

The Fear of God

Part 13

Psalm 103 – God’s Blessings to those who Fear Him.

“1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; 5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle’s. 6 The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed. 7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel. 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. 9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever. 10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. 11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. 12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. 13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. 14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. 15 As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. 16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more. 17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children’s children; 18 To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them. 19 The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all. 20 Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. 21 Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure. 22 Bless the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul.” (Psalm 103:1-22 KJV)

“1 Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. 2 Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits— 3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s. 6 The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. 7 He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: 8 The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. 9 He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; 10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. 13 As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; 14 for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. 15 The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field; 16 the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. 17 But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD’s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children’s children— 18 with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts. 19 The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. 20 Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. 21 Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. 22 Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, my soul.” (Psalm 103:1-22 NIV)

David in this psalm teaches us about the reason to fear the Lord and obey his commands. He started His psalm with a call of praise, *“1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:”* David is reminding himself and worm up all the parts of his body, his soul and his spirit to praise God. David what he wrote and did is a good example and good initiative for us to do the same. Let us start each and every day of our life with praise unto God. Let us fill all the moments of our lives with praise, thanksgiving and gratefulness unto the LORD for all what He did and will do to us. Let us forget not all the benefit that we had received and had enjoyed in our lives. Let us gather all the good memories of the miracles and wonders and good deed that the Lord had shown to us. Let us praise Him, be grateful to Him and serve Him out of reverence and fear to all what He had done and what He is doing to us, *“28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:” (Hebrews 12:28 KJV) “28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.” (Hebrews 12:28 NIV)*

Various and multiple reason prompts us not only to praise God but to fear Him. Many they praise God but they don’t fear Him. That is not correct and if those who do that continue to take advantage of Him in such a bad way, one day they will found out that He had withdrawn from them and took away what He had given them. Let us be sensible and live in the fear of Him for all His mercies and grace and as you can read here:-

1) 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits 2 Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits: We should have good memory to remember all what the Lord had given us, and all the benefits that we received from Him. Our personal relationship with God it lavish on us lot of privileges. God had given us everything we need for life and goodliness, therefore it is good to remember all His goodness and His faithfulness and that will encourage us and lead us to fear Him.

2) 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities 3 who forgives all your sins: *“9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever. 10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.” “9 He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; 10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.”* God is faithful, He accepts us when we decide to come back to Him and repent from our sins and shortcomings. This what the promise of the Lord tells us, *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” (1John 1:9)* God forgives our sins as we repent, He also cleanse us and purify us; the blood of Jesus forgives and cleans from sins, for, *“12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.” “12 as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.”* The blood of Jesus also cleanse our conscious from guilt so we can serve God, *“14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?” (Hebrews 9:14 KJV) “14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!” (Hebrews 9:14 NIV)* God is so merciful to us in this aspect for how we can bear and live our lives and serve Him if our conscious is burden with guilt and sin. For

such mercy of God toward us in forgiving our sins and cleansing our consciences let us joyfully and willingly fear Him so His mercy will continue to reach us and flow into our lives, in our bodies souls and spirits: ***“11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.” “11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him.”***

3) 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy 8 The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love: God is slow to anger. When you do wrong things and he is still silent that does not mean he is not angry with you. Slow to anger that does not mean that he will not be angry when you continue to do wrong. Those who do not fear God and continue to do wrong they will be suddenly destroyed. Therefore you need to fear God to be restrained from doing evil, and that fear of God will not allow God’s anger to be executed on you.

4) Healeth all thy diseases; heals all your diseases: Sicknesses are all from Satan, the devil. When we come back to God in repentance through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord, God would forgive us our sins and would heal our diseases. Jesus Christ, ***“He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.” (Isaiah 53:5)*** The Lord Jesus Christ bore our sins on the cross, ***“He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed.” (1Peter 2:24)*** Healing in Christ involve both physical healing and spiritual healing. He is our health, wellbeing and He is our assurance and insurance for the days to come. Therefore let us continue to fear Him and revere His name.

5) 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; 4 who redeems your life from the pit: God loves us, ***“For God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)*** The blood of Jesus was shed on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. The penalty of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Jesus paid the prize for our sins; He redeemed us and set us free from sin and death. We have salvation in Jesus and we had deliverance from death, sin, and from the work of Satan, demons and the power of darkness.

6) Crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; and crowns you with love and compassion: From God through Jesus Christ we receive love care and compassion, ***“13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. 13 As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him”*** His love is a real love like the love of the parents towards their children. How they care for them, educate them, clothe them and protect them when they are sick or in trouble. God in the same way is compassionate to those He has made.

7) 5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's: God always refresh us with new blessings. Each morning we wake up God had prepared for us a blessing. He is the only one who can satisfy us. He gives us the food like we need to eat that will give us strength and the good health for the journey of the day. We may receive from the world many things but we would not be satisfied unless the Lord Himself gives us. We may receive lot of things from the world but only the things that we receive from God can renew us

and refresh us and make us as young people, strong and fresh and ready for the task of the day. The eagle lives long life and reach 100 years, and every time he changes his feathers he is renewed. We need God to satisfy us with good things so that our strength and youth will be refreshed and renewed.

8) 6 The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed 6 The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed: He is a God of justice; although for a while injustice may be there around you, but finally His righteousness will prevail. God would give us whatever due for us; all what was taken from us He will bring it back to us. We need to fear Him and obey Him because justice ultimately will come from Him.

9) 7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel 7 He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: When God made known His ways to Moses it mean He gave to Moses the ways and the rules of God and what they need to do in each and every particular situation. When God made his acts know to the children of Israel it means that what God said in His word He had fulfilled and made it come true in reality. We really need to fear God who had outlined to us through His Word everything we need to do and had confirmed that with signs wonders and miracles, ***“7 For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for? 8 And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?” (Deuteronomy 4:7-8 KJV)*** ***“7 What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? 8 And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?” (Deuteronomy 4:7-8 NIV)***

10) 14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. 15 As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. 16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more 14 for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. 15 The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field; 16 the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more: Our God is a considerate God, He knows we are dust and He in dealing with us he gives consideration. He knew that we are short span, like grass, as flower of the field; we are easily passing away. God knows that but we ourselves should not forget that we are only dust. In many occasion man is arrogant and forgot he is dust and will not fear God. The Lord is mindful of us, therefore we need to fear Him.

11) 17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children 17 But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children: God’s tender mercies for those who fear Him. His mercy and righteousness will extend further to our children and our children’s children. We cannot secure the future for our children but we can secure the present life we live in fearing the Lord, then He will be the one to secure the future for our children.

12) 19 The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all 19 The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all: God had His throne prepared in heaven for judgment. Everything is under His control and we need

to abide with Him and His Word. To fear Him is to keep His covenant and to remember to do His commandments. All the good things that we explained God will bestow on those who fear him who express it in the following way: ***“18 To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them. 18 with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.”***

My dear and beloved: The Lord as He judges the earth He has his host of angels and He has His church represented by His ministers who do His will and His pleasure, That is why David shouted with joy, ***“20 Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. 21 Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure. 22 Bless the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul. 20 Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. 21 Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. 22 Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, my soul”*** Therefore let us genuinely fear Him and perfecting our obedience that confirm to His commands, hearkening to the voice of His Word and living to do His will and to please Him, as we agree to pray:

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life. Lord I thank you for all your goodness and mercies unto me. Lord forgives me my ungratefulness for I had forgotten the many things that you had done to me. I commit myself to live in the fear of you, keeping my covenant and commitment with you and abiding with your commands, responding to the voice of your word and living my life to please you. Lord sustain me to be found worthy in your eyes and let your mercies and grace continue to reach me and to reach my family, my children, my children's children, and my disciples and ministry, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*

Jesus christ



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