

**Psalm 112 (NASB)**

**Praise the LORD!**

**How blessed is the man who fears the LORD,  
Who greatly delights in His commandments.  
His descendants will be mighty on earth;  
The generation of the upright will be blessed.  
Wealth and riches are in his house,  
And his righteousness endures forever.  
Light arises in the darkness for the upright;  
He is gracious and compassionate and righteous.  
It is well with the man who is gracious and lends;  
He will maintain his cause in judgment.  
For he will never be shaken;  
The righteous will be remembered forever.**

**He will not fear evil tidings;  
His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.  
His heart is upheld, he will not fear,  
Until he looks with satisfaction on his adversaries.  
He has given freely to the poor,  
His righteousness endures forever;  
His horn will be exalted in honor.  
The wicked will see it and be vexed,  
He will gnash his teeth and melt away;  
The desire of the wicked will perish.**

Who wants to be blessed by God? Okay, everyone's hand is in the air for that question. Now, who wants to live the kind of life that's required in order to receive God's blessings? Ahhh, now there's a little hesitancy with those hands, isn't there. I don't know about you, but I've always struggled with being fully, unabashedly, wholeheartedly committed to righteous living. It's not that I don't want to give my whole life and being to God, but I just find it so hard sometimes. I read a psalm like this one, and I feel jealous. I want to feel the confidence this psalmist exudes. I want to be the righteous man who lives without fear, who trusts God completely, whose generations will be blessed, who will never be shaken, who will forever be remembered. When God opens his goody bag, I'm the first in line with my hand out.

What I'm still working on is the posture of my heart. I need more work! I am still trying to delight in God's commands, to fear the Lord always, to be gracious and compassionate and righteous. I still struggle at times to lend mercifully and to give sacrificially to those poorer than me. Part of my struggle has been a result of my motivations. At times, I've tried to live righteously just so God would give me what I wanted in return. Sure, if God will increase my wealth, I'll give to the needy. Sure, if God will protect me from my enemies, I'll not try to hard to be a people-pleaser. But these attitudes and motivations don't make me righteous.

The things that can make us righteous are the two things listed in the opening verse of this psalm. Do we fear/revere the Lord? Do we find joy in His instructions and commands? If we're motivated by a love for God, and if we do what's right because we want to please Him, then will be forever blessed. Dear God, give us pure hearts.