

Beatitudes
What The Bible Teaches About Being Blessed

BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO OBEYS

Text: Psalm 112:1

Introduction:

1. “Where the word *blessed* is hung out as a sign, we may be sure that we shall find a godly man within.” - *Sir Richard Baker*
2. Biblically, the word “blessed” refers to those whose sufficiency comes from God and not from the circumstances of life.
3. The “blessed” are those who inherit the promise made to Abraham by conforming to God’s Will and being added to the body of Christ.
4. This lesson focuses on several beatitudes that emphasize the importance of obeying the Law of God.
 - a. Obedience begins with an attitude of reverence for God.
 - b. The obedient find joy in keeping God’s Word.
5. The theme throughout this lesson will be Revelation 1:3 – “*Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.*”

I. Blessed Are the Readers

- A. The phrase “he that readeth” refers to the public reader of Scripture.
 1. Often in the early church, letters were written to one specific congregation.
 2. When the letter was received and the church was assembled, someone would read the letter aloud publicly.
 3. These inspired letters were then passed around to other congregations to be read and studied (Colossians 4:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:27).
- B. It is important for God’s Word to be read publicly and aloud.
- C. It is also important for the Bible to be read privately.
 1. Paul says that by reading the Bible we may come to understand the will of God (Ephesians 3:2-4).
 2. Paul commands that Christians are to put their minds to the work of reading Scripture (1 Timothy 4:13).
- D. Those who will be pleasing to God are individuals who spend time reading His Word.

II. Blessed Are the Hearers

- A. When the Word of God is read publicly, those who hear it are also blessed.
- B. It is important to hear the Word of God.
 1. Hearing God’s Word brings wisdom (Proverbs 8:33-34).
 2. Hearing God’s Word brings faith (Romans 10:17).
 3. Hearing God’s Word brings guidance (John 10:3).
 4. Hearing God’s Word brings forgiveness (Matthew 18:16; Jn. 5:24).
- C. Those who will be pleasing to God are individuals who hear His Word.

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III. Blessed Are the Keepers

- A. As important as reading and hearing God's Word are, they are useless without a willingness to obey what has been read or heard.
- B. It is important to keep the Word of God.
 - 1. Obedience requires the whole heart (Psalm 119:1-2).
 - 2. Obedience is keeping God's commands (Proverbs 8:32-34; Luke 11:28).
 - 3. Obedience is a way of life (cf. Psalm 128:1).
 - 4. Obedience makes one undefiled.
- C. To hear and not obey the Word of God brings condemnation.
 - 1. Deception (James 1:21-25).
 - 2. Destruction (Matthew 7:21-27).
- D. To hear and obey the Word of God brings salvation (Revelation 22:7, 14).

Conclusion:

- 1. Are you a reader?
- 2. Are you a hearer?
- 3. Are you a keeper?
- 4. The blessed man is obedient to the Word of God.