

## **Do You Want The Blessings Of God**

(Based on Life At The Summit KTBN 5/5/10)

...the peace that passes understanding or the joy unspeakable and full of glory?

Someone sneezes and we say bless you so often that it seems to have lost it's meaning. A blessing is God's help, an "impartation of a supernatural power of God into a human life, by the spoken word of God's delegated authority."

So what is it to bless you?

Numbers 6:22-27 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them: "The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.'" "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

It is God's will to bless you. Not because He has to or because we deserve it, that would be legalism, but because He wants to, by His grace and mercy He desires to do so. His love, His mercy, His forgiveness, has no boundary, no limits; His mercy is renewed fresh every day.

So how do we get a blessing? Luke 11:9 tells us to ask for it

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

- This does not say ask for it sit back and wait and you will get it. This requires action on your part, you have to seek, knock, look for it
- Ask and don't complain, whine and moan but in prayerful petition ask for His blessings.

Blessings found in the Bible

Genesis 1:27-30 After creating Adam and Eve He blessed them then gave them 3 commands

- Be fruitful and multiply – not on welfare, broke, busted, and barely surviving. These may occur in life temporarily but make effort to be fruitful and change these situations. He enabled Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply and be successful but the actions was theirs to take.
- Subdue the earth – spiritual warfare.
- Take dominion – take turf, enlarge the borders of their habitation.

Genesis 12:1-3 God blesses Abraham

1 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you.

- Abraham was a man that God knew He could count on. If God spoke to him and told him to do a thing, God knew He could count on him to do it.

- It is because of this that God chose to bless him and those that would follow him.

Gen 15:7 Acts 7:3 Hebrews 11:8-10

2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing.

- He will be a blessing to all who will listen to him, but woe to those who don't.

Gen 17:4-6 18:18 46:3 22:17 Deut 26:5 Zech 8:13

3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

- To look upon the Jews with disfavor would invite God's disapproval and to treat them abusively was to incur His wrath. To befriend the Jews was to bring rewards of a promise
- All families on the earth will be blessed, because the Messiah would come from him.

Gen 22:18 26:4 28:14 24:35 27:29 Num 24:9 Galatians 3:8 Acts 3:25

There is no question God has poured out favor on the nation of Israel. At that time no other nation on earth had a revelation from God – He revealed Himself and through this nation sent the Messiah.

The first sermon Jesus preaches involves the Blessings found in the Beatitudes  
Matthew 5:1-11

1 And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him.

- This teaching was for His disciples, not the general public although there are lessons for us to learn from these words.

Luke 6:20-49 Mk 3:13 Luke 6:17 9:28 John 6:3,15

2 Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

Mt 13:35 Acts 8:35 10:34 18:14

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- Blessed – happy, to be envied, spiritually prosperous
- Poor in spirit – the humble who rate themselves unimportant or trivial, those who are poor and realize their need for Him. As opposed to those who are know it all, self-seekers, who place them selves above the teachings of God.

Luke 6:20-23 Matt 5:10 19:14 25:34 Mk 10:14 Luke 6:20 22:29

4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

- Those who mourn because they have lost something dear to them – then embrace God for comfort
- Those who know the truth and mourn when they see the works of Satan being committed. It does not make us happy.

Isaiah 61:2 John 16:20 Rev 7:17

5 Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

- Happy are you when you are content with just who you are and what you have. Their nature is so rewarding, they will even be blessed here as well as in heaven because you have become the owner of things that can't be bought.

Meek – humble

Psalms 34:11 37:11

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

- Those who work up an appetite for God and are hungry and thirsty for the Word of God who are not filled without concerted study. Being filled with His word is the best meal you can have.
- Filled – totally filled to the complete. When you search for truth from the Word of God with a hunger and thirst then you will be filled. Hunger and thirst implies a need that must be fulfilled. Cannot go very long without food and a shorter time without water or death results.

Isaiah 55:1-2 John 4:14 6:4 8 ff 7:37 16:20 Rev 7:17

7 Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

- Those who show compassion. When you are for others you will find yourselves being cared for.

Proverbs 11:17 Matt 6:14,15 18:33-35

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

- The pure in mind who strive to see Him in the Word. When your inside world, your heart and mind are pure you see God not the outside World

Psalms 24:3-4 Heb 12:14 1 John 3:2 Rev 22:4

9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

- Peacemakers are rare. Not wanting contention with others and strive to help others have peace. When you are blessed you are able to show others how to cooperate and not fight.

Matt 4:45 Luke 6:35 Rom 8:14

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- Blessed are you when your commitment to God actually provokes persecution by men – shows you are doing your job.
- If you decide to teach the Word of God, there will be those who will want to persecute you – but the struggle is not with you – it is between Satan and God.

1 Pet 3:14 Matt 5:3 19:14 25:34 Mk 10:14 Luke 6:20 22:29

11 "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

- Tell lies about you because of Christ sake. Don't worry about it. They are really trying to discredit God, not you. These people are of Satan

1 Pet 4:14

12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

- Look what they did to the prophets and the mistreatment they received – they even killed some.

2 Chronicles 36:16 Matt 23:37 Acts 7:52 1 Thess 2:15 Heb 11:33ff James 5:10

Going throughout His ministry He would see and pick up little children the disciples were trying to shoo away and bless them.

Jesus Blesses Little Children Mark 10:13-16

13 Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

14 But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.

15 Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."

16 And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.

The last thing Jesus did before leaving the earth was to bless the disciples.

Luke 24:50-53

The Ascension

50 And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them.

- Bethany a days journey outside the east gate up the Mount of Olives over looking Kedron.

51 Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.

- And there He will stay until His enemies are made His footstool Corinthians 15

52 And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,

53 and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen

Power of blessings in spiritual warfare

In spiritual warfare we are to show up, suit up, stand up, speak up, put on the armor of God, then fight the good fight, endure hardness as a good soldier. This is more than wearing a cross around your neck or a bumper sticker that says honk if you love Jesus. Don't whine when the devil is attacking you, - Say to the enemy - when you get in my way I am going to subdue you. When Satan comes into your family, your relationships, your finances, your life, don't be a good loser, but look him right in the eye and rebuke him. The Son of God did and when He said Satan get behind me, so should we say - Satan get out of my life.

In spiritual warfare, an unfounded curse (something said unkind, untrue, intended to humiliate or destroy your credibility) will not land upon you

Proverbs 26:2 Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, so a curse without cause shall not alight.

- A curse you don't deserve will take wings and fly away like a sparrow or a swallow. CEV
- You have as little to fear from an undeserved curse as from the dart of a wren or the swoop of a swallow. The Message Bible
- Like the sparrow in her wandering, like the swallow in her flying, so the causeless curse does not alight. Amplified
- Like a fluttering sparrow or a darting swallow, an undeserved curse will not land on its intended victim. NLT

Instead bless them - 1 Peter 3:8-9

Called to Blessing

8 Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous;

- Life is too short for trouble. Be in harmony

Rom 12:16 1 Pet 1:22 5:5 Ephesians 4:2,32 Philippians 2:3

9 not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

- To return evil for evil you are making a judgment based solely on your own understanding, which may be wrong. Let the ultimate judge take care of matters. He is able to see all and knows more than we know and can judge the heart of the one you are trying to judge.

Rom 12:14, 17 1 Thessalonians 5:15 1 Corinthians 4:12 1 Pet 2:21,23 Luke 6:28 Gal 3:14 Heb 6:14 12:17

10 For "He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit.

- Good days are absent from evil. If you practice evil you are ensuring you are not going to have a good day.

Ps 34:12-13

11 Let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

Ps 34:14

12 For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers; but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil."

- None of us is perfect but to those who are trying to do right, are aware and when sin repent and communicate with Him continually in prayer, be comforted in knowing He hears our prayers.
- Don't worry about the evil. It should not be our concern if they don't happen to get what is coming to them in this life, God will take care of them at judgment.

Psalms 34:12-16

Don't repay evil for evil, unkind for unkind instead pay them back with a blessing for this is what the Lord has asked us to do. Overcome evil with good Romans 12:14

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

- If someone treats you badly, act toward them with a blessed attitude ex, you work in store and someone comes in with a bad attitude, don't respond in kind but maintain a blessed attitude. You do not know what weight of problems that person is carrying while still trying to take care of things.
- Ie, don't let someone get your goat. If someone is having a bad day, don't let it give you a bad day in return.
- Curse not –  
Luke 6:28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you  
To say I hope they have a bad day or to the one who cut in front of you on the freeway I hope they get a flat tire – this is issuing a curse upon them.  
Besides vengeance is the Lord's and He can do it much better than we can.

Once you do bless those who persecute you, remember Proverbs 26:2 and you will have a shield around you – an undeserved curse cannot land

The power and permanence of a blessing. Once a blessing is placed on you, man cannot undo or break it; they cannot steal your blessing.

- When someone becomes jealous of the good things God is doing for you there is nothing they can say or do to remove it because they did not give it. What God gives you, no man can take away

Through the cross we have all the blessings of Abraham,

- Galatians 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.
- Genesis 12:3 God told Abraham, I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."