

HOW TO STAY BLESSED

Pastor's Bible Hour – November 2, 2008
Tabernacle of Praise – Pastor G. Richardson
www.topmanteca.org

Eph 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ:

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

HOW TO STAY BLESS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

1. **By God;** (God was in Christ)
2. **In Christ;** (we are made nigh by the blood)
3. **With all blessings;** (all Spiritual blessings in Christ)
4. **In all circumstances;** (nothing can separate us)
5. **Through time and eternity;** (whose names are written in heaven)
6. **To the highest degree.** (in heavenly places)

Story by David Letterman:

REDEMPTION IS GOD'S LOVE STORY TO US

Gal 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:

Gal 3:14 **That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ;** that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

1. **The Word Redeem:** It properly means, to purchase, to buy up; and then to purchase anyone, to redeem, to set free. Here it means, that Christ had purchased, or set us free from the curse of the Law, by his being made a curse for us.

2Co 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us; we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

2Co 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Col 1:13 Who hath **delivered us from the power of darkness**, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

Col 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

1Pe 2:9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:

YOU MUST DESIRE TO BE BLESSED

1. **Desire:** Spiritual Blessings come to those who Desire the Blessings. Spiritual desires must supersede natural desires and natural goals.

Psa 27:4 One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

Psa 27:5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

Psa 27:6 And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

Col 3:2

Set your affection on things above - Love heavenly things; study them; let your hearts be entirely engrossed by them. Now, that ye are converted to God, act in reference to heavenly things as ye did formerly in reference to those of earth; and vice versa. This is a very good general rule: "Be as much in earnest for heavenly and eternal things, as ye formerly were for those that are earthly and that perishing.

Col 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Col 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Col 3:3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Col 3:4 When Christ, *who is our life*, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

SETTLE THE AUTHORITY PROBLEM IN YOUR LIFE

1. **The First Sin in the Garden of Eden was disobeying the Authority in their life, which was God.** Adam was known as the first transgressor, because he knew what God said. **Gen 3:3** “But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.”

Rom 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

2. **Submission and Obedience is the key to living for God and saying blessed.** (Jesus submitted Himself to the cross)

Act 9:3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

Act 9:4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

Act 9:5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: *it is hard* for thee to kick against the pricks.

Act 9:6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

1Pe 1:14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

3. **Our submission to God and His Apostolic Ministry frees us from Satan's bondage and our rebellious nature.**

Rom 6:17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

Rom 6:18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Jas 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Jas 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Jas 4:8 **Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.** Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded.

YOU MUST CHOOSE TO BE BLESSED

1. **Every day you are confronted with new decisions, the choice is in your hand.**

Deu 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, **that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life**, that both thou and thy seed may live:

Deu 30:20 That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, *and* that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

Jos 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: **but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**

Jos 24:16 And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods;

SUBMIT TO WISE COUNCIL

1. Submitting to wise council, and having a teachable spirit will take you a long way in your Spiritual Growth.

Pro 4:13 Take fast hold of instruction; let *her* not go: keep her; for she *is* thy life.

Pro 6:20 My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

Pro 6:21 Bind them continually upon thine heart, *and* tie them about thy neck.

Pro 6:22 When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and *when* thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.

Pro 6:23 For the commandment *is* a lamp; and the law *is* light; and reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life:

Pro 15:31 The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise.

Pro 15:32 He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

Pro 15:33 The fear of the LORD *is* the instruction of wisdom; and before honor *is* humility.

Ecc 7:4 The heart of the wise *is* in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools *is* in the house of mirth.

Ecc 7:5 *It is* better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools.

Psa 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.

Psa 1:2 But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Psa 1:3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

GET WITH GOD'S PROGRAM – GET INVOLVED IN THE MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

Heb 6:7 For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:

Heb 6:8 But that which beareth thorns and briars is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.

Heb 6:9 But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.

Heb 6:10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

1. **The writer of Hebrews says, OUR LIVES ARE LIKE THE EARTH.** It absorbs the rain, and produces an abundant harvest, it receives the divine blessing. If not, it is cursed, or is worthless. The design is to show that “If” Christians should become like the barren earth they would be cast away and lost.

BE A GIVER

(TIME - TALENT AND TREASURE)

1. **If you take giving away for a Christian you are taking away blessings.** (Whether it is giving a smile, track invite, your talents or your treasure, a life that is constantly giving is a happy life.)
2. **Giving is living!**

Luk 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

3. **Nature teaches us to give:** (Your fruit trees, tomatoes, corn)
Ecc 1:7 All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.

4. **God promised us that if we gave of our tithes and offerings that He would rebuke the devourer.**

Mal 3:10 “...prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it.*

Mal 3:11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

Mal 3:12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightful land, saith the LORD of hosts.

**BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD – AND
HAVING THE RIGHT ATTITUDE**

1. **Establish a Consistent Prayer Life**

1Th 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

1Th 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

1Th 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.

1Th 5:20 Despise not prophesyings.

1Th 5:21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

Heb 11:5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

Psa 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Psa 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Psa 51:11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

Psa 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me *with thy* free spirit.

GET OUT OF THE FIGHTING BUSINESS

1Pe 3:9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

1Pe 3:10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:

Heb 12:14 Follow peace with all *men*, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Rom 12:20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

Rom 12:21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

START PRACTICING WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN ON THE OTHER SIDE

1. **Be a Worshiper Here:**

Rev 5:11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

Rev 5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing.

Rev 5:13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, *be* unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever.

Rev 5:14 And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four *and* twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth forever and ever.