THE BLESSED MAN

OUR GOD AND HIS CHILDREN

**DATE: 7/3/2011 am**

**TEXT: Psalm 1**

**INTRODUCTION**

As we begin our look at the Book of Psalms

We will begin with a look at the first Psalm (obvious)

It’s though God has given us a preface for the entire Book

In the first Psalm we are given a foundation on which to place all the other psalms

When we hold the Bible in our hands, we hold the most wonderful Book known to man

It is one Book, with one Author, the Holy Spirit

Men were the instruments that were used to pen the Words,

But it is the Book that God wrote

Men were moved along by God the Holy Spirit to pen the Words as He revealed His Words to them

**II Timothy 3:16 – *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”***

The Scriptures were given by inspiration of God

The Bible is divided into the Old and New Testaments

And when we open the Old Testament we find it also divided up

First there are the first 5 Books called the Pentateuch

These deal with Creation and Israel’s beginnings

Moses was the human penman for these first 5 Books

These 5 Books are followed by 12 Historical Books

After the 12 Historical Books we have *the heart of the OT*

These are the 5 Books written in poetical form –

Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon

On the other side of these 5 Books are the Major Prophets

And we finish the OT with the 12 Books of the Minor Prophets

As we look into the heart of the Old Testament at the Five Poetic Books …

We find that these books do not deal with the great national issues of Israel or some other country

But with the Heart Issues of Mankind

Note the very first expression

***“Blessed is the Man”***

In this first Psalm, God gives us (in the first 3 vs.) a portrait of the Blessed Man

Who is the Blessed Man?

The blessed man is the man that God Honors and Blesses

Do you desire to be a Blessed man?

I don’t know about you, but I want to live my life with God’s Blessing and Honor on it

Satan will use anything to distract us

I pray that we won’t be side-tracked by anything that will keep us from being the Blessed Man that God desires for us to be

It’s a wonder, but yet a joy, that God desired to Bless us

Yet, as we read our Bibles and come to the life of Abraham

God tells Abraham – ***“I will bless thee”***

God made His promise, His covenant (solemn agreement that is binding) to Bless his life

It OK for us to desire to be Blessed of God

I want my life Blessed, because I know if my life is Blessed, then –

My wife will be Blessed because of my life

My children will be Blessed because of my life

**Proverbs 20:7 – *“The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him”***

This church will be Blessed because of my life

**Acts 9:31 – *“Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied”***

For these reasons I want to be a Blessed Man!

Let’s pray and then look at 3 Great Truths about –

***“The Blessed Man”*** as found in **Psalm 1**

**~~~Prayer~~~**

**I. THE “PROHIBITIONS” - v.1**

If we want to be blessed, then there are certain **Prohibitions** that are given to us

*Prohibitions* - *the act or process of forbidding something*

Most modernist don’t like the idea of anything negative

But God says that there are some things that we are forbidden to do **IF** we are to be blessed

In the 20th chapter of the Book of Exodus we find one of the most important passages in the entire Bible

Guess what? It’s a list of Prohibitions (And they’re called …)

**A. The Ten Commandments**

The Bible says in **Exodus 20:1-3 –**

***“And God spake all these words, saying,”
“I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage”
“Thou shalt have no other gods before me”***

All 3 vs. are really the first of **the Ten Commandments**

But we usually quote only the 3rd verse

Which says - ***“Thou shalt have no other gods before me”***

In **v. 4a** we read ***– “Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image,”***

We continue in **v.7a – *“Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;”***

**V.8** reads –***“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy”***

**V.12a – *“Honour thy father and thy mother:”***

**Vs. 13- 17a** declare **– *“Thou shalt not kill” “Thou shalt not commit adultery” “Thou shalt not steal” …***

***… “Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour” “Thou shalt not covet”***

Did you notice the Prohibitions in these verses?

We need to understand that this is the Word of God

And that God has given certain Prohibitions to Man

**B. The Prohibitions Preached**

There are just certain things we cannot do if we want to be Blessed of God

There are things our eyes cannot look upon

There are things we cannot Read

There are Places we cannot go

There are certain things we should not say

There are certain things we cannot take into our bodies

That is, if we want to be Blessed by God

God as Prohibited us from doing certain things **if** we want to be Blessed

**C. Our Text**

We find 3 truths here about these “**Prohibitions”** if we are to become a Blessed people

***“Blessed is the man” -***

**1. *“that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly”***

The Blessed man does not seek the counsel of the ungodly

**2. *“nor standeth in the way of sinners,”***

The way sinners are going is not the way the Blessed man should be going

We do not stand with these people

We’re not to be interested in their godless life styles

**3. *“nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful”***

Notice the digression

First we are walking, then we stop to stand and watch, then before you know it we are sitting down with the ungodly

At this point there is no difference between the two

The Example of Peter at the trial of Jesus

**D. The Application**

Let’s apply this to where we live and work

If there are people in your place of business who have already identified themselves as people who have no regard for God …

And you desire to be a Blessed man, than we need to obey these **Prohibitions**

You should not walk, stand or sit with them …

Or be identified in any way with them and their ungodliness

Have compassion on them, witness to them, seek to bring them to Christ

But do not lose your testimony with them!

If we begin to walk and stand with them, then before you know it, you will be sitting with them

Talking just like they talk and behaving the way they behave

The Blessed man has certain **“Prohibitions”** in his life

If we participate with sinners in their sinful behavior

We will never be a Blessed Man!

**THE “PROHIBITIONS”**

**II. THE “PECULIARITIES” – vs. 2, 3**

The Blessed Man has some things that are **“Peculiar”** to him

These are **Peculiarities**, not in the sense that he is *odd*

But because he is *Different*

**I Peter 4:4 – *“Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot…”***

But rather -

**I Peter 2:9 – *“… ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light:”***

**Titus 2:14 – *“Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works”***

The Blessed Man is not like everyone else out there

He has been *transformed*

**Romans 12:2 – *“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God”***

He is changed from the inside out

**V. 4** says that ***“The ungodly are not so”***

There is a definite difference

Notice the word ***“But”*** in **v.2** (this is a transition)

Going from the negative to the positive

Notice what the Bible says about these **“Peculiarities”**

First the **Blessed Man**

**A. ‘Delights’ in God’s Word**

**1.** The Blessed Man is identified as a believer because -

***“…his delight is in the Law of the LORD;”***

He loves God’s Word

He is guided in all he does by the Bible

The standard of God’s Word is his standard

Turn with me to **Psalm 37:1-4**

**2.** As we delight in the Lord,

The Lord places the desires in our hearts we need to have for His name’s sake

We begin to desire from God what He already desires for us

The Apostle Paul wrote in **Philippians 2:13**

***“For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure”***

***“to will”*** means to *desire*

The wonder of it all is not that we are serving God

The wonder of it all is that we even “desire” to serve God

God places this desire in our hearts when we delight in His Word

What a transforming truth it is to desire from God what He already desires for us!

In **Psalm 1** the Bible says that **the Blessed Man** not only

‘**Delights’ in the Law of the Lord**

But, he also -

**B. ‘Meditates’ in God’s Word**

***“and in His law doth he meditate day and night”***

**Joshua 1:8**

The **Blessed Man** meditates on the Word of God

***Meditate*** – to think carefully, seriously about something for some time

He muses over the Word of God (deep thought)

He puts the Word of God in his heart, that he might recall it later

King David said in **Psalm 119:11 – *“Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee”***

**TRUTH –** Did you every stop to realize that you can be busy serving God and Not be a Blessed Man?

You can be in every service and Not be a Blessed Man

If you are not thinking on God’s Word, you are Not a Blessed Man!

According to this Psalm **the Blessed Man**

‘**Delights’ in the Law of the Lord**

**‘Meditates’ in God’s Word**

And -

**C. He is ‘Planted’ in God’s Word**

 **1.** He is ***“like a tree that is planted”***

Occasionally we see a tree growing that no one planted

The seed somehow was deposited, and it just started growing

But the **Blessed Man** is not that way

God says that he is like a *planted tree*

His life has purpose and design

It is God’s purpose and design

**2.** The Blessed Man is not only *planted*

But he is also ***“planted by the rivers of water”***

Certainly Jesus is the Water of Life

**John 4:10 –** the ***“living water”***

Therefore, Jesus is the River

**3.** The **Blessed Man** also –

***“bringeth forth his fruit in his season;”***

He is a fruitful man

**John 15:1, 2 – *“I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman”
“Every branch in Me that beareth not fruit He taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit”***

It’s possible to be active but not fruitful

It’s possible to be involved but not fruitful

Not every tree in an orchard bears fruit

The **Blessed Man** is fruitful

**4.** We close out **v. 3** with –

***“his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper”***

I would like to have this promise fulfilled in my life

That whatsoever I do will prosper

If we study the word ***“prosper”*** in its context here …

We see that it means much more then material advantage

This is not a way to riches, but a way to God’s blessing on our lives

The **Blessed Man** has certain **“Prohibitions”**

There are things he cannot do

God says, “Don’t do that if you want to be Blessed”

God also says that there are certain things that are **“Peculiar”** to the **Blessed Man**

God gives a list, and when we get near the end of the list He says -

*“Whatsoever he does will prosper” “You are going to see My hand on him”*

Then lastly we see –

**III. THE “PROMISE” - vs. 4-6**

**A. *“The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away”* – v.4**

The chaff is the wasted part of the grain

In the winnowing process, the chaff is taken away by the wind

The Bible compares the ungodly to this chaff

The ungodly would love to be rid of the Christian

But what they don’t understand is that if it weren’t for the Christian the *“Judgment of God”* would have already fallen

When the wheat is taken away, the chaff better watch out

We see that the ungodly are ***“like the chaff which the wind driveth away”***

**B. *“Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous”
“For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish”* - vs. 5, 6**

There is no doubt that the only light the ungodly have is the little light they have here

They are going to hell

The only brightness, the only day, the only joy the ungodly have is what they can glean from this world

The Bible says they are going to perish

**CONCLUSION**

Notice carefully the promise God makes to the **Blessed Man**

***“The LORD knoweth the way of the righteous”***

This is His promise to us

God knows where we are, and He knows our path

God know exactly where we are on that path at any given moment

The promise is that God knows the way of the righteous

In **Job 23: 1-9** we find Job under a terrible burden

It’s as though he cannot find God,

He needs God, but he cannot seem to get hold of him

He says – *“I’m trying to find God. I need Him. Where is He”*

Then in **v.10** we read – ***“But He knoweth the way that I take: when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold”***

***“For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous:”***

From my view, sometimes I have thought, *“How can I go on?”*

But from God’s view for the **Blessed Man**, God is saying –

*“Don’t fret or worry. I know where you are. Everything is under control. I’m going to see you though. I know the way”*

**THE “PROHIBITIONS”**

**THE “PECULIARITIES”**

**THE “PROMISES”**