

# The Forgotten Art of Blessing

July 3, 2021

(Numbers 6:23-27; Romans 12; Genesis 1:1-3 and 12:1-3; Luke 6:27-31)

## The Forgotten Art of Blessing

### The **Master** Artist's Plan

Numbers 6:22-27

<sup>22</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>23</sup>"Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them: <sup>24</sup>""The LORD bless you and keep you; <sup>25</sup>the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; <sup>26</sup>the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.'" <sup>27</sup>"So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

### What should we notice about blessing in this passage? (This is God's voice)

- Blessing... **BLESS**
- Security... **KEEP**
- Intimacy... **SHINING FACE... GRACE**
- Calm, worry-free... **PEACE**
- Intimacy with God..."I" The VOICE of God!

### Why would God establish a **rhythm** of blessing?

- We need it...
- We forget to bless...
- We forget we are blessed...
- Lots of cursing...

### The **Forgotten** Art

Luke 6:27-28

<sup>27</sup>"But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>**bless those who curse you**, pray for those who mistreat you.

### How do you understand this in our **conflicted** world?

## The Picture is Marred

Romans 12:14-16

<sup>14</sup> **Bless** those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

**Why do we often respond out of our natural frustration and not supernatural grace?**

## Reclaiming God's Good Gift

Genesis 1:1-5

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.*

Genesis 12:1-3

*The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. <sup>2</sup> "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and **all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.**"*

**Who can you begin to bless in words and actions?**

## Becoming an Artist

Numbers 6:22-27

<sup>22</sup> The LORD said to Moses, <sup>23</sup> "Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:

<sup>24</sup> "'The LORD bless you  
and keep you;

<sup>25</sup> the LORD make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you;

<sup>26</sup> the LORD turn his face toward you  
and give you peace.'

<sup>27</sup> "So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

**How could your home, neighborhood, work place, church, and everywhere you go change if you consistently bless others in the name of Jesus?**

