



October 15, 2006

Benefits Of Serving God

In **Psalm 103**, David speaks of the need for mankind to serve and remember God for the many things that he has done for us. David begins by stating that he will “...**bless his holy name**” and will do so with all that is within him (**Psm 103.1**). This mirrors a statement that Christ made to a lawyer who sought to try him. “***Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind...***” (**Lk 10.27**). The writer of Hebrews also tells us that our search and service to God must be done diligently (**Heb 11.6**). David then states that with his soul, the inner being that is crafted in the image of God, he will “...**forget not all his benefits.**” (**Psm 103.2**). The history of the nation of Israel is one that tells us what happens when we forget the blessings that God has bestowed. God warned of these consequences through Moses and the prophets and eventually the negative was realized as these things were forgotten. Today it is beyond many people to think of the God and what he has done for us, especially when it comes to adhering to the doctrine that we find in the scriptures. The Psalm goes on to speak of the greatest blessing that we have in the fact that God “***forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.***” (**Psm 103.3-5**). Christ came into the world and offered the final sacrifice for sins on the cross and has left us a record of the things that we need to do in order to be pleasing to God. We have the blessing and hope of an eternal home with God if we are faithful to him. David mentions that God redeems our lives from destruction. We do not have to fear separation from God if we do what he asks thus avoiding eternal loss in Hell. Paul, in spite of the persecutions that he faced physically talks about the sustaining power of God in our lives as we serve him day to day. “***For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.***” (**2 Cor 4.16**). God supplies the strength that we need to persevere and reach the goal of a Heavenly home. Life is filled with trials and injustice which may cause us to lose heart and falter. David reminds us that God is a just God and will render judgment against all that is evil. “***The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.***” (**Psm 103.6**). While many wrongs that are suffered may not be corrected in this life, we have the assurance that God knows our deeds and will not forget them. Paul states, “***For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.***” (**2 Tim 1.12**). The focus of some in the religious world is on material things and the enjoyment of life as we have it now. Serving God faithfully and truthfully may cause us to feel out of place in this world. We need to concentrate on the things that have been given to us and have trust in God that He will save us in the end. David states that God has helped us do this by revealing His will. “***He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.***” (**Psm 103.7**). Peter states that God has “...***given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust....***” (**2 Pet 1.3-4**). The Bible is filled with the knowledge and wisdom of God. It contains the things that make for a godly life and will take us to that home prepared for those who place their lives in the keeping of the Lord. These benefits are open to all who will believe, obey and live as God would have us live. What more can we expect from a loving and kind creator?

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