BLESSED IS THE MAN... Psalm 119:1-8

INTRODUCTION

- A. Brief overview of the chapter.
 - 1. An acrostic using the Hebrew alphabet of 22 letters.
 - 2. Each section contains 8 verses.
 - 3. The emphasis of Psalms 119 is the psalmist's love for God's law.
- B. The Psalmist.
 - 1. Many suggest David, the obvious choice.
 - a. Probably at the time of his Philistine exile, 1 Samuel 27.
 - 2. Others suggest during the time of Ezra and Nehemiah and the return of the Jews from Babylonian captivity.
 - 3. Some suggest a compilation of thoughts from David's "diary".
 - 4. It is all applicable to the people of God of all times.

I. LAW.

- A. Synonyms of the Word "Law".
 - 1. Law 4. Statutes 7. Commandments
 - 2. Testimonies 5. Word
- 8. Ways 9. Truth
- 3. Judgments6. Precepts
- B. But Why Is It So important?
 - 1. It is through the Law that the will and character of God is revealed.
 - a. God's name revealed to Moses [YHWH, Lord], Exodus 6:3.
 - b. Revealed His holiness through His word, Leviticus 20:22, 26.
 - 2. Revealed completely in Jesus Christ, Hebrews 1:1-3; John 1:1, 14.
 - 3. Knowing God [Christ] through His word, Philippians 3:8-11.

II. BLESSED.

- A. Meaning of Blessed.
 - 1. In Hebrew, "blessed" is a state of complete and full prosperity.
 - a. It is the righteous person who enjoys true "happiness".
 - b. A better way, "Oh how very happy is the man!"
 - 2. Happiness, joy, contentment.
 - a. Jesus describes the "blessed" or "happy" man, Matthew 5:3-12.
 - b. True happiness is a by-product of a righteous life.
 - 3. Based on knowing God holiness, Ps. 119:1-8.
 - a. Through His law and testimonies.
 - b. Psalm 104:34, "I shall be glad in the Lord."
 - c. It is living in His presence that brings the greatest joy in our lives.
 - i. Psalm 27:4; 122:1
 - ii. Psalm 84:2, 4, 10
- B. Obedience from the Heart.
 - 1. Seeking Him with all our heart, vs. 2.
 - 2. Living always according to His word [way].
 - 3. Keeping God's commands.

- a. Be careful, diligent, and continual in observance.
- b. 2 Peter 1:5, 10; 3:14
- c. Hebrews 11:6, diligently seek...
- 4. In God's Word:
 - a. David's praise and prayers to God Psalms.
 - b. Apostle Paul's instruction for life Ephesians 4-6.
 - c. Jesus' example of living life Gospel accounts.

III. RELATION TO HIS LAW.

- A. Always Observe It.
 - 1. Daily prayer asking for wisdom, understanding, and guidance (Solomon).
 - 2. Daily Reading words which guided His people from long ago.
 - 3. Daily Meditation recognizing the same words impact our lives today.
- B. Not to Be Ashamed.
 - 1. 2 Timothy 2:15
 - 2. Shame follows transgression.
 - 3. We combat transgression know His way, Ephesians 6:14-17.
 - 4. When we know and understand, then we are obedient and can give acceptable Praise to God.

CLOSING

- A. What is Our True Desire?
 - 1. Psalm 37:4, "Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart."
 - 2. Colossians 1:9
- B. Without God, there is no strength to do right.