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Psalm 112

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Bible
at Home

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Psalm 112.

Topics.

- Blessed are those who fear the LORD.
- Wealth and riches are in God's house, His righteousness endures.
- The righteous who conduct their affairs with justice will endure forever.
- The wicked see the lack of fear in the righteous; their desire perishes.

FOR INFORMATION: concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

INTRODUCTION

Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they cover the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

BOOK FIVE (PSALM 107-150)

PSALM 112:1

Blessed are those who Fear the LORD.

- **Psalm 112:1:** Praise the LORD! Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in his commandments!

The fear of the LORD has the following two aspects:

- 1 An eternal aspect: wisdom teaches that mankind is separated from God because of sin and without God a person has no hope of eternal life and will be judged accordingly. The fear of the LORD in this context is wisdom because it motivates a person to seek God and eternal life.
- 2 An aspect for the present moment: the fear of the LORD in the present moment motivates mankind to obey God's Ten Commandments which are all designed to protect the innocent from harm, physically, financially, sexually, verbally, emotionally and spiritually. The fear of the LORD in this context is also wisdom because if everyone feared the LORD humanity would live in harmony with each other. Sadly, there is very little fear of the LORD in the world today and so we see rampant rebellion, violence, crime and wars in most countries.

The fear of God and Christians: those in Christ look to the bloodstained cross of Calvary and understand and experience Christ's great love and God's grace in their hearts and minds and no longer act from fear, but from love in the same way that a man in love with a woman does not do things to please her from fear, but from the love dwelling in his heart. Likewise, it is with the faithful who belong to the Lord's global family.

PSALM 112:2-4

Wealth and Riches are in God's House, His Righteousness Endures.

- **Psalm 112:2-4:** His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. ³Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever. ⁴Light dawns in the darkness for the upright; he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.

His offspring will be mighty in the land (v2) clearly this would have been true for Israel had they done what was right before God, but rather than doing what was right their religious leaders plotted the murder of their Messiah the Christ the Son of God and Saviour of the world. But this does not mean that the statement, "His offspring will be mighty in the land" is a false statement, since the true offspring are not those born of the flesh, but all those of the Old Testament who had the faith of Abraham and were faithful to God and all (Jews and Gentiles) who have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and trust in him for their righteousness and not in their own self-righteousness or in adhering to ceremonial rites, holy days or religious customs and traditions. The ultimate fulfilment of the words, "His offspring will be mighty in the land," will be perfectly fulfilled when Christ returns in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords to gather to himself the true offspring and establish God's kingdom of righteousness, justice joy and peace on earth.

His righteousness endures forever: (v3) the word righteousness in the Old Testament comes from the Hebrew word (*tsedaqah*) and means *rightness (justice)*, moral (*virtue*) and from the Hebrew word (*tsadaq*) which means to make morally right, to cleanse, justify and be turned toward righteousness. In the New Testament it comes from the Greek word (*dikaioisune*) and means to be innocent and holy (i.e., godly, pure and faithful) and to be just and fair in character.

To be counted righteous by God: means whoever by faith trusts in the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation to eternal life is counted righteousness not because of their righteousness, but because of Jesus righteousness.

To live a lifestyle of righteousness: means doing what is right and good; doing all things from a spirit of love; living a lifestyle that honours God and brings a good testimony to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Christian faith. It means living to fulfil Jesus command to love our neighbour as ourselves, meaning do-good and not harm. When the word righteous is used in regards to mankind it does not mean without sin, When the Bible uses the term, righteous or blameless in regards to humans it means the person in focus is a decent person who does not deliberately harm other humans physically, financially, sexually, emotionally or spiritually. A righteous person helps the poor and does what is right and good before God. We know references in Scripture and the call to the faithful to live a lifestyle of righteousness does not mean being without sin, because the entire Bible teaches that there has only ever been one man who walked on earth without sin before God and his name was the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Lamb without blemish. Added to this if it was possible for us to attain to the glorious state of living without sin Christ died for no reason. Today we don't use the word righteousness, in regards to human behaviour, when we see someone who is kind, honest and giving and treats others with respect and decency we simply say, "They are a decent and honest person." As one travels through the Scriptures it becomes clear that the word righteousness in regards to human behaviour not only embraces all the pillars of God's throne, but is also the foundation of what His Kingdom is built upon. These pillars and foundation stones are:

- Love and holiness.
- Righteousness (meaning doing what is right and good).
- Justice and mercy.
- Grace and longsuffering.
- Joy and peace.

These pillars and foundation stones embrace honesty, moral virtue, integrity truthfulness, fairness for all and kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control (Gal. 5:22). These are the foundation stones and pillars of God's throne which means that all who belong to His Kingdom should do all they can to make them the foundation stones and pillars of their life. (Psalm 89:14) (Psalm 97:2).

Light dawns in the darkness for the upright: (v4) the following verses show that this statement not only applies to the faithful in God's Kingdom, but also to the repent sinner:

- For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless (perfect in KJV) toward him. (2 Chron. 16:9).
- The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry. (Psalm 34:15).
- The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. (Proverbs 15:3).

God's eyes are forever roaming the earth seeking good hearts and those who by looking at the wonders of creation and the many varieties of life upon the earth, in the skies and in the oceans and the heavenly host, the sun, moon, stars, milky way and the awesome beauty of the billions of other celestial planets in the heavens are humbled at their smallness in the midst of such an awesome and endless universe and by such things believe there is a God who created all things, but as yet haven't heard any teaching concerning Him. Some have the idea that everyone who does not believe in God is a wicked person, but this is not true, certainly we are all sinners no matter how good our behaviour, but not all are wicked. Many who have not heard the message of the bloodstained cross of Calvary and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ do amazing acts of kindness and charity toward others and many even give their lives to helping the less fortunate and helpless. Others in countries where God's word is not as available as it is in Western world look to the heavens and creation and hear their silent testimony of God's greatness and His glory and believe.

- The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. ²Day to day they utter out speech, and night to night reveals and shows knowledge. ³There is no speech, nor language, where their voice is not heard. ⁴Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. (Psalm 19:1-4).

Upon this simple faith and limited knowledge, they live a lifestyle of goodness before God. Based upon the universal principal, "To those who are given much, much is expected, but to those who have little, little is expected," I am certain at the second resurrection (called the second death) when the sea and the grave give up the dead to stand before God at the Great White Throne Judgment many will be judged according to the light of God they were given and the lifestyle they lived before Him. For further information concerning the Great White Throne Judgment, see the title:

- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.

In Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU)

PSALM 112:5-9

The Righteous who Conduct Affairs with Justice will Endure.

- **Psalm 112:5-9:** It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice. ⁶For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever. ⁷He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD. ⁸His heart

is steady; he will not be afraid, until he looks in triumph on his adversaries. ⁹He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever; his horn is exalted in honor.

The righteous is not afraid of bad news: (v7) troubles and hardships, grief's and sorrows come to all whether a person is a faithful Christian or an unbeliever. The following verses shine a spotlight upon this truth, Jesus said:

- God makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. (Matt. 5:45).
- Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it. (Matt. 7:24-29)

These verses show that no one whether Christian or not is guaranteed of living a life free of troubles and hardships, grief's and sorrows. The following words of Job and Habakkuk shine a spotlight upon the truth of this statement, even though Job suffered great affliction his attitude was:

- Though he slays me, yet will I trust in him (Job 13:15).

Habakkuk begins his prayer saying, "Even though his body trembles at the power of the LORD and he feels weak and feeble because of the enemies who are coming to invade his land, he will quietly wait for the day of trouble." He then ends his prayer with the following great words of faith.

- Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, ¹⁸yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. ¹⁹GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places. (Hab. 3:17-19).

Job and Habakkuk made the LORD their fortress and refuge by making him their greatest love, their best thought and the passion of their heart and mind and rested in the knowledge that if everything fails in this life they would be raised to be with the Lord in eternal glory where happiness everlasting dwells and while living in this life rested in the confidence and faith that the Lord was with them by his Spirit, his love and his grace.

A PERSONAL NOTE

I have seen a man born with no legs and no arms, (Nick Vujicic) who to the natural mind would appear a mistake made by God, but this man lived his life before God worshipped him and kept a right attitude as did David, Job and Habakkuk. He is an amazing testimony to the Lord Jesus Christ and went on to become one of the world's greatest motivational speakers. He is an encouragement to hundreds of thousands of people who are suffering their own difficult circumstances. I have heard testimonies of teenage girls who have suffered absolute horror, terror and abuse find the love of God and go on to become the source of comfort to many hurting girls in similar circumstances and help them live a life of mental and emotional freedom and joy. We may not all reach hundreds of people, but if we take the right attitude to difficult circumstance, we can all be an amazing testimony to God and to those who know us. While on this side of eternity no-one is exempt from trouble and difficulty, it is the attitude and who we go through it with that makes the difference. God does not promise freedom from trouble but He does promise comfort, love and strength to cope and grow from it.

The wicked see the Lack of Fear in the Righteous.

- **Psalm 112:10:** The wicked man sees it and is angry; he gnashes his teeth and melts away; the desire of the wicked will perish!

The wicked is angry when they see the righteous:

- Having no fear in the face of bad news.
- Triumphant over their adversaries.
- Being honoured, exalted and remembered forever.
- Their own desires and dreams perishing.

This Psalm shines a spotlight upon the truth that the character of a righteous person is one who is:

- Gracious and merciful and deals honestly and fairly in all that they do.
- Conduct all their affairs with justice.
- Are willing to share their wealth and lend freely and give to the poor.
- Do fear bad news, because they trust in the Lord and that their life is in God's sovereign hands.

Following are the blessings of the righteous:

- Their offspring will be mighty in the land and they will be blessed (v2).
- Wealth and riches will be in their house and they will have insight into the things of the LORD (v3-4).
- They will not be afraid of bad news or shaken by the strength of their enemies, but instead exalted in honor and remembered forever (v6-8).

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Certainly, these verses are true for the faithful of the Old Testament and for many who belong to God today, but they are not fully true for every faithful brother and sister today who belongs to the global Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. The reason they are fully true for the faithful of the Old Testament is because all Israel at Mount Sinai entered into a covenant of blessings and curses with the LORD. Providing Israel did what was right before the LORD and obeyed God's laws the covenant promised the people of Israel that:

- They would be God's treasured possession and be to Him a kingdom of priests and a holy nation (Exodus 19:5-8).
- God would prosper their health, their land, their homes, their farms, their livestock and all they put their hand to do and make them the head of all nations and not the tail.

But if Israel broke the covenant and turned to other gods to worship them the covenant promised the people of Israel that:

- God would bring all sorts of sicknesses and plaques upon them and their cities and their livestock and lay waste their land.
- God would bring ruin to their homes, their crops, their farms and all they put their hand to and had established and they would become the tail of all nations and not the head.

This means that if Israel obeyed the covenant and remained faithful to God, He would bless their health and materialistically bless them in every other way possible. No enemy would ever defeat them and everything they did would abundantly prosper. (The blessing and curses are in Deut. 28). Christians have not entered into any such covenant, nor has God made to them the same promises. The promises made to Christians today is that they will be counted righteous not by adhering to ceremonial rites, holy days or by keeping religious customs and traditions, but by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and God's grace. He promises to shower the faithful daily with His saving grace despite the sinful dysfunctions and aberrations that dwell within and count them righteous not because of their own works or self-righteousness, but because of Christ's righteousness.

God's promised blessings to Christians today is His love and comfort and His forgiveness, mercy, grace and the promise of eternal life in everlasting glory, because of our faith in His Son the Lord Jesus Christ. There are no promises in the New Covenant of grace that promise the faithful they will be abundantly blessed with worldly riches, material possessions and a life free of hardships and troubles, sorrow and griefs. Being a devoted, passionate and faithful Christian does not guarantee a charmed and blessed life, but it does guarantee, God will fill the heart with His love, His comfort, His strength and His grace and guarantees when we are raised from the grave to stand before the Lord Jesus Christ in glory we will hear the words of our Master, King and Saviour say:

- Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master. (Matt. 25:21). (Matt. 25:23).

A warning to all earth-dwellers: the fact God turns Israel's fruitful land into barren waste because of their wickedness should be a warning to all earth dwellers. It is a principal of God that the further mankind denies His existence and His ways the further He removes His hand of blessing and the more the earth and those who dwell upon it suffer. Today our schools teach our children evolution as a scientific truth and this teaching denies the existence of God. Added to this, wars, rape, violence, murders and theft is common today, young teenage girls are sold as sex slaves amongst most nations world-wide and drugs are globally rampant. When mankind denies their creator and turns from His ways to do their own thing all creation and every living thing under the sun suffers. The ultimate fulfillment of the words, "The wicked man sees it and is angry; he gnashes his teeth (v10) will be perfectly fulfilled when the Lord Jesus Christ returns to gather the faithful to himself and judges and rejects the wicked, it is then that the wicked will gnash their teeth and melt away, because all their desires and dreams will perish in a moment (v10).

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
