

The Pilgrimage of Discipleship

Happiness – Enjoying His Blessings (Psa. 128)

Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025

1. What does it mean to be “blessed?”

To be _____, in right relationship with self, others, God

- Personal blessings include eating *“the fruit of your labor.”*
- Family blessings include the prospect of future growth.

Prosperity is a _____ of a God-fearing life,
not a goal to be greedily pursued. Pursue God!

A God-blessed life is also for poor in spirit, mournful, meek,
hungry and thirsty for righteousness, merciful, pure in heart,
peacemakers, and the persecuted because of Jesus (Matt. 5)

11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

So great is his love for those who fear him

13 As a father has compassion on his children,

Psalm 103

So the LORD has compassion on those who fear him

17 But from everlasting to everlasting

The LORD's love is with those who fear him,

And his righteousness with their children's children

2. What is the “fear of the LORD?”

In Hebrew poetry, _____ rhyme, not words

“who fear the LORD” = “who walk in His ways”

worshipful _____ = _____ following

God doesn't expect you to figure life out on your own

*“Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will
hear a voice behind you, saying, “This is the way; walk in it”
(Isaiah 30:21)*

Those who fear God are not left to _____ in darkness

3. When will “Peace be upon Israel?”

In Zechariah 9:9-10, the prophet said that when _____ comes *“he will bring peace to the nations.”*

The Prince of Peace (Isa. 9:6-7) once rode through the streets of Jerusalem mounted on a donkey (Zech. 9:9-10), praised as a king (Psa. 118:25-26) and blessed to shouts of “Hosanna!”

How can you be so close to Jesus and not be saved?

They *“did not _____ the time of God’s coming to them.”*
(Luke 19:44b)

Questions for Further discussion

(Great for Life Groups, family devotionals, or with a friend)

1. In what ways has God blessed you? Your labors? Your family? How can the blessing of God be enjoyed and enjoyable even when life is not pleasant or easy?
2. READ Psalm 103—The trials and pitfalls and detours and hardships that come when we are fearing God and following Christ, do not come from inside the life of faith—they come from temptations and evil that are external to us (world, flesh, devil). Do you know of some people who became confused and quit fearing God and following Christ when trouble came? How can Psalm 103 help us regain perspective?
3. Why do you think that peace has been so elusive for Israel?
4. How can a church that fears God and follows Christ be even more blessed and happy in the life He gives? How can we help the lost to know and enjoy God’s blessings?