

Evening Sermon Outline – August 1, 2021

“The A, B, C’s of Blessings...” Psalm 112

Count your many blessings -

As the majority of mankind expect to prosper by evil deeds, and as they generally endeavor to enrich themselves by plunder, fraud, and every species of injustice, the prophet enumerates the blessings of God which attend those who worship him in purity, in order that we may know that, in aiming at a life of piety and morality, we shall not lose our reward.

John Calvin

I. Our Lord, the LORD deserves praise for all of our blessings!

1 Praise the LORD! Psalm 112:1 A (NKJV)

II. The fear of the LORD, which is the beginning of wisdom, is also the beginning of Blessings -

... Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, Who delights greatly in His commandments. Psalm 112:1 B (NKJV)

From verse 1 the features of character which mark the true fearer of God are noticed, carrying us back to verse 10 of Psalm 111.

It is Messiah who exhibits these in perfection; he is “mighty,”

גִּבּוֹר, far above that conqueror mentioned in Gen. 10:8.

Andrew Bonar

True obedience is not task-work, as formalists regard religion, but a “delight” A. R. Fausset

III. His blessings tend to extend to his children –

2 His descendants will be mighty on earth; The generation of the upright will be blessed. Psalm 112:2 (NKJV)

This is the benefit that extends to the children of those who keep God’s commands ...

4 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; ⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Exodus 20:4-6

IV. Wealth and riches, material or spiritual –

3 Wealth and riches will be in his house, Psalm 112:3 A (NKJV)

V. Enduring righteousness, eternal righteousness –

3 And his righteousness endures forever. Psalm 112:3 B (NKJV)

Some connect the first part of verse :3, with this second part, and also verse :5, he has wealth and riches in his house, he deals graciously and lends, yet he never lacks righteousness or wealth, in giving he gains!

Verse 3.—“Wealth and riches shall be in his house, and his righteousness endures for ever.” He is not the worse for his wealth, nor drawn aside by the deceitfulness of riches, which yet is hard and happy.—John Trapp.

VI. Light in a dark and sinful world -

4 Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness; Psalm 112:4 A (NKJV)

Verse 4.—“Light.” “Darkness.” While we are on earth, we are subject to a threefold “darkness”; the darkness of error, the darkness of sorrow, and the darkness of death. To dispel these, God visits us, by His Word, with a threefold “light”; the light of truth, the light of comfort, and the light of life.—George Horne.

VII. Because he is close to God, the godly man is a blessing to others -

He is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous. A good man deals graciously and lends; Psalm 112:4 B – 5 A

Verse 4.—“Gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous”—attributes usually applied to *God*, but here said of “*the upright*.” The children of *God*, knowing in their own experience that *God* our Father is “gracious, full of compassion, and righteous,” seek themselves to be the same towards their fellow men from instinctive imitation of him (Matt. 5:45, 48; Eph. 5:8; Luke 6:36).—*A. R. Fausset*.

Verse 5.—“Lends.” The original word here, לָוָה, *lavah*, means to join oneself to any one; to cleave to him; then to form the union which is constituted between debtor and creditor, borrower and lender. Here it is used in the latter sense, and it means that a good man will accommodate another—a neighbor—with money, or with articles to be used temporarily and returned again. A man who always *borrow*s is not a desirable neighbor; but a man who never lends—who never is willing to accommodate—is a neighbor that no one would wish to live near—a crooked, perverse, bad man. True religion will always dispose a man to do acts of kindness in any and every way possible.—*Albert Barnes*.

VIII. *Because led by God he conducts his affairs wisely - ...He will guide his affairs with discretion. Psalm 112:5 B (NKJV)*

IX. *His life is stable in all circumstances - 6 Surely he will never be shaken; Psalm 112:6 A (NKJV)*

Verse 7 (*first clause*).—The good man will not be alarmed by any report of danger, whilst the dishonest man, conscious of his wickedness, is always in a state of fear.—*George Phillips*.

X. *He is (They) are remembered by God and men - ... The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance. Psalm 112:6 B (NKJV)*

¹⁰ **For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. Hebrews 6:10**

XI. *He is fearless as He knows God is with him - 7 He will not be afraid of evil tidings; His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD. 8 His heart is established; He will not be afraid, Until he sees his desire upon his enemies. Psalm 112:7-8 (NKJV)*

Verse 8.—“*His heart is established*.” Happy, surely, is the man whose heart is thus established. Others may be politic, he only is wise; others may be fortunate, he only is great; others may drink deeper draughts of sensual pleasure, he only can eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of *God*. He is an image of that great Being whom he trusts ... and in the midst of storms, and thunders, and earthquakes sits himself serene and undisturbed, bidding the prostrate world adore the Lord of the universe.—*George Gleig*, 1803.

XII. *He is generous beyond his family and friends - He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; Psalm 112:9 A (NKJV)*

XIII. *His righteousness endures, because it is God's, though He humbles himself, he is exalted - His righteousness endures forever; His horn will be exalted with honor. Psalm 112:9 B (NKJV)*

XIV. *The wicked are jealous of the righteous, their way is condemned, they have NO BLESSINGS -*

¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be grieved; He will gnash his teeth and melt away; The desire of the wicked shall perish. Psalm 112:1-10 (NKJV)**

Verse 10.—“*The wicked shall see it and be grieved*,” etc.—The sight of *Christ* in glory with his saints, will, in an inexpressible manner torment the crucifiers of the One, and the persecutors of the other; as it will show them the hopes and wishes of their adversaries all granted to the full, and all their own “desires” and designs forever at an end; it will excite envy which must prey upon itself, produce a grief which can admit of no comfort, give birth to a worm which can never die, and blow up those fires which nothing can quench.—*George Horne*.

Arnold Brevick