

Blessed

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.

– Psalm 1:1 –

Our Lord is not frugal with the blessings He bestows upon mankind, irrespective of belief or obedience. Jesus said He makes the sun to rise on the evil and the good, and that He sends rain upon the just and the unjust alike. The wonder of a newborn babe, the brilliance of a sunrise, the serenity of a harvest moon, the embrace of family, and countless other natural phenomena attests to our Creator's continual intention to shower man with His blessings.

But there are also less general yet uniquely "special" blessings that can be secured from the Almighty. These are reciprocal in nature, finding their way only into the heart that fears Him, loves Him, and seeks to please Him. These are blessings that honor the soul that honors God. Our brief text outlines three characteristics of such godly desire. We do well to stop for a few moments and meditate upon our lives to see how aligned we are with Heaven.

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly. In no previous generation has ungodly counsel been so universally distributed and so easily accessible. In our current day, we actually have to move with purpose to avoid it. The marketing masters and media merchants package godless counsel in everything and literally everywhere. It can be found in self help books and videos. It permeates advertising. It is part of the warp and woof of almost every avenue of entertainment. It is on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, et. al. There is no dearth of ungodly counsel out there. So, we do well to stop and ask – from whence do I get my counsel? The only useful counsel is from the Word of God. Do I go there and there alone to seek it? Is my delight in the Law of the Lord, and in His law do I meditate day and night?

Blessed is the man that standeth not in the way of sinners. Friendship with the world is enmity with God. With whom do I keep (and desire to keep) company? Do I purpose to frequently dwell in the assembly of the saints, or do I prefer worldly companionship and acquaintance?

Blessed is the man that sitteth not in the seat of the scornful. The soul that knows God and is seeking Him continually is joyful at its core, and that joy bubbles up in both countenance and conduct. It is difficult to be critical of God's ways and His people when filled with the Holy Ghost. How is my attitude? Does it reflect a childlike belief in the God I claim to know and love, or am I given over to fleshly cynicism and scorn?

Brothers and sisters, our God longs to shower His children with special blessings, but quite frequently we impede the flow due to the sickly condition of our faith. Let us be introspective, ensuring we seek to honor Him with all facets of our lives. It will redound with special blessings to the soul.