

Living in the Rewards of Our Obedience

- **Day One – Read Psalm 84:1-2, 4-5, 10-12.** When you think about “dwelling” in the presence of God, what comes to mind? If God is “everywhere,” what does it mean to long to be with him, and draw near to him? What are the “rewards” for those whose walk is “blameless?” This means with integrity and honesty, not perfection!

Pray and ask God to give you a greater desire to draw near to him and walk “blamelessly” with honesty and integrity.

- **Day Two – Read the verses under “Dangerous Errors Regarding Obedience” in point #1 of notes.** What are the dangers of these two mistakes in our thinking? How can the Holy Spirit be “grieved?” “Resisted?” Blasphemed?”

Pray and ask God to help you understand his presence in your life. Even though you don’t begin it, or end it, you do live in response to his presence and are rewarded as you respond correctly.

- **Day Three – Read Colossians 3:23-24; Matthew 6:20-21; 25:21; Psalm 23:6.** When you think of “working for the Lord, and for “an inheritance from the Lord,” does it seem selfish or self-serving? What would it mean for you to live with a greater view of heaven and heavenly rewards? How are you storing up treasure in heaven? What are you ultimately working towards?

Pray and thank God that we are saved by his grace and blessed to be his children. Thank him that he forgives our sin and redeems our failures. Ask that you will live the rest of your life enjoying the rewards of your obedience and look forward to your treasure in heaven!

New Life Lessons
July 23rd & 24th, 2011
Pastor Ron Salisbury

“The Rewards of Our Obedience”

The Power of God’s Promises #4

Psalm 84:1-2, 4-5, 10-12; 23:6; Colossians 3:23-24;
1 Samuel 15:22b-23; Matthew 6:20-21

Psalm 84:1-2, 4-5, 10-12 (NIV) ¹ How lovely is **your dwelling place**, O Lord Almighty! ² My soul yearns, even faints, for **the courts of the Lord**; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. ⁴ Blessed are those who dwell in **your house**; they are ever praising you. Selah

⁵ **Blessed are those whose strength is in you**, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage. ¹⁰ Better is one day in **your courts** than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in **the house of my God** than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹¹ **For the Lord God is a sun and shield**; the Lord bestows favor and honor; **no good thing does he withhold** from those whose walk is blameless. ¹² O Lord Almighty, **blessed is the man who trusts in you.**

What Do We “Reward” in Our Culture?

Service Cooperation Success

Ability Achievement Race Beauty

Are There Unseen Rewards?

The Fulfillment of:

Investing in Others Doing the Right Thing

Psalm 84:12 (NIV) ¹² O Lord Almighty, **blessed** is the man who **trusts** in you. Psalm 1:1-3; 103:2

What Are the Rewards of Our Obedience?

1. The Presence of God.

Psalm 84:1-2, 4 (NIV) ¹ How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty! ² My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. ⁴ Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you. **Selah** Psalm 139:7-8; Acts 17:27; James 4:8

1 Corinthians 3:16 (NIV) ¹⁶ Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? 2 Corinthians 6:16b; John 14:23; Acts 2:4; 17:24

Matthew 6:6 (NKJV) ⁶ When you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Psalm 84:5, 7 (NIV) ⁵ Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage. ⁷ They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion. "blessed" - *esher* – "happy is/are"

James 4:7-8 (NLT) ⁷ Humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

Dangerous Errors Regarding Obedience:

- ***Our Obedience Doesn't Begin God's Presence in Our Life***

Romans 5:6; Ephesians 2:4, 8-9; Titus 3:4

- ***Our Disobedience Doesn't End God's Presence in Our Life***

Hebrews 6:4-6; 2 Peter 3:17-18a; 2 Timothy 2:11-13; Mark 3:29; Ephesians 4:30; 1 Thessalonians 5:19

2. The Protection of God.

Psalm 84:11a (NIV) ^{11a} For the Lord God is a sun and shield." Proverbs 3:5-6

Psalm 91:9-10 (NIV) ⁹ If you make the Most High your dwelling-- even the Lord, who is my refuge-- ¹⁰ then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. Isaiah 43:2-3a

Proverbs 22:5 (NIV) ⁵ In the paths of the wicked lie thorns and snares, but he who guards his soul stays far from them. Proverbs 14:12; 12:25a; 4:23

3. The Provision of God.

Psalm 84:11b-12 ^{11b} The Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. ¹² O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you. "blameless"- *tāmīm* – "with integrity and truth"

Favor & Honor
ḥēn kābôd

1 John 1:6-7 (NIV) ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. Matthew 6:31-33; 1 Peter 1:3-4

4. The Promise of God.

Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV) ²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Matthew 6:20-21 (NIV) ²⁰ Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 25:21; Psalm 23:6