

“God Blesses Us!” (The Benediction) Numbers 6:24-27

²⁴ “The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; ²⁶ The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.” ²⁷ “So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.” Numbers 6:24–27 (NKJV)

1. From this passage, along with others, we see God desires to bless us –

1. We read of God’s blessing from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22 – and everywhere in between we can read about how God is all about making us truly and eternally happy (blessed)!

²² And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” Genesis 1:22 (NKJV)

⁷ **“Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”** Revelation 22:7 (NKJV)

2. Near the end of the Book of Genesis Jacob / Israel, who became Israel when God blessed him, blesses his family before he dies –

²⁸ **All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father spoke to them. And he blessed them; he blessed each one according to his own blessing.** Genesis 49:28 (NKJV)

3. Of course, Genesis is famous for Abram’s blessing, which ultimately comes to us through Christ -

³ **I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”** Genesis 12:3 (NKJV)

4. And also, Jacob’s stealing of the blessing from his brother Esau, lying and disguising himself, even with his mother’s orders to get it –

¹⁹ **Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn; I have done just as you told me; please arise, sit and eat of my game, that your soul may bless me.”** Genesis 27:19 (NKJV)

5. Of course, Jacob is truly blessed when he gains a blessing wrestling with God in fervent prayer –

²⁵ Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob’s hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. ²⁶ And He said, “Let Me go, for the day breaks.” But he said, “I will not let You go unless You bless me!” ²⁷ So He said to him, “What is your name?” He said, “Jacob.” ²⁸ And He said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed.” ²⁹ Then Jacob asked, saying, “Tell me Your name, I pray.” And He said, “Why is it *that* you ask about My name?” And He blessed him there. Genesis 32:25–29 (NKJV)

6. In Exodus among many other blessings, we read in the Ten Commandments that the LORD blessed the Sabbath Day –

¹¹ For *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. Exodus 20:11 (NKJV)

7. In Leviticus we find Moses and Aaron blessing God’s people after offering a sacrifice for the people’s sin –

²² Then Aaron lifted his hand toward the people, blessed them, and came down from offering the sin offering, the burnt offering, and peace offerings. ²³ And Moses and Aaron went into the

tabernacle of meeting, and came out and blessed the people. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people, ²⁴ and fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When all the people saw *it*, they shouted and fell on their faces. Leviticus 9:22–24 (NKJV)

8. *Of course, the passage we are considering today is how God instructed Moses and Aaron to bless the people –*

²² And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²³ “Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, ‘This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them: ²⁴ “The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; ²⁶ The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.” ’ ²⁷ “So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.” Numbers 6:22–27 (NKJV)

9. Deuteronomy has more in it than I can include about BLESSINGS –

²⁸ “Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. ² And all these **blessings** shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God: ³ “**Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.** ⁴ “**Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.** ⁵ “**Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.** ⁶ “**Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.** ⁷ “The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. ⁸ “The LORD will command the **blessing** on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will **bless** you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you. ⁹ “The LORD will establish you as a holy people to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways. Deuteronomy 28:1–9 (NKJV)

10. *The Book of Psalms starts with a blessing, and includes rejoicing in the blessing of God’s forgiveness –*

1 **Blessed is the man** Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; Psalm 1:1 (NKJV)

1 **Blessed is he whose** transgression *is* forgiven, *Whose* sin *is* covered. Psalm 32:1 (NKJV)

11. *Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount starts with blessings –*

5 And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. ² Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: ³ “**Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.** ⁴ **Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.** ⁵ **Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.** ⁶ **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.** ⁷ **Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.** ⁸ **Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.** ⁹ **Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.** ¹⁰ **Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.** ¹¹ “**Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.** ¹² **Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.** Matthew 5:1–12 (NKJV)

12. The Book of Revelation not only ended but begin with blessing –

2 **Blessed is he who reads** and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near. Revelation 1:3 (NKJV)

II. *Not only does God desire to bless us, He is the ONLY ONE Who really can!
God is our only Source of true and eternal happiness –*

²⁴ **"The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; ²⁶ The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace."** ²⁷ **"So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."** Numbers 6:24–27 (NKJV)

1. *It is the LORD Who blesses, whose face shining counts FOREVER, we need His grace, He alone gives us true peace -*

A. The Lord's blessing is His favor.

B. His keeping us is His provision and protection.

C. His face shining communicates His favor in a glorious way – "Daddy watch me run!"

D. Gracious = His forgiveness of our sins –

¹² **As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³ **As a father pities his children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him. ¹⁴For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.** Psalm 103:12–14 (NKJV)

E. He gives us "peace" through His Son's cross, peace that is found no where else!

5 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, Romans 5:1 (NKJV)

²² **"There is no peace," says the LORD, "for the wicked."** Isaiah 48:22 (NKJV)

²¹ **"There is no peace," Says my God, "for the wicked."** Isaiah 57:21 (NKJV)

2. *This is why the LORD God Who desired to bless His people commanded His priests to bless His people, and it is WHY Pastors bring a blessing at the ends of all worship services, usually this SAME ONE from Numbers 6:24–27.*

3. *This is why our Gospel is a Gospel of peace and blessing –*

A. *Blessing is what we are called to do, even with our ENEMIES –*

⁴³ ***You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'* ⁴⁴ **But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.** Matthew 5:43–45 (NKJV)**

B. *Christ blessed us with every Spiritual Blessing -*

³ **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, Ephesians 1:3 (NKJV)**

C. *Jesus blesses us by turning us AWAY from sin -*

²⁶ **To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities."** Acts 3:26 (NKJV)

D. *We are not loving or blessing a person if we let them continue in SIN –*

²⁶ **"Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: ²⁷ the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today; ²⁸ and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known.** Deuteronomy 11:26–28 (NKJV)

III. *God wants us to SEEK His blessings –*

²⁷ “So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.” Numbers 6:24–27 (NKJV)

1. *Note how God connects His Name with our Blessing / Happiness!*
2. *Our greatest happiness / Blessing is found in our relationship with God –*

¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:11–13 (NKJV)

Question 1 What is the chief end of man? Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

In our purpose, glorifying God, we will find pleasure, enjoying Him forever –

¹¹ You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:11 (NKJV)

3. *Our best blessing our spiritual blessings / eternal things, God directs us to seek these first, yet we have the right now blessings as well from His hand –*

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, Ephesians 1:3 (NKJV)

³³ **But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.** Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

⁵ **Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.** Matthew 5:5 (NKJV)

A. *They are MEEK about the earth, because earthly things are of secondary importance to them, but they still get them, and with God’s blessing! They inherit the earth.*

B. *They are zealous, ferocious, diligent about HEAVENLY THINGS –*

¹² **And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.** Matthew 11:12 (NKJV)

⁶ But without faith *it is* impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

¹³ And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13 (NKJV)

4. *People tend to LOOK for Happiness / Blessing in the wrong places –*

Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ² But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper. ⁴ The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away. ⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. ⁶ For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish. Psalm 1 (NKJV)

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