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength, whose heart turns away from the living God.”
- In the things that seem right to me...

...But That...(Put-On)

- Law of God
- At the time—at least the Torah
- “all 2 but not 4”
- Rom 15:4 “For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.”
- 2Cor.3:6 “He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant-not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills but the Spirit gives life.”

Blessing then ...

- The Land -- Gen 12:7 “To your offspring I will give this land...”
- Tabernacle/Temple –God physically present; ark of the covenant, tablets...
- Sabbath day(s), ceremonies
- Physical blessing Dt. 28:9--14

Blessings Now

- Beatitudes Matt. 5:3-12 (poor in spirit...persecuted)
- Great commission—“as you are going; I am with you always”
- Promised Spirit-- Jn.14:26,27
- “Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit”
1Cor. 6:19
- Awareness of God’s Spirit within is the greatest blessing

How to be blessed

- Delighting—Pleasure, a valuable thing
- Meditating—Keep pondering, muse (not an added activity but a directed activity)
- Whole counsel of God on a multitude of subjects!
- “Every Day is not a good Day”
- Perseverance
- Godly view of trials Ps.119:75 ...”in faithfulness you have afflicted me.”
- Finances—Financial Peace

How to be blessed

- Jer.9:23,24 “let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight.”

The Blessed Life

- Put off : ungodly counsel (wherever it originates)
- What ungodly counsel have I been embracing?

- Put On: delighting in meditating on the whole counsel of God
- What subjects are addressed in scripture that I have ignored?
- What means will I use to help keep my focus on His word?