BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

# **GENESIS 12:2**

"I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others."

### **"WHAT MUST I DO TO BE BLESSED?"**

God provides a simple answer to this question in Deuteronomy 28:1-2. Those verses read:

"If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully keep all His commands that I am giving you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the world. You will experience all these blessings if you obey the Lord your God."

### **GUIDE TO BLESSING**

#### Deuteronomy 12:1-2 is a guide to our blessing.

- First, "FULLY OBEY THE LORD YOUR GOD." Simply stated, we are to listen attentively, constantly, persistently and unceasingly to the voice of the Lord our God. Someone may say that this is easier said than done since the world is filled with a variety of voices and languages. This may be true, but a child of God knows the Lord's voice from others voices because Jesus said in John 10:27, "MY SHEEP LISTEN TO MY VOICE; I KNOW THEM, AND THEY FOLLOW ME."
- Second, "CAREFULLY KEEP ALL HIS COMMANDS THAT I AM GIVING YOU." In other words, we must adhere to or take notice of God's command, and we must carry out the requirements of God's Word. The significance of this is presented in James 1:22-25. There it states; "BUT DON'T JUST LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD. YOU MUST DO WHAT IT SAYS. OTHERWISE, YOU ARE ONLY FOOLING YOURSELVES. FOR IF YOU LISTEN TO THE WORD AND DON'T OBEY, IT IS LIKE GLANCING AT YOUR FACE IN A MIRROR. YOU SEE YOURSELF, WALK AWAY, AND FORGET WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE. BUT IF YOU LOOK CAREFULLY INTO THE PERFECT LAW THAT SETS YOU FREE, AND IF YOU DO WHAT IT SAYS AND DON'T FORGET WHAT YOU HEARD, THEN GOD WILL BLESS YOU FOR DOING IT."

## GUIDE TO BLESSING CONTINUED

Third, and finally is "TODAY." When it comes to the things of God, many people tend to delay. They delay listening, observing and doing what the Word of God stipulates to be done. There are many people who "PUT OFF UNTIL TOMORROW WHAT THEY SHOULD DO TODAY." As a result, there are times when these people wonder why they seem to be anemic when it comes to their blessings. These people are "BLESSINGS ANEMIC" or "LOW ON BLESSINGS" because they refuse to listen, observe and do what God directs them to do on "TODAY."

 We must remember what the Holy Word declares in Hebrews 3:15;
"TODAY WHEN YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DON'T HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS ISRAEL DID WHEN THEY REBELLED."

### **ADOPT THE WORD ATTITUDE OF BLESSING**

- The world promotes the "I'VE GOT MINE, YOU GET YOURS" attitude. Sadly, sometimes people of God allow this worldly attitude to influence them. As a result, instead of adopting the attitude that "I'VE BEEN BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING" they adopt the attitude of "I'VE GOT MY BLESSING. IT'S UP TO YOU TO GET YOUR BLESSING."
- However, the word indicates that we are BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING to each other. Second Corinthians 8:13-15 says: "OF COURSE, I DON'T MEAN YOUR GIVING SHOULD MAKE LIFE EASY FOR OTHERS AND HARD FOR YOURSELVES. I ONLY MEAN THAT THERE SHOULD BE SOME EQUALITY. RIGHT NOW YOU HAVE PLENTY AND CAN HELP THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED. LATER, THEY WILL HAVE PLENTY AND CAN SHARE WITH YOU WHEN YOU NEED IT. IN THIS WAY, THINGS WILL BE EQUAL. AS THE SCRIPTURES SAY, "THOSE WHO GATHERED A LOT HAD NOTHING LEFT OVER, AND THOSE WHO GATHERED ONLY A LITTLE HAD ENOUGH."

#### **BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING EVIDENCE**

We all are abundantly blessed with a talent or gift, regardless of our cultural, financial or social classification. We are blessed with these talents or gifts not for the purpose of showing them off to others, but we are blessed with these talents or gifts for the purpose of sharing them with others.

> Evidence that we are "**BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING**" is provided in the Holy Scriptures.

- In Matthew 10:8, Jesus told his disciples, "HEAL THE SICK, RAISE THE DEAD, CURE THOSE WITH LEPROSY, AND CAST OUT DEMONS. GIVE AS FREELY AS YOU HAVE RECEIVED!"
- Jesus informed Peter in Luke 22:32, "I HAVE PLEADED IN PRAYER FOR YOU, SIMON, THAT YOUR FAITH SHOULD NOT FAIL. SO WHEN YOU HAVE REPENTED AND TURNED TO ME AGAIN, STRENGTHEN YOUR BROTHERS."

## BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING EVIDENCE CONTINUED

- We see Christ's prayer for Peter answered and Peter's compliance with Christ's direction in the book of Acts 3:6. For there we see Peter saying to the lame man: "I DON'T HAVE ANY SILVER OR GOLD FOR YOU. BUT I'LL GIVE YOU WHAT I HAVE. IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST THE NAZARENE, GET UP AND WALK!"
- Finally, Jesus provides the best illustration to prove that "WE ARE BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING" in Luke 4:18-19. For Jesus said, "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, FOR HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO BRING GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM THAT CAPTIVES WILL BE RELEASED, THAT THE BLIND WILL SEE, THAT THE OPPRESSED WILL BE SET FREE, AND THAT THE TIME OF THE LORD'S FAVOR HAS COME."

### **BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING BENEFITS**

- If everyone obeys, listens, observes and carries out the directions of God and utilizes their blessings to bless others they shall experience the true meaning and spirit of godliness and godly living.
- By being a blessing to others, we will experience a way of life that would be free of animosity, jealousy, bitterness, homelessness, excess and poverty.
- By blessing others through our blessings, we will experience the full reality and rewards that God has presented and promised in His Holy Word.

"I will bless my people and their homes around my holy hill. And in the proper season I will send the showers they need. There will be showers of blessing." (Ezekiel 34:26)

## Compliments of Truth Nothing But Truth (TNT) Evangelistic Outreach www.tntevangelisticoutreach.com

#### Provided By Inspiration of the Holy Spirit

#### Written by Rev. Lenny M. Young

Copyright 2010 All Rights Reserved.

Bible Verses From The New Living Translation

Based Upon A Sermon Entitled" Blessed To Be A Blessing" By Rev. Lenny M. Young