

BOOK OF THE PSALMS
THE SUCCESS OF THE BLESSED
Pt 4-HIS PROSPERITY
PSALMS 1:3

INTRODUCTION

Last week we saw that in contrast to the **UNGODLY**, the **SINNERS**, and the **SCORNFUL** mentioned in **Verse 1** that the **BLESSED MAN** is genuinely and completely in love with the **WORD OF GOD** which has captured his full **AFFECTION** and **ATTENTION!**

He finds his **DELIGHT** in the **WORD OF GOD** and therefore he **MEDITATES** on the **WORD OF GOD** because he **VALUES** what the **WORD OF GOD** is as well as what it can do for him!

SPIRITUALLY speaking, we saw that it is **FOOD, LIGHT, TRUTH, A MIRROR, WATER, A SWORD, FIRE, and A HAMMER!**

Additionally, he knows that it is **HIS FINAL AUTHORITY!** Therefore, he consumes it so that it is internalized and becomes a vital part of who he is! It becomes the singular **STANDARD** for his **FAITH** and **PRACTICE!** Every thought, every move, every decision is made against the backdrop of **GOD’S WORD** and what **GOD** has to say about an issue!

The **WORD OF GOD** is never better than when it is **READ, MEDITATED ON, STUDIED** and **HEEDED!** It is **GOD’S WILL** for it to be integrated into one’s life and then lived out! And we see the results of the **BLESSED** man’s relationship with **GOD** and **HIS WORD!** *Verse 3* reveals to us: **THE PROSPERITY OF THE SUCCESSFUL BELIEVER.**

I want us to note that the promises of this verse are conditional. When we **LIVE SEPARATED LIVES** and **FEED OUR SOULS ON GOD’S WORD**, then and only then can we expect the **PROSPERITY** this verse talks about!

I. WE SEE THE BLESSED MAN’S PROMINENCE!

“He shall be like a tree...”

The life of the **SUCCESSFUL BELIEVER** stands out above all those around him. It is easily seen when a man draws from the **LORD!** (e.g. The life of **JOSEPH** in *Genesis 39:2-5; 39:21-23; 41:38-40*)

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People will take notice of the man so **BLESSED** that he has been with **JESUS!**

(e.g. Peter and John before the council... *Acts. 4:13*– “Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, **they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.**”)

WE SEE THE BLESSED MAN’S PROMINENCE!

II. WE SEE THE BLESSED MAN’S PERMANENCE!

“He shall be like a tree planted...”

Unlike some plants which may live for a season and die out, **a tree sinks its roots deep and has a hidden source of life!**

That is especially true when a tree has been carefully PLANTED on purpose in a place where it can thrive! (Which is the idea here!)

III. WE SEE THE BLESSED MAN’S POSITION!

“He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water...”

First, let’s understand that in SCRIPTURE WATER FOR CLEANSING is symbolic of the WORD OF GOD while WATER FOR DRINKING is symbolic of the SPIRIT OF GOD!

Again, this is like a tree **PLANTED ON PURPOSE** “*by the rivers of water*” so that it is always close to the life giving resources.

This was meaningful to **ISRAEL** with her mostly arid conditions. The *tree planted by the rivers if water* is never dry and wilted, but rather is green, lush, and lovely.

The **BELIEVER** who lives close to the **LORD** by being **FILLED WITH THE WORD OF GOD** and being **FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD** will not be **SPIRITUALLY** dry or wilted either!

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He can withstand the difficult, dry times that causes others to wilt! He remains vibrant, lively, and as we will see in a minute, **PRODUCTIVE!**

Many never know the joy of continually drawing life from **CHRIST** on a daily basis because they do not **VALUE GOD'S WORD** as they should! As a result, they are **SPIRITUALLY** dry or wilted when they could be lively!

The droughts and the dry seasons of life never seem to affect the **BLESSED BELIEVER** who has been **PLANTED ON PURPOSE BY THE RIVER** and therefore is connected to an unfailing **SOURCE** of life and strength.

IV. WE SEE THE BLESSED MAN'S PRODUCTIVITY!

"And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit..."

The **BLESSED BELIEVER** is a **BLESSING** to those around him, because his life bears **FRUIT** that is **PLENTIFUL!**

In fact, he may never know until he gets to heaven just who all has fed off of and been **BLESSED** by his life as a **BLESSED BELIEVER!**

V. WE SEE THE BLESSED MAN'S PREDICTABILITY!

"...that bringeth forth his fruit in his season."

Just as the seasons of a fruit bearing tree are from the **LORD**, so also are the seasons of fruit bearing of a **BLESSED BELIEVER**.

As **BELIEVERS**, we aren't to worry over the fruit. That is the **FATHER'S** business! When everything else is as it should be, then the fruit will come in its season! *John 15:1-5*

VI. WE SEE THE BLESSED MAN'S PERPETUITY!

"...his leaf also shall not wither..."

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The **BLESSED BELIEVER** is like an evergreen. He is consistently showing outside, the **LIFE** that is on the inside! **CHRIST'S LIFE!**

Our lives should be lives of **CONSISTENCY!**

As **BELIEVERS**, we are called on to be a **STABLE, FAITHFUL,** and **DEPENDABLE** people!

1 Corinthians 15:58—"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

The **BLESSED BELIEVER** is consistent. The storms of life are unable to knock him off course as others because his life is **ROOTED** in **CHRIST!**

Colossians 2:5-7- "5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. 6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: 7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."

I thank the **LORD** for the consistent people he put in my life!

VII. WE SEE THE BLESSED MAN'S PROSPERITY!

"...and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." (Cf. Joshua 1:8)

In other words, the **BLESSED BELIEVER** will be **BLESSED** with **SUCCESS!** His personal life, his family life, his business life, his **CHURCH** life, his **SPIRITUAL** life will all be **BLESSED** of the **LORD!**

That isn't to say that there won't be storms that come and try to uproot him! But the **BLESSED BELIEVER** will remain planted in the place of **BLESSING** with the **LORD** until the storms are over! In fact, the storms that do come strengthen him against other storms that may come his way!

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CONCLUSION

Do you possess the characteristics of the **BLESSED BELIEVER**?
Is your **DELIGHT** the **LORD'S WORD**? Is that what you **MEDITATE** on?

That word **BLESSED** in *verse 1* actually means, "*Oh how very, very happy!*"
I hope you are happy in **JESUS** tonight! I hope that you have intentionally
planted your life in the place of the **LORD'S BLESSING** and can see and are
encouraged about your **WALK** with the **LORD** and how it is **PROSPERING**
your life!

You see, it is possible to be **SUCCESSFUL FOR THE LORD** and know it
without being self-righteous!

However, if you see yourself lacking in some of these areas we've talked
about, then **JESUS** stands ready, willing and able to help you make those
things right once again.

Let's take whatever steps are necessary to see that our lives are **BLESSED**
and therefore **GLORIFYING to GOD!**