

LEVITICUS 26:3-17; 40-45

BLESSING OR CURSE?

God explained to Moses what would happen to the Israelites when they obeyed and disobeyed His command.

If they obeyed Him, God would bless them with so many blessings. If they disobeyed Him, curse would come upon them. God did NOT say He would forsake Israel, but He would punish them. However, if they repented, God would remember them, receive them back and give them His blessing again. How faithful and merciful He is! The Israelites were to choose - to obey Him or to disobey Him.

You have to choose between blessing and curse in your daily life. You must understand that choosing blessing means choosing God's way. When you don't choose to obey Him, you are stepping out of His blessing. Then, curse would start to creep into your life. Choosing to obey God with all your heart means choosing blessing.

Which one will you choose?

Key verse:

Psalm 37:22

*Those people
the Lord blesses
will inherit the
land. But those
He curses will be
sent away.*

Prayer

*Dear Jesus, help
me to choose to
obey You in every
decision I make
and to turn away
from all things
that You don't
like. Amen.*

NUMBERS 2:1-31

JESUS AT THE CENTER OF IT ALL

God told Moses and Aaron to do a census*) of the Israelites and arrange the camp position of each tribe in the wilderness. During census, all the tribes would be counted except the tribe of Levi. This census is also a symbol of His love for them. Each person is so priceless to God that He takes the time to count them one by one.

Once the census was done, God told Moses about their camp arrangement. Naphtali, Dan and Asher would be on the North side.

Reuben, Simeon and Gad would be on the South side.
Judah, Zebulun and Issachar would be on the East side.
Benjamin, Manasseh and Ephraim would be on the West side.

Levi would be in the middle of all the camps, and so would the tabernacle of meeting. The tabernacle of meeting was the place where the Israelites worshipped God.

This camp arrangement is a picture of how Jesus Christ must be at the very centre of your life. Just as God wanted the tabernacle of meeting to be at the centre of the camps, He also wants you to put Him at the centre of your life.

*) an official count or survey, especially of a population

Key verse:

*John 15:4
Remain in Me,
and I will remain
in you.*

Prayer

*Dear God, I want
to learn more of
Your teachings,
believe in Your
word and walk in
Your path. Be the
centre of it all,
Jesus. Amen.*

NUMBERS 6:22-27

THE LORD'S BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you...

God bless you because He loves to bless His people and He wants His people to recognise that every blessing really comes from Him alone. The true blessing from God is greater than any kind of happiness or wealth or comfort. The part 'keep you' means His divine protection is upon you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you...

The Lord's face represents a radiant light. He causes His face to shine on those who seek His face and who want to be a blessing for the glory of His name. God is gracious and He shows tender mercy and care for His people.

The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace...

He pays attention to his children as individuals. He promises peace since He is the Prince of Peace. You can be sure of His promise.

God knows you by name and He loves to bless you. He protects you, knows and fulfill your needs, gives you peace and keeps His promises for you.

Key verse:

Psalm 4:8

In peace I will lie down and sleep for You alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Prayer

Dear God, thank You for Your great love and blessing upon my life. Let me walk in Your blessing and goodness today. May Your face shine on me. Amen.

NUMBERS 9:15-23

LET GOD LEAD YOU

During the Israelites' stay in the camps during the wilderness journey, God's presence in their midst was in the form of a cloud. This cloud was shaped like a pillar. The cloud remained with them day and night. At night, the cloud looked like fire. The Israelites followed the cloud as their guidance. The cloud became the sign to know when and where they should move their camps and how long they should stay there.

When the cloud stopped and stayed over the tabernacle, the Israelites also stopped and camped there. When the cloud moved, it was time to pack up, move and follow the cloud.

Just like the Israelites following God's guidance, we must also follow God's guidance. How? By reading the Bible. Let Him become your leader who leads you in every step of your life.

Key verse:

*Isaiah 58:11
The LORD will
guide you always*

Prayer

Dear God, lead me to live in a life that You have planned for me. I need Your guidance. Even when I don't understand Your ways sometimes, I want to always trust You. Amen.

NUMBERS 10:1-10

GOD REMEMBERS YOU

God asked Moses to make two trumpets of hammered silver. The priests were appointed to blow the trumpets. God gave the instruction on what occasions they should blow both trumpets.

Firstly, it is used as a signal for gathering or assembling the congregation to worship God or to move on to the next place.

Secondly, it is used as a warning especially during the battle so that God's divine protection falls upon them.

Third, it is used as a signal for a celebration and for a shout of joy!

The Lord promised that the people would be remembered by Him at the sounding of the trumpet blasts. God remembers you on every occasion of your lives.

When God remembers you, impossibility becomes possible. When God remembers you, your tears will turn to joy. When God remembers you, miracles happen.

Key verse:

*Psalm 106:4
Remember me,
Lord when You
show favor to
Your people.*

Prayer

*Dear God, thank
You for always
remembering
me and knowing
what I am going
through. Amen.*

NUMBERS 13:17-33 & 14:6-9

DARE TO BE DIFFERENT

God told Moses to send a man from each tribe to spy out the land of Canaan. Twelve men were sent. They were to find out about the land and the people in the land. After 40 days, they returned. The spies reported that the land was prosperous and the people there were very big while they were so small. Ten of the spies recommended NOT going into the Promised Land because they were scared of the people there, while the other 2 spies, Joshua and Caleb, encouraged the people to go and take the land and trust in God for this. The Israelites trusted the 10 spies more than the 2 spies.

As a precious child of God, you should not follow what others say or do just because the majority of your friends or the people in the world are doing it. Instead, you should do what is right and what God wants you to do. Read your Bible everyday as the Bible tells you what are the true and right things in God's eyes.

Key verse:

*Romans 12:2
Do not be
shaped by this
world*

Prayer

*Dear God, give
me wisdom to
know what are
the things that
are pleasing to
You so I can be
different from the
world. Amen.*

NUMBERS 16:1-35

DON'T BE ENVIOUS

There was a gang of rebels led by a man named Korah. Korah was a Levite and as Levites, his family had been given an important work to do in the Tabernacle. Sadly, he was still envious of the authority God had given Moses and Aaron. Korah and his people accused Moses and Aaron of taking too much upon themselves while actually Moses and Aaron were just doing God's command. As a result, God punished the rebels by making the earth swallow Korah, his family and their belongings and by sending fire to destroy the other 250 men.

Envy is a feeling of wanting what someone else has. If you let it stay in your heart, it becomes destructive. Envy destroys relationships and creates bitterness. It causes people to speak and act in evil ways.

Start counting your blessings, not others' blessings. Be content with what you have and enjoy it with a grateful heart. Being grateful is a choice, just like being envious is a choice. Today, you can choose to be grateful and leave envy behind.

Key verse:

*Proverbs 14:30
... but envy rots
the bones.*

Prayer

*Dear Jesus, set
me free from
toxic thoughts
that cause me to
feel envious of
others. Amen.*