

PLAIN SPEECH

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“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2 Cor. 3:12)

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WHO ENJOYS THE STATE OF BLESSEDNESS?

Blessed individuals enjoy a state of true happiness that stems from knowing God is pleased with them (Prv. 29:18). What kind of people enjoy the state of blessedness? Scripture gives us the answers (as usual – 2 Tim. 3:16-17). Below is just a partial list.

THOSE WHO ARE IN CHRIST; I.E. THOSE ADDED TO THE CHURCH VIA PROPER BAPTISM

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ” (Eph. 1:3).

THOSE WHO RECOGNIZE WHO JESUS REALLY AND TRULY IS

“And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven” (Mt. 16:16-17).

THOSE WHO ARE NOT OFFENDED BY JESUS

“And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me” (Mt. 11:6).

THOSE WHO PROPERLY DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

“O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if it be yet in vain. He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham. For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them” (Gal. 3:1-10).

THOSE WHO HAVE A HEALTHY FEAR OF GOD AND LOVE HIS WORD

“...Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments” (Ps. 112:1).

THOSE WHO HEAR AND DO GOD’S WILL

“Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie” (Rev. 22:14-15).

THOSE WHO DO NOT PAL AROUND WITH THE UNGODLY

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful” (Ps. 1:1).

THOSE WHO REFUSE TO ALLOW THE TRIALS OF LIFE TO DERAIL THEM FROM THE FAITH

“Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him” (Js. 1:12).

THOSE WHO DO NOT CANDY-COAT SIN, BUT INSTEAD REBUKE THE ERRING

“He that saith unto the wicked, Thou art righteous; him shall the people curse, nations shall abhor him: But to them that rebuke him shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them” (Prv. 24:24-25).