

PSALM 112

- ¹ Praise the LORD!
Blessed *is* the man *who* fears the LORD,
Who delights greatly in His commandments.
- ² His descendants will be mighty on earth;
The generation of the upright will be blessed.
- ³ Wealth and riches *will be* in his house,
And his righteousness endures forever.
- ⁴ Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness;
He is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.
- ⁵ A good man deals graciously and lends;
He will guide his affairs with discretion.
- ⁶ Surely he will never be shaken;
The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance.
- ⁷ He will not be afraid of evil tidings;
His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
- ⁸ His heart *is* established;
He will not be afraid,
Until he sees *his desire* upon his enemies.
- ⁹ He has dispersed abroad,
He has given to the poor;
His righteousness endures forever;
His horn will be exalted with honor.
- ¹⁰ The wicked will see *it* and be grieved;
He will gnash his teeth and melt away;
The desire of the wicked shall perish.¹

Psalm 112:8 (NKJV)

⁸His heart *is* established;

Convictions

You may wonder why some people follow a pattern of crisis and inconsistency and others live according to a pattern of blessing and good fortune.

It's simple – those with strong convictions build strength into their lives. It all depends on **where your heart is set**

- If you stand for nothing you'll fall for anything!
- When you know what you stand for nothing can sway you

2 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV)

¹²nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.²

- If you don't know what you believe it's hard to take a stand and see God move!
- A lack of conviction may not kill you but it may lead to the death of your dreams, your marriage or your well being
- Your convictions are what establish your patterns for life

Proverbs 16:25

²⁵ There is a way *that seems* right to a man,
But its end *is* the way of death.³

Psalm 112:8

He will not be afraid, **Until** he sees *his desire* upon his enemies.ⁱ

Success

A blessed life is one that will know success not failure

- Some people think it is a formula
- Some people think that God will wave His magic wand and they will start to prosper

Many people with great potential have sabotaged their opportunity because they lacked the patience to endure in rough times

- *God is not a slot machine*

Hebrews 6:12 (NLT)

¹² Then you will not become spiritually dull and indifferent. Instead, you will follow the example of those who are going to inherit God's promises because of their faith and endurance.

- Sometimes we look at successful, well known people and we want what they have
- Instead of looking at them where they are consider what it took for them to get there

You need staying power if you want to live a life that is blessed and Plugged In to God's promises
You can trust Him to fulfill His promise to bless you

Psalm 112:9

9 He has dispersed abroad

Vision

The Righteous man clearly lives a life that goes way beyond himself

His life is far-reaching and has a wide-ranging impact on others

To move forward in life you *must have a vision that is beyond you* – your life is meant to be *intertwined* with others

Having a dream or a specific goal in life will add direction and purpose to your life

Proverbs 29:18

18 where *there is no vision, the people perish*:

- Many people are frustrated because they aren't going anywhere or achieving anything
 - Their time, energy and finances are wasted because their life lacks purpose
 - God expects us to live a life of influence that continues to expand the kingdom of heaven
-

Ask God what He sees for your life

Get a vision – make a plan – start to live by faith and see it come to pass

Psalm 112:9 NKJV

He has given to the poor;

Generosity

- God's nature is to give
- Everything He does comes from a generous spirit
- You and I should desire to live the same way
- Generosity isn't about how much you have
- It's not a single act
- *A true spirit of generosity is a lifestyle*

A way of Seeing

A way of thinking

A way of living

Proverbs 22:9

⁹ He who has a generous *eye* will be blessed, For he gives
of his bread to the poor.ⁱ

- A generous eye will see beyond itself
- You quickly spot opportunities to bless others
- Instead of judging others a generous spirit will be open to believe the best

Isaiah 32:8 NKJV

⁸ But a generous man *devises generous things*,
*And by generosity he shall stand.*ⁱ

- A generous person starts thinking generous thoughts
devising plans to bless others
- When I start to think generous thoughts generosity
becomes a foundational principal in my life

Psalm 112:9

His righteousness endures forever;

Endurance

The promises of God are readily available to you

You need a commitment to endurance, persistence and patience to see them established

Hebrews 10:36 (NLT)

³⁶ Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.

- Endurance is a refusal to surrender
- Determination to keep going
- You may face opposition and want to quit
- You endure and receive the reward

James 1:12 (NLT)

¹² God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

- You and I must stand strong during testing or temptation – you will be *(not if but when)*
- Don't allow your own desires to get you off track
- This is part of Satan's strategy to get you off track
- Commit to the long haul
- Don't look for shortcuts – Endure
- For your marriage, your finances and your spiritual walk with God

Psalm 112:9 NKJV

His *horn* will be exalted with honor.

Respect

A *Horn* refers to strength and influence

When we follow gods principals we will have credibility and respect

Proverbs 3:4 (NLT)

⁴ Then you will find favor with both God and people,
and you will earn a good reputation.

When you have *earned* respect

- Your words will have authority
- Success will follow you
- Promotion will be a way of life
- You will be protected from rumors and attack
- People will rally to your cause

“You can be successful in what you do, but without respect, you can never reach any significant level of influence”

– Brian Houston, How To Maximize Your Life

Respect can not be bought or demanded

It is something that must be earned over time

John Maxwell – 5 P’s of leadership

Position, Permission, Production, People Development, Personhood

Psalm 112:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ The wicked will see *it* and be grieved;
He will gnash his teeth and melt away;
The desire of the wicked shall perish.ⁱ

Protection from Persecution and Victory

When you develop a lifestyle of the blessed man mentioned in **Psalm 112** your credibility will be protected
Integrity, righteousness and respect are a great protection against the enemy

Isaiah 54:17 (NLT)

¹⁷ But in that coming day no weapon turned against you will succeed. You will silence every voice raised up to accuse you. These benefits are enjoyed by the servants of the LORD; their vindication will come from me. I, the LORD, have spoken!

- When we make a stand for God don't be surprised if you attract opposition or persecution
- The Devil is always seeking to steal, kill and destroy
- When your life is impacted by God some people will try to pull you down to their size – trust God!

Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

⁶ And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

God is committed to seeing you succeed and He desires to complete what He has started in your life

Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

⁹ So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

Refuse to Grow Weary

At times when you are physically tired stay energized by vision and focus on the opportunities in your life

Continue to do Good

Whether or not you had a good start stay determined to finish well

Recognize Your Season & Stay committed to reaping

Continually sow good seed and you can expect to reap accordingly – It's my time! – **Psalm 126:5, 6**

Stay determined to not lose heart

The adversary's plan is to hold you back from the blessing of God and a quality life

1 John 4:4 (NLT)

⁴ But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.