

Outline

- I. Many of us have swallowed the lies of this world even more than we realize.
 - A. We've let the world tell us, "You can't do this and you can't do that," "It's the season for you to get sick," "You have to have this," or "You're a certain age, so you have to have that."
 - B. That's walking in the counsel of the ungodly and expecting negative things, just like an ungodly person does:

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
Psalm 1:1
 - C. We need to look at people in the Bible like Moses. He lived to be 120 years old, and his natural force wasn't abated and his eyesight wasn't dim (Deut. 34:7).
 - D. If Moses could do that, and what we have is better than what he had, then what he had ought to be the minimum that we expect (Heb. 8:6).
 - E. We're the ones who determine whether or not the blessing is working in our lives!

- II. As believers in Christ, this should describe us:

But his delight is in the law of the LORD [the Word of God]; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Psalm 1:2, brackets mine

- A. This is speaking of meditating in God's Word more than just every once in a while.
- B. Certainly, listening to the Word at church and using a daily devotional is a beginning, but this verse is talking about meditating in God's Word day and night.
- C. It's referring to God's Word being in our ears, in our eyes, on our minds, and in our mouths all the time.
- D. In other words, if we delight in God's Word and meditate on it day and night, then we'll be blessed.

III. The Bible says that true believers—the just—shall live by faith (Hab. 2:4, Rom. 1:17, Gal. 3:11, and Heb. 10:38).

- A. Many Christians just visit faith, but they don't live there.
- B. In order to actually live in faith, you must meditate constantly in the Word.
- C. It's a day-and-night process, but when you do it, you will make your way prosperous and you will have good success (Josh. 1:8).
- D. That's another blessing!

IV. When you meditate on the Word day and night, whatsoever you do will prosper:

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Psalm 1:3

- A. You might say, "I'm going to claim that one!"
- B. Well, are you going to quit walking in the counsel of the ungodly, standing in the way of sinners, and sitting in the seat of the scornful?
- C. Are you going to meditate in God's Word day and night?
- D. Those things are all linked together.
- E. Although it's not based on your holiness, it does take a total commitment for you to see God's blessing manifest in your life.
- F. This verse paints a picture of a tree that is planted next to water.
- G. Even in a drought, that tree will still flourish because its roots draw nourishment from the river.

V. The Holy Spirit will show you things to come:

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

John 16:13

Living in God's Best

- A. That's another blessing!
- B. You don't have to be like a pinball that just bounces off things, going round and round again.
- C. You can hear from God (John 10:3-5)!

VI. We say we're forgiven, but many of us don't even understand what that means.

- A. To have our sins atoned for and wiped out is a huge blessing:

*Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. [2]
Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in
whose spirit there is no guile.*

Psalm 32:1-2

- B. Many people don't understand the magnitude of this blessing because religion has hidden this truth, saying, "Yeah, when you got born again, your sins up to that point were forgiven. But every time you sin after that, you have to get that sin confessed and under the blood."
- C. This makes forgiveness conditional upon having every sin confessed.

VII. Sin isn't only the wrong things we do:

For whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

Romans 14:23

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

James 4:17

- A. Sin is also not doing the good things that we should be doing but fail to do.
- B. If we use a Bible definition of sin, then we sin all the time.
- C. Because of this, our own consciences condemn us, saying, "You're not worthy. You're separated from God."
- D. But that's not what the Word teaches.

ANDREW'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

For a full exposition of this important truth, refer to my teachings entitled *Redemption and Spirit, Soul & Body*. I'm only able to scratch the surface in these lessons.

Discipleship Questions

1. *Discussion question:* How have you walked in the counsel of the godly rather than the counsel of the ungodly?

2. According to Psalm 1:1, “_____ is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.”
 - A. “Humbled”
 - B. “Gifted”
 - C. “Blessed”
 - D. “Scared”
 - E. “Cursed”
3. True or false: Moses lived to be 120 years old, and his natural force wasn't abated and his eyesight wasn't dim (Deut. 34:7).
4. What Moses had ought to be the _____ that you can expect (Heb. 8:6).
 - A. Limit
 - B. Maximum
 - C. Most
 - D. All of the above
 - E. None of the above
5. Psalm 1:2 says, “But his _____ is in the law of the LORD [the Word of God]; and in his law doth he _____ day and night.”
6. Psalm 1:2 is referring to God's Word being where?

7. True or false: If you delight in God's Word and meditate on it day and night, then you'll be blessed.

8. True believers—the just—shall _____ by faith (Hab. 2:4, Rom. 1:17, Gal. 3:11, and Heb. 10:38).

9. In order to actually live in faith, you must do what?

10. If you will meditate in the Word day and night, what will happen (Josh. 1:8)?

11. Prosperity and good success is considered one of God’s _____.

12. Psalm 1:3 says, “*And he shall be like a _____ planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his _____ also shall not wither; and _____ he doeth shall prosper.*”

13. *Discussion question:* What does a total commitment look like to you?

14. Why would a tree that’s planted by a river flourish?

15. According to John 16:13, “*Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will _____ you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he _____: and he will _____ you things to come.*”

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16. Another blessing is the guidance of the _____.
17. True or false: Only Jesus could hear from God (John 10:3-5).
18. To have your _____ atoned for and wiped out is a huge blessing.
19. True or false: Forgiveness is conditional on having every sin confessed.
20. True or false: Sin is only doing the wrong things.
21. According to Romans 14:23, "_____ is not of faith is sin."
22. According to James 4:17, "To him that _____ to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."
23. *Discussion question:* When is it good to trust your conscience, and when is it good not to trust it?

Scriptures

PSALM 1:1-3

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. [2] But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. [3] And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

DEUTERONOMY 34:7

And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.

HEBREWS 8:6

But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

JOSHUA 1:8

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

HABAKKUK 2:4

Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

ROMANS 1:17

For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

GALATIANS 3:11

But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

HEBREWS 10:38

Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Living in God's Best

JOHN 16:13

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

JOHN 10:3-5

To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. [4] And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. [5] And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

JOHN 10:27

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

DEUTERONOMY 28:8

The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

JEREMIAH 17:7-8

Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. [8] For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

PSALM 32:1-2

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. [2] Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

ROMANS 14:23

And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

JAMES 4:17

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.