The Blessed One

**Read:** Psalm 119:1-8

**Text:** Ps119:8 “I will keep thy statutes…”

**Introduction:** Christian bookstores and online sellers of Christian books have an abundance of books about how to be blessed in one way or another. I haven’t written a book but if I did this sermon might be my opening chapter. First off; I think that most Christians have a very cheesy definition of what it is to be blessed. *Being blessed by God is simply having His approval*. It has nothing to do with prosperity in the financial markets or with perfect health or with whatever measure you and I put on secular success. Those 5 young men who were murdered by the Acua Indians that they were trying to win to Christ were a tremendous success. Literally thousands of young men and women were drawn to the missionary life by their testimony. Hundreds of thousands more increased their giving to foreign missions as a result.

\*The first verse says: “Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, who walk

in the law of the LORD.”

**Undefiled in the way** are Those who don’t walk in the mud but walk

On the high road. Children love to play in puddles and mud. It is a

childish mind that thinks that there is no danger in the mud. Most

adults know that the mud can suck you in and that it will make you

filthy. It is the mature mind that will try to avoid the mud when they

can. The one who chooses the path of blessing knows that the blessed

believer is one who avoids places of filth. The blessed one says: “If

God is not put in a place of honor in that place then it is not a place

that I would be comfortable in.”

\*The 2nd verse says: “Blessed *are* they that keep his testimonies, and

*that* seek him with the whole heart.”

**Keepers of His testimonies** are those who obey what they know while

awaiting answers for the parts that they don’t. For many difficult

assignments there is much that can be done while we wait for addit-

ional assistance where needed. Far too many people want to see the

entire blueprint before they start to build. You may not know what the

roofline is going to look like but if you have a shovel you can start

on the foundation.

\*The 3rd verse says: “They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.”

**They that do no iniquity** are those who don’t sin on purpose. I get so

tired of hearing people talk about making mistakes when they knew

the dangers but did nothing to prepare for them. There is a pot hole on

Route 7 that I hit two times. It is right where the passing place begins

on the hill down toward Tyrone Road. After the second time I decided

that the cost of realignment was greater than the car length that I’d

gain by passing in that spot. After several damaged cars and torn tires I

don’t hit potholes on purpose. Sin is like that as well. There are times

that sin sneaks up on us. But after it catching us in the same spot

several times don’t you think that another path would be advisable?

(Aaron Wilburn & the doughnut shop)

\*The fourth verse says: “Thou hast commanded *us* to keep thy

precepts diligently.”

**The Diligent keeper of His precepts** is one who pays attention to

what God says and follows His direction precisely. Have you ever

made a pastry from a recipe and something was wrong? What did you

do after throwing the brownies in the trash? Did you go back to the

recipe and read it carefully? My mother taught me to bake. The first

thing she taught me was how to get the ingredients out. She empha-

sized that there is a difference between baking soda & baking powder.

She told me that when she baked her first cake she accidentally used

baking soda rather than baking powder. She never forgot again.

\*The fifth verse says: “O that my ways were directed to keep thy

statutes!”

If I could rewrite this verse in a paraphrase form it would say: “**I wish**

**it was my natural inclination to keep your statutes**.” For if it was: I

wouldn’t be ashamed (verse 6). I would be full of praise (verse 7) and

I would keep your statutes. (verse 8).

**Conclude:** Have you ever heard the phrase: “Practice makes perfect!?

That’s the way that we learn to be blessed. We practice and we prac-

tice and we practice. It is not easy at first but it becomes a natural

inclination after months and years of practice. Let’s stand and pray that

God will help us become bless able.