

SERMON NOTES

covenant benefits

April 1, 2018

“Christ made us whole and complete to live the blessed life.”

Easter Is All About:

1. God loves me!
2. God died for me!
3. God has a purpose for my life!
4. God wants me to live a blessed life!

Isaiah 53:2 – 5 (MSG)

The servant grew up before God—a scrawny seedling, a scrubby plant in a parched field. There was nothing attractive about him, nothing to cause us to take a second look. He was looked down on and passed over, a man who suffered, who knew pain firsthand. One look at him and people turned away. We looked down on him, thought he was scum. But the fact is, it was our pains he carried—our disfigurements, all the things wrong with us. We thought he brought it on himself, that God was punishing him for his own failures. But it was our sins that did that to him, that ripped and tore and crushed him—our sins! He took the punishment, and that made us whole. Through his bruises we get healed. We’re all like sheep who’ve wandered off and gotten lost. We’ve all done our own thing, gone our own way.

- God wants us to live a whole, complete, and blessed life.
- Because of the Resurrection, we have hope.

Galatians 3:13 (KJV)

¹³ *Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.*

- Scripture refers to Jesus on the cross and the Resurrection.
- The blessing comes through Jesus.
- To receive the blessed life, we need to believe and have faith.

Luke 4:18 – 19 (TLB)

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has appointed me to preach Good News to the poor; he has sent me to heal the brokenhearted and to announce that captives shall be released and the blind shall see, that the downtrodden shall be freed from their oppressors, and that God is ready to give blessings to all who come to him."*

- Jesus came to heal the broken hearted.
- Jesus came to give blessings to all.
- Jesus is better than any man-made religion.
- Are you ready to give your life completely to God?
- Believe to see the benefits of the covenant.

Genesis 12:1 -2 (KJV)

¹ *Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:*

² *And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:*

³ *And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*

- The blessings of God are based on obedience.
- The number eight means "new beginnings."
- Because of Easter, you can have a new life and a new beginning.
- The blessed life is a result of our obedience.

Eight Blessings of God:

1. Guidance

- You make your choices and your choices shape you.
- Let God order your steps. Be at the right place at the right time.
- Be led of the Holy Spirit.

2. Potential

- God sees your potential and will make something great out of your life.

3. Blessings

- You will be a blessing.

4. Reputation

- Reputation is made up of our character. Your character is made up of your thought life.
- Reputation opens doors.

5. Channel

- You will be a blessing to others.

6. Law of Association

- God wants to give you relationship that re a blessing.

7. Protection

8. Legacy

- You will live on through other people.

Deuteronomy 30:13 – 16 (CEV)

¹³ And you can't say, "How can we obey the LORD's commands? They are across the sea, and someone must go across, then bring them back and explain them to us." ¹⁴ No, these commands are nearby and you know them by heart. All you have to do is obey! ¹⁵ Today I am giving you a choice. You can choose life and success or death and disaster. ¹⁶⁻¹⁸ I am commanding you to be loyal to the LORD, to live the way he has told you, and to obey his laws and teachings. You are about to cross the Jordan River and take the land that he is giving you. If you obey him, you will live and become successful and powerful. On the other hand, you might choose to disobey the LORD and reject him. So I'm warning you that if you bow down and worship other gods, you won't have long to live.

- What comes from God is a process.
- Obedience comes through growth.

Formula to Live in God's Blessings:

1. Love God.
2. Surrender everything.
3. Live the life God has for you.
4. Obey God's word.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are the eight blessings of God?
2. Describe how you will implement the formulas to live in God's blessings.