

“Psalm 112: The Blessings of the Righteous” Psalm 112

The psalmist states the blessings of the one who fears the Lord because his righteousness endures forever.

Wisdom Psalms

- There are at least 12 wisdom psalms
- Most recognized: 1, 112, 119, 139
- Contrasts righteous & wicked
- Very “Black & White”
- “Blessed” Formula

Wisdom Psalms

- Fear of the Lord
- Love for the Law (Word)
- Inevitability of Retribution (Justice)
- Inspirational
- CONVICTING

Psalm 112 Linked with Psalm 111...

111 – focuses upon God’s righteousness
111:3 “**His** righteousness endures forever”

112 – focuses upon the righteous man
112:3 “**his** righteousness endures forever”

Cause (111) >> Effect (112)

Psalm 111

Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart,
In the company of the upright and in the assembly.
Great are the works of the LORD;
They are studied by all who delight in them.
Splendid and majestic is His work;
And His righteousness endures forever.
He has made His wonders to be remembered;
The LORD is gracious and compassionate.
He has given food to those who fear Him;
He will remember His covenant forever.
He has made known to His people the power of His works,
In giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of His hands are truth and justice;
All His precepts are sure.
They are upheld forever and ever;
They are performed in truth and uprightness.
He has sent redemption to His people;
He has ordained His covenant forever;
Holy and awesome is His name.
The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
A good understanding have all those who do His commandments;
His praise endures forever.

Psalm 112

Praise the LORD!
How blessed is the man who fears the LORD,
Who greatly delights in His commandments.
His descendants will be mighty on earth;
The generation of the upright will be blessed.
Wealth and riches are in his house,
And his righteousness endures forever.
Light arises in the darkness for the upright;
He is gracious and compassionate and righteous.
It is well with the man who is gracious and lends;
He will maintain his cause in judgment.
For he will never be shaken;
The righteous will be remembered forever.
He will not fear evil tidings;
His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
His heart is upheld, he will not fear,
Until he looks with satisfaction on his adversaries.
He has given freely to the poor;
His righteousness endures forever;
His horn will be exalted in honor.
The wicked will see it and be vexed;
He will gnash his teeth and melt away;
The desire of the wicked will perish.

Psalm 112

Acrostic Arrangement...

- Hebrew alpha order
- 22 letters in Hebrew alphabet
- 22 strophes or stanzas in Psalm 112
- Each stanza begins with the next letter
- Others include 9, 10, 35, 37, 111, 119, 145

Praise the LORD!
How **blessed** is the man who fears the LORD,
Who greatly delights **in His commandments**.

His descendants will be **mighty** on earth;
The **generation** of the upright will be blessed.
Wealth and riches are in his house,
And his righteousness endures forever.
Light **arises** in the darkness for the upright;
He is **gracious** and compassionate and righteous.
It is **well** with the man who is gracious and lends;
He will maintain his cause in judgment.
For he will never be shaken;
The righteous will be **remembered** forever.
He will not fear evil **tidings**;
His heart is **steadfast**, trusting in the LORD.
His heart is **upheld**, he will not fear,
Until he looks with satisfaction on his adversaries.
He has given **freely** to the poor;
His **righteousness** endures forever;
His **horn** will be exalted in honor.
The **wicked** will see it and be vexed;
He will gnash his **teeth** and melt away;
The **desire** of the wicked will perish.

Key Word: Righteous

Hebrew = *tsaddiq*

"conforms to/meets a standard"

Key Verse: Psalm 11:7

For the LORD is righteous; He loves righteousness; The upright will behold His face.

Message...

The psalmist states the blessings of the one who fears the Lord because his righteousness endures forever.

Psalm 112 Outline...

- I. The Announcement of the Blessing (1)
- II. The Description of the Blessing (2-9)
- III. The Exaltation of the Righteous (10)

I. The Announcement of the Blessing (112:1)

Praise the LORD! How **blessed** is the man who **fears** the LORD, who greatly **delights** in His commandments.

The Announcement of the Blessing (112:1)

A. Praise the Lord = OT call to worship

B. **Blessed** = "*asher*" (Hebrew)

- The conditions and situation of the one who is right with God and the pleasure and satisfaction that is derived from that.

C. The Two Keys to the Blessing...

- #1 - **Fears** the Lord
 - "reverential regard/respect"
 - Proverbs 9:10a - "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom"
 - 1 Kings 8:16 - "let your heart therefore be wholly devoted to the Lord our God.."

- #2 - **Delights** in His Commandments
 - "pleasure, wish, willing"
 - Psalm 1:2 - "his delight is the law..."
 - Psalm 111:2 - "...the works of the Lord are studied by all who delight in them."

II. The Description of the Blessing (112:2-9)

A. Physical and Material Blessings (2-3)

**His descendants will be mighty on earth;
The generation of the upright will be blessed.
Wealth and riches are in his house,
And his righteousness endures forever.**

Point: righteousness abides & endures

B. Insight and Well-being (4-5)

**Light arises in the darkness for the upright;
He is gracious and compassionate & righteous.
It is well with the man who is gracious & lends;
He will maintain his cause in judgment.**

A Closer Look at 112:4b...

He is gracious & compassionate & righteous.

Grace = undeserved favor

Compassionate = tender "womb" love

Righteous = just; maintains standards

Point: a life of grace & compassion benefits others as well as the righteous.

C. Solidly Established; Ever Remembered (6-8)

**For he will never be shaken;
The righteous will be remembered forever.
He will not fear evil tidings;
His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.**

**His heart is upheld, he will not fear,
Until he looks with satisfaction on his adversaries.**

D. Ever Generous (9a)

He has given freely to the poor;

Given freely = "scattered"(broad, generous, lavish)

Poor = "in want; in need" (60x in OT; 20x in Psalms)

He is aware of/alert to the needs of others.

Lessons Learned from the "needy" (poor)..

- The poor know they are in urgent need of redemption.
- The poor know not only their dependence on God and on powerful people but also their interdependence with one another.
- The poor rest their security not on things but on people.
- The poor have no exaggerated sense of their own importance, and no exaggerated need of privacy.
- The poor expect little from competition and much from cooperation.

Lessons Learned from the Poor...

- The poor can distinguish between necessities and luxuries.
- The poor have learned to wait and have acquired a kind of dogged patience born of acknowledged dependence.
- The fears of the poor are more realistic and less exaggerated, because they already know that one can survive great suffering and want.
- The poor can respond to the God's call/leading with a certain abandonment and uncomplicated totality.

E. Ever Remembered (9b-c)

**His righteousness endures forever;
His horn will be exalted in honor.**

Note: enduring righteousness in 112:3, 4, 6, 9

Point: the righteous "leave a trail"

III. The Exaltation of the Righteous (112:10)

**The wicked will see it and be vexed;
He will gnash his teeth and melt away;
The desire of the wicked will perish.**

Note: the righteous prevail over the wicked

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Romans 12:21)

Consider the Ways

RIGHTEOUS - Proverbs 24:3-4

By wisdom a house is built,
And by understanding it is established;
And by knowledge the rooms are filled
With all precious and pleasant riches.

WICKED - Proverbs 16:25

There is a way which seems right to a man,
But its end is the way of death.