



You Are Already Blessed! – Part III

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Writers used makarios (μακαριος) to describe the state of certain men as supremely blessed; fortunate, prosperous, wealthy. Makarios (Μακαριος) was chosen by the Bible writers to describe the state of the man who is the recipient of the divine favor and blessing. The LXX5 uses it in Psalm 1:1, "Oh, the happiness of," where it is the Greek translation of a word that in Hebrew thought denotes a state of true well-being. Cremer says that "it is the gracious and saving effect of God's favor ... , but is enjoyed only when there is a corresponding behavior towards God; so that it forms the hoped-for good of those who in this life are subject to oppression." He says that, "In the n.t., makarios (μακαριος) is quite a religiously qualified conception, expressing the life-joy and satisfaction of the man who does or shall experience God's favor and salvation, his blessedness altogether apart from his outward condition ... It always signifies a happiness produced by some experience of God's favor, and specially conditioned by the revelation of grace." In summing up the meaning of the word as used of the state or condition of the believer, we would say that it refers to the spiritually prosperous state of that person who is the recipient of the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit, who is enabled to minister these blessings to him when the believer yields to Him for that ministry and cooperates with Him in it.

Eulogia (Ἐλογία) is used in the same literature in the sense of a "good report," also in the sentence, "If you have anything to say in his favor, come with him and tell me."⁷ In the n.t., when man is said to bless God (Lk. 2:28), the word refers to the act of speaking well of God, of speaking in His favor, of extolling Him for what He is and does, in these senses, of the act of praising Him, of eulogizing Him. The word aineō (αἰνέω) is translated by the word "praise." It means "to extol." Eulogeō (Ἐυλογεω) however, in its intrinsic meaning carries the idea which aineō (αἰνέω) merely refers to. When God is said to bless man (Eph. 1:3), eulogeō (εὐλογεω) refers to the act of God in which He elevates man, makes him great, gives him prosperity, confers benefits upon him. When man blesses God, it is an exaltation with words. When God blesses man, it is an exaltation by act, that of conferring benefits upon him.



Matthew 5:1-11

1SEEING THE crowds, He went up on the mountain; and when He was seated, His disciples came to Him. 2Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: 3Blessed (happy, to be envied, and spiritually prosperous--with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favor and salvation, regardless of their outward conditions) are the poor in spirit (the humble, who rate themselves insignificant), for theirs is the kingdom of heaven! 4Blessed and enviably happy [with a happiness produced by the experience of God's favor and especially conditioned by the revelation of His matchless grace] are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted! 5Blessed (happy, blithesome, joyous, spiritually prosperous--with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favor and salvation, regardless of their outward conditions) are the meek (the mild, patient, long-suffering), for they shall inherit the earth! 6Blessed and fortunate and happy and spiritually prosperous (in that state in which the born-again child of God enjoys His favor and salvation) are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness (uprightness and right standing with God), for they shall be completely satisfied! 7Blessed (happy, to be envied, and spiritually prosperous--with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favor and salvation, regardless of their outward conditions) are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy! 8Blessed (happy, enviably fortunate, and spiritually prosperous--possessing the happiness produced by the experience of God's favor and especially conditioned by the revelation of His grace, regardless of their outward conditions) are the pure in heart, for they shall see God! 9Blessed (enjoying enviable happiness, spiritually prosperous--with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favor and salvation, regardless of their outward conditions) are the makers and maintainers of peace, for they shall be called the sons of God! 10Blessed and happy and enviably fortunate and spiritually prosperous (in the state in which the born-again child of God enjoys and finds satisfaction in God's favor and salvation, regardless of his outward conditions) are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake (for being and doing right), for theirs is the kingdom of heaven! 11Blessed (happy, to be envied, and spiritually prosperous--with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favor and salvation, regardless of your outward conditions) are you when people revile you and persecute you and say all kinds of evil things against you falsely on My account.

Ephesians 1:3-8 (Amplified Bible)

3May blessing (praise, laudation, and eulogy) be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah) Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual (given by the Holy Spirit) blessing in the heavenly realm! 4Even as [in His love] He chose us [actually picked us out for Himself as His own] in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy (consecrated and set apart for Him) and blameless in His sight, even above reproach, before Him in love. 5For He foreordained us (destined us, planned in love for us) to be adopted (revealed) as His own children through Jesus Christ, in accordance with the purpose of His will [because it pleased Him and was His kind intent]--6[So that we might be] to the praise and the



commendation of His glorious grace (favor and mercy), which He so freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7In Him we have redemption (deliverance and salvation) through His blood, the remission (forgiveness) of our offenses (shortcomings and trespasses), in accordance with the riches and the generosity of His gracious favor, 8Which He lavished upon us in every kind of wisdom and understanding (practical insight and prudence),

- **Just because He gave the Blessing doesn't mean that we received the Blessing.**
- **Why don't we receive all that belongs to us?**

Romans 8:1

¹Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,

- Preparation
- Prayer
- Peace

The devil wants to get you underfoot to dominate your thoughts; thus actions.

Matthew 12:29 (New Living Translation)

29 For who is powerful enough to enter the house of a strong man like Satan and plunder his goods? Only someone even stronger—someone who could tie him up and then plunder his house.

The enemy will undermine your thinking!

Proverbs 14:12 (New Living Translation)

12 There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.

Galatians 1:6-7 (New International Version)

6I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

Undermine

1. to injure or destroy by insidious activity or imperceptible stages, sometimes tending toward a sudden dramatic effect.
2. to attack by indirect, secret, or underhand means; attempt to subvert by stealth.
3. to make an excavation under; dig or tunnel beneath, as a military stronghold.
4. to weaken or cause to collapse by removing underlying support, as by digging away or eroding the foundation.



The devil can only take what you don't understand!

Proverbs 4:7 (Amplified Bible)

7The beginning of Wisdom is: get Wisdom (skillful and godly Wisdom)! [For skillful and godly Wisdom is the principal thing.] And with all you have gotten, get understanding (discernment, comprehension, and interpretation).

Matthew 13:19 (New King James Version)

19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

Lack

Hosea 4:6 (Amplified Bible)

6My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you [the priestly nation] have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you that you shall be no priest to Me; seeing you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children.

- **The Enemy wants you comfortable with lack**
- **God wants you "Blessed" not in lack!**

James 1:2-8

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

- **The enemy wants you to believe the lie**
- **God wants you to walk in truth**

John 8:44 (Amplified Bible)

44You are of your father, the devil, and it is your will to practice the lusts and gratify the desires [which are characteristic] of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a falsehood, he speaks what is natural to him, for he is a liar [himself] and the father of lies and of all that is false.

John 8:44 (The Message)



42-47 "If God were your father," said Jesus, "you would love me, for I came from God and arrived here. I didn't come on my own. He sent me. Why can't you understand one word I say? Here's why: You can't handle it. You're from your father, the Devil, and all you want to do is please him. He was a killer from the very start. He couldn't stand the truth because there wasn't a shred of truth in him. When the Liar speaks, he makes it up out of his lying nature and fills the world with lies. I arrive on the scene, tell you the plain truth, and you refuse to have a thing to do with me. Can any one of you convict me of a single misleading word, a single sinful act? But if I'm telling the truth, why don't you believe me? Anyone on God's side listens to God's words. This is why you're not listening—because you're not on God's side."

Live/life

Proverbs 3:1-5 (Amplified Bible)

1MY SON, forget not my law or teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; 2For length of days and years of a life [worth living] and tranquility [inward and outward and continuing through old age till death], these shall they add to you.

John 10:10 (Amplified Bible)

10The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).

Matthew 6:33 (Amplified Bible)

33But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides.

Matthew 16:19 (Contemporary English Version)

19I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and God in heaven will allow whatever you allow on earth. But he will not allow anything that you don't allow.

Why am I not experiencing the fullness of the blessing?

Proverbs 15:11 (Contemporary English Version)

11If the LORD can see everything in the world of the dead, He (God) can see in our hearts.

Psalms 139:23 (Contemporary English Version)

23Look deep into my heart, God, and find out everything I am thinking.