

Text: Psalm 112

Title: The Blessing of the Righteous

Date: July 6, 2025

Read Text

Intro: In the workplace there are employers and employees. Now an employer and employee may have a very cordial and friendly relationship, but ultimately there must be payment for services rendered. If a worker can't fulfill the job requirements or if the employer can't pay the salary, the relationship dissolves.

When you read this Psalm, it could be and often has been, taken like an employer employee relationship. On the surface it sounds like a man's (this includes women and children) obligation is to do right, act right, be right and God's obligation is to bless him.

If you have had an interest in knowing God the Father, Son, and Spirit for very long, you have likely run into confusing, disappointing situations in life. Often our response is "What did I do wrong to end up here?" Or things may go well and we casually say, "I must have done something good to deserve this. If you have been here for a few months, you know this isn't true, but often emotionally and secretly, we view God this way.

Thesis: Those in Christ receive the blessings given to Jesus, the righteous man.

Trans: Let's take up what the Psalm says. It tells us this righteous man is blessed, so

I. Be righteous.

A. Judicially, before God, in Christ the righteous one. See how Jesus is righteous:

1. Fears the Lord and delights in his commands. V1

Is. 11:2-3 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

Ps 1. On his law he meditates day and night. With sermon on mount.

2. Gracious, merciful, just. Vv 4b, 5b.

Jn. 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. Grace and mercy satisfying justice.

3. Generous. Vv. 5a, 9a.

Consider Jesus' generosity: Feeding 5k and 4k, In preaching and healing thus he sends the apostles, saying "Freely you have received. Freely give." In his ascension and the gift of the Holy Spirit – Eph 4:8 "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives and he gave gifts to men.

Jesus is the sinless righteous one. He fulfilled all God's commands completely in heart, mind and action.

Yet Romans 3 says about us: There is no one righteous, not even one. Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by observing the law. Yet now a righteousness from God, apart from law, to which the law and prophets testify has been made known. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

Do you get the wonder of this? If you have true trust in Jesus, God has given you the gift of righteousness. He has declared you forever righteous in his sight. It is the righteous record of Jesus' obedience, freely given to those who believe.

Applic: Do you believe that today? Tests: Peace, joy, progressive release from guilt and shame. A heart of peace, joy, and mercy gives rise to a tongue controlled by grace. Boasting, complaining, gossiping, defending.

B. Progressively by the Spirit like Christ

If you have true faith, you have the Holy Spirit. This is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Often 3 steps forward and 2 steps back. Fighting with sin, God is making you like Jesus. You are delighting in God's law, growing in a gracious, merciful and just life, abounding in generosity. Moment by moment turning to Christ for power, offering yourself as a living sacrifice.

Illus: King David and 2 Chronicles 7

Trans: In Christ we are forever declared righteous and are being made more like Christ, so ...

II. Be blessed.

A. Like Jesus the blessed one. Let's consider the blessings listed as given to Jesus.

1. His offspring are blessed! V 2 Well Jesus wasn't married and didn't have children. So how does THE righteous one receive this blessing? Is. 53:10 Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. You are the children of God through his work! Through him you are born into the family of God.

2. Light in darkness. Jesus, the light of the world, went into the darkness of death and the tomb but was brought to life and endless light.

3. A fearless, steady heart confident of triumph.

Jesus experience of this was not without difficulty and suffering. Luke 12: 50 "I have a baptism to be baptized with and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!" In the garden. Father, take this cup. Yet with a steadfast, fearless heart. "Not my will but your will be done."

4. His righteousness endures forever. Jesus work has eternal significance.

B. Like Jesus your blessings are already/not yet.

1. Offspring
2. Light
3. Fearless heart. The righteous are as bold as a lion, but the wicked flee when no one pursues.
4. Eternal significance.

Summary: Are you in an Employer – Employee relationship which depends on your performance? Or are you in Christ, declared righteous, growing in his likeness and blessed now and forever?

Worksheet

The righteous, upright man who fears the LORD, who delights in his commands, who is gracious, merciful, generous, and just is blessed by God.

What are these blessings? Wealth and riches. Light in times of darkness. Fearless trust in the Lord in times of trouble. Honor and a place in history.

The wicked respond in anger and perish. Note gnashing of teeth.

Lazarus