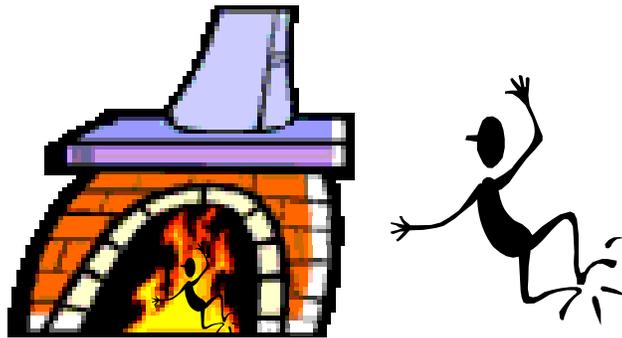


Some People
who
Followed God

**BLESSINGS
INSIDE & OUTSIDE
THE FIERY FURNACE!**



OUR DAILY BREAD

Junior Edition

9-9-07



SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. ***For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.***

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. ***For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.*** (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(John 14:6 KJB)

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! ***But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*** (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)

Do you know the meaning of the word,

BLESS ?

The word BLESS has 2 main meanings. So does the word BLESSING.

To BLESS is an ACTION word - a VERB. It means:

"...to do something that will make another person feel HAPPY and SAFE. ...to do something for the GOOD of another person - something that BENEFITS them.

The "something good that is done to bless" is called

A BLESSING.

To BLESS also means *"... to give thanks to someone, to praise someone for something they've done to help you.*

When someone does something that is for our good, something that makes us happy, something that protects us, we THANK THEM. We praise them.

By saying:



WE BLESS THEM.!

King David gives us an example of BOTH meanings of this word BLESS in Psalm 103 which he wrote about the Lord.: Here's what David said in verse 1: "Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me *bles*s his holy name."

David was actually TALKING to HIMSELF! King David was telling his very own soul to THANK the Lord - to PRAISE the Lord! David was BLESSING THE LORD! By PRAISING & BLESSING the Lord, we PLEASE THE LORD! And if you read Revelation 4:11, you will see that is EXACTLY WHY God put us on earth in the first place -to PRAISE HIM & BLESS HIM! In our world today, not too many people BLESS the LORD, but there is coming a time in the future where ALL THE WORLD & ALL CREATION will BLESS THE LORD! Psalms 148-150 tell us of that time!

And WHY should we thank & praise the Lord? WHY should we BLESS THE LORD? Well, King David clearly tells us WHY he wanted his soul to BLESS the Lord in the rest of Psalm 103. Verse 2, though, pretty much sums up what David said:



“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget none of his benefits:”

That word “BENEFITS” is simply another word for BLESSINGS! King David was telling his own soul to PRAISE THE LORD for all the BLESSINGS & GOOD THINGS that the Lord had done for him AND for all God’s people - ESPECIALLY for “TAKING ALL OUR SINS AWAY”! Read the rest of Psalm 103 on your own to see all the BLESSINGS or BENEFITS for which David was BLESSING THE LORD! We should BLESS the LORD for all His BLESSINGS!

So we see then, from both the DEFINITION of the word BLESS & from what David said in Psalm 103,

that BLESSINGS sure are GOOD!

However in today's lesson we are going to learn something AMAZING about our WISE & POWERFUL GOD!

First of all, what is the word that means the OPPOSITE of GOOD?

Well, of course, that sure is EASY! It is the word

BAD!

Now most often we would NEVER think that these 2 words could ever have anything in common in any way. But guess what! Today we will see that many times God either sends or allows certain TROUBLES or BAD situations to come into our lives even when we ARE following Him & obeying Him! WHY would He do that? As we will see, He does that so that He can do certain GOOD THINGS for us & others! Our study about the 3 young men named Shadrach, Meshach, & Abed-nego will show us that. These 3 young men ended up being thrown into a



FIERY FURNACE

because they OBEYED GOD instead of the evil king who wanted them to bow down to a huge golden image that he had made. Today we will see some of the

BLESSINGS

that God gave the 3 young men & others from that

FIERY FURNACE SITUATION!

In our last lesson on this topic, we saw that after the

king had the 3 boys thrown into the blazing furnace,
the king was



ASTONISHED

by something he saw **INSIDE**
that furnace!
WHAT DID HE SEE?

"...Lo, I see four men loose,
walking in the midst of the fire, and they have
no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the
Son of God."

Daniel 3:25KJB

WHAT DID THAT KING SEE
INSIDE THAT FIERY FURNACE?

Why, he saw **BLESSINGS** from the LORD to
those 3 young men right

INSIDE THAT FIERY FURNACE!

What were those BLESSINGS?

Well, the most AWESOME blessing was that those 3
young men got to WALK WITH THE SON OF GOD
IN PERSON! The Lord Jesus Christ was RIGHT
THERE WITH THEM in that FIERY FURNACE!

Those 3 boys got to SEE the Lord in PERSON.
I wonder what the Lord said to them while He
walked with them inside that fiery furnace? I do
know this, though, that whenever I have trouble that
seems like a FIERY FURNACE SITUATION and I
CONTINUE to READ GOD'S WORD, the Lord
SPEAKS TO ME right from those pages right in the
MIDST OF MY FIERY FURNACE SITUATION!

Remember, the Bible is God's LOVE LETTER to man! By hearing God speak to me through His written Word, I get to experience His presence in a special way! Sometimes He tells me what to do. Sometimes He tells me what NOT to do. He always tells me what HE is like & sometimes He even tells me what He is doing or going to do! And if YOU have accepted Jesus as your Savior, **KEEP on READING YOUR KING JAMES BIBLE!** The Lord will speak to YOU TOO, RIGHT in THE MIDDLE of YOUR FIERY FURNACE TROUBLE!



We cannot SEE the Lord in this day & age like those 3 boys did; but we CAN know His presence when we read His word.

Remember King David? Well listen to what he said about the Lord being with him & helping him right in the

MIDDLE OF ALL HIS TROUBLES:

"Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me; thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me." Psalm 138:7KJB

And THAT brings us to another BLESSING that the Lord gave to those 3 young men right

INSIDE THAT FIERY FURNACE

The king told us what that BLESSING was when he said: "..and they have no hurt;" Daniel 3:25 KJB

Daniel 3:27 tells us more about this BLESSING that

God gave them right **INSIDE** that fiery furnace: the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them."

In fact, the **ONLY THINGS** that were burned, were the **ROPES THAT HAD THEM BOUND UP!** The Lord **PROTECTED** those 3 boys from those super hot flames! **WITH VERY THEIR OWN EYES,** those 3 boys got to **WATCH THE LORD USE HIS POWER OVER THE FLAMES** to **KEEP THEM FROM BURNING UP!** The Lord **SAVED** them from the fire **INSIDE** that furnace! **THAT** brings us to the blessings God gave **OUTSIDE** that furnace.

First, the king & all the people got to see God's power! Now certainly those 3 boys **BLESSED THE LORD** for His **BLESSINGS**; but guess who **ELSE BLESSED THE LORD?**



The very **KING** who had them thrown into that fiery furnace. Listen to what he said: "...Blessed *be* the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God."

Daniel 3:28 KJB

On top of **THAT**, another **BLESSING** was that the king promoted the 3 young men to even higher positions! So **ALWAYS** bless the Lord, & when **TROUBLES COME YOUR WAY**, obey God & look for His **BLESSINGS INSIDE & OUTSIDE** your troubles!

To help you Remember!

Did you ever write a



JOURNAL?

In a JOURNAL we usually write down things that have happened to us, or things we want to remember, or things that trouble us.

As you read your Bible everyday, you will discover that the Lord talks to you personally. A wonderful way to REMEMBER what the Lord says on any certain day is to write down some of the things He tells you. You can even write down some of your PRAYER requests to God. Then, keep on obeying God & spending time with Him everyday, praying & reading His Word & wait to see when & how He will answer you. Then write down God's answer or what God did to help you - especially in times of trouble! Remember to DATE each journal entry. The journal will help you REMEMBER your life with God! Even God has LOTS of books of remembrances up in heaven. When we get there, won't we have fun reading them all! In the meantime, read your Bible

GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.

From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.



Grace Christian Fellowship

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