

SERMON: PLEASE DON'T DOWN PLAY YOUR BLESSINGS

PSALM 103:1-2

(1) Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. (2) Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

Introduction

We have heard so much lately in political news about downplaying issues. Each side accuses the other side of downplaying the issues which are important to them. As I thought about it, this Scripture came to mind. This Scripture in essence says, "Let me make sure I don't downplay the blessing God has given me; for God has blessed me tremendously." If we are not careful, we can downplay or minimize the blessings God has afforded us. All of the negative news can make us discount what God has done in our personal and collective lives. Evil is present at every level. Paul was correct when he wrote these words in Ephesians, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." We must still believe there is a silver lining above each menacing storm cloud. Sometimes it is not easy. Counting our blessings in the midst of evil does not diminish the evil or its malicious effects; it does give us a sense of balance as we deal with the negative forces around us. In spite of the work of the enemy, God is able to pull good out of all of the devil's evil plots.

I am sure you have already figured out that "forget" in our text does not mean to have no mental recollection. It is the translation of the Hebrew word "shaw-cock." It has several related meanings. It means to take for granted or to not fully appreciate. It can mean to not give something or somebody full attention. It can mean to neglect or to leave behind. It can also mean to "mislaid." That is to put something in the wrong or improper place.

There are many things that can make us downplay our blessings? Let's look at a few.

Exposition

1. A Sense of Entitlement and an Insatiable Desire
2. No Knowledge or Appreciation of Progress Already Made
3. Relative Depravation-Always Comparing Yourself to Others
4. We Are Blessed With So Much Stuff That Can Malfunction and Upset Us (Cellphones, Tablets, TVs, Microwaves, Garage Doors, Garbage Disposals, Automobiles, HVAC Units, Washing Machines, Dryers, Crock Pots, Juicers, Toasters, Security Cameras, Etc.)

5. Our Thoughts about the Evil of Others Overshadow Our Thoughts
about the Goodness of God

Closing Thoughts

Many of us have the same testimony that Joseph had in Genesis 41:52, “For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.” Give God Glory! Give God All The Glory!

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