

NEWSLETTER 2021-4

To: My Fellow Saints

Date: August 17, 2021

Re: **The Blessed Man/His commitment**

In this newsletter, I am quoting from our first lesson in our new series “Selected Psalms Phase 1”; this was taken from Lesson 1 Part A which covers Psalm 1:1-3. This section that is presented today covers “Practical Lessons” relating to the Blessed Man as discussed in Psalm 1:1-3. I am entitling it at this time as “The Blessed Man/His commitment”; there is also some rearrangements in order to make this presentation applicable. We are all living in challenging days and there is a need for us to be steadfastly committed to God in **all** our ways; this is not a comprehensive presentation only a few pointers and I pray you will be blessed. This lesson is now in the final phase and should be added to the website by early September.

The Blessed Man/His Commitment

1. The reason for being blessed (Briefly Noted)

Psa. 32:1 ESV

“Blessed” is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.”

Psa.1:1 ESV

“Blessed” is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers.”

“The reason for being ‘blessed’ are not the same here (*Psa. 1:1 . . . insert mine*) as in Psalm 32:1. Here (*Psa. 1:1*) blessings are a result of right conduct, while Psa. 32 speaks of blessings that come from God’s forgiveness. **The forgiveness of God in Psalm 32 makes it possible to accomplish the practical righteousness of Psalm 1.** (*emphasis mine*). However, both situations result in the spiritual and emotional joy and contentment which the word **blessedness** expresses.” (Key Word Study Bible)

2. When meditating on a passage (*Psa. 1:2*) in the Bible, some questions to ponder are:

- (a) Is God’s Spirit applying this verse (these verses) to my life and personal situation?
- (b) Is there a promise here to claim?
- (c) Is this passage revealing a particular sin I must strive to avoid?
- (d) Is God issuing a command I must obey?
- (e) Is my spirit in harmony with what the Holy Spirit is saying?
- (f) Is the passage expressing a truth about God, salvation, sin, the world or my personal obedience on which I need to be enlightened by the Holy Spirit?
- (g) Etc.

Psa. 119:2, 10-11 NKJV

“Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart! With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

3. A call for complete dedication!!

As observed in Psa. 1:1, a decision must be made, it's either we choose the way of righteousness or that of the ungodly. In my series, "Accept the Challenge and Move On", we saw Joshua challenging the people to make a choice as to who they will serve and what is expected of them. They resoundly responded that they would serve the LORD (Josh. 24:18, 21, 24). Joshua made sure that they seriously considered their choice and in Josh. 24:19, he noted God's holiness and what it means to sincerely and wholeheartedly serve God but they reaffirmed that they would serve the LORD (24:21). The challenge is for us to live a life of commitment on a daily basis. We must have a made-up-mind to sincerely and wholeheartedly walk in obedience to God, His Word, His will for our lives and the way that we must travel. Paul's passionate plea continues to challenge us all:

Rom. 12:1-2 NKJV

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

The presentation of ourselves to Jesus Christ, means that we must lay our all on the altar of sacrifice, to His honor and glory!! **Beloved, this requires more than lip service, more than going through the motion of worship, etc. (Matt. 15:8); it is a call to service and a life of righteousness and true holiness (Luke 9:23-26; Eph. 4:24). It is a call to consistently live a separated life, free from the entanglement of sinners (Psa. 1:1; 2 Cor. 6:17).**

(a) **Our commitment is to refuse to listen or heed to worldly advice!**

*"Blessed is the man Who walks not in the **counsel** of the ungodly"* (Psa. 1:1a NKJV)

(1) We are constantly confronted by ungodly counsel.

- Some of these ungodly sources are: writers, those who regard themselves experts, producing movies and similar means of entertainment, worldly friends and a host of other means used by Satan to deceive; their objective is for us to live contrary to the will of God!!
- Unfortunately, we have many who live inconsistently with God's Word, will and way, within the Church (Universal). They deceive many (2 Tim. 3:13; etc.) and at times we must exercise caution (Matt. 7:15; 2 Cor. 11:14; **1 John 4:1-5**).

(2) If we intend to be **blessed** and remain **blessed**, we must know what God says in His holy Word and we must live accordingly.

(3) We must completely reject that which is inconsistent with the Word of God and wholly trust God enough to choose His way over the counsel of others.

Prov. 1:10 NKJV

"My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent."

(Read Prov. 1:10-19, NB Vv. 10, 15-16)

(b) **Our commitment is that we will never depart from the pathway of obedience, never to depart from God’s righteous command.**

“**Blessed** Nor stands in the **path** of sinners.” (Psa. 1:1b NKJV)

- (1) It is Satan’s nature to seek and to destroy the people of God in any way that he can and he is continuous in his efforts (1 Peter 5:8-9).
- (2) If we become careless, we will give in to sinful desires of the flesh and disobey God’s holy commands (Rom. 8, NB Vv. 12-14; Gal. 5:16-21).
- (3) The world will continue to present repeated opportunities to indulge in the flesh but we must remain focused on God (1 John 2:15-17).
- (4) If we sincerely desire to be blessed, we must faithfully hold fast to God’s Word. We must refuse to even stand, much less walk in the sinful way (Psa. 19:13; 119:11, 133).

(c) **Our commitment is that we will guard ourselves against the continuous effort of scoffers to influence us to have doubts about God’s Word.**

“**Blessed** Nor sits in the seat of the **scornful**.”

- (1) As noted earlier (*in the lesson*), it’s unfortunate that Christianity has experienced a decline in U. S. A. and other similar countries. God be praised for the exponential growth in other nations! Indeed, God is never without a witness (Acts 14:17).
- (2) We have witnessed a full onslaught by Satan upon every nation in the world and there is pressure on believers to accept immorality, dishonestly, injustice, etc. ... the pressure to adapt to sinful living (Isa. 5, NB Vv. 11-25).
- (3) Scorners of God’s Word tempt believers to be tolerant of sin and it is alarming to see some denominations yielding to and adapting unrighteousness (Rev. 3:14-22. etc.)

We have heard the statement: “**God will be LORD of all or He will not be LORD at all!**” I will close [this pointer](#) with a partial quote from the hymn: **Is Your All On the Altar** and a few pointers.

Is your all on the altar of sacrifice?

Is it laid?

Your heart does the Spirit control?

Now, you can only be blessed

And have peace and sweet rest

After you have yield unto the Lord

Your body and soul.

Finally, I will close with some brief thoughts:

1. Loving God’s Word requires of us not only to **read it** and **study it** but for us to **obey it** (**James 1:22-25**; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16-17).
 - (a) Joshua was charged and shown the necessity of obeying God’s Word (Josh. 1:8-9).

- (b) The Holy Spirit, who inspires all Scripture, has linked these passages to Psalm 1 . . . **it is the doer of God's Word that is truly blessed** (2 Tim. 3:14-17; Josh. 1:8; Psa. 92:12-14; 119:35, 97).
2. Failure to love God's Word is a symbol of a deeper spiritual sickness which is a lack of love for God. When we truly love God we will naturally love His Word above the allurements of television, the internet, all forms of social media, sports, etc. that distracts us from committing our all to God (1 Peter 2:2; Psa. 119:7, 103, 148).

Psa. 119: 97, 103, 148 Amplified Bible

"Oh, how love I Your law! It is my meditation all the day [Psa. 1:2] . . . How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! [Psa. 19:10; Prov. 8:11] . . . My eyes anticipate the night watches and I am awake before the cry of the watchman, that I may meditate on Your word."

Website Update

I did several areas of presentation for Isa. 43:1-7: (a) One message at one of our local churches (b) a concise presentation was done for our June newsletter and (c) the third was to develop a lesson covering Isa. 43:1-7 in more details. That lesson has been completed and was added to our website since August 7th, under the caption "**The Assurance of Restoration.**"

I am also in process of our new series "**Selected Psalms Phase 1.**" In that series:

- (a) Lesson 1A, covering Psalm 1:1-3, is in the final phase and will be added to the website by the second week-end in September.
- (b) Lesson 1B covering Psalm 1:4-6 is in process and I am planning to have it completed and added to the website as-soon-as-possible; you will be notified.

It is my goal to have a new lesson added at least every four to six weeks as long as all is well physically. It is my commitment to continue taking these lesson development as a commission from God and not to take it lightly. It is my goal to allow God to be glorified and seek to pursue this challenge with humility, obedience, surrender and renunciation; all to the glory of God and your continued prayers are needed. The great Commission must be faced with steadfast commitment and submission to the will of God especially in these days when our redemption draweth nigh!!

Please remember, if you are unable to download lessons or newsletters when using Chrome browser on cell phones, use an alternate browser such as Internet Explorer or Fire Fox.

Despite the challenging times and uncertainties characterizing the world, I am thankful that we (believers) stand on Christ the Solid Rock; undoubtedly, all other ground is sinking sand!! Love and appreciate you!! God richly bless you and your family!!

Yours-in-Christ
Bishop K. Wright