

# Blessings

By Kelly T. Dixon

Scripture: Deuteronomy 11:26-28

When you think of the word blessing what comes to mind? For many, the word blessing is only a name of the prayer you say right before you eat your meal. For Christians, blessings is something much, much more. In the Nave's Topical Bible the word blessings is defined as *contingent upon obedience and spiritual; from God*. The Lord our God expects us to obey His commandments.

*"<sup>26</sup>See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse - <sup>27</sup>the blessing if you obey the commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today; <sup>28</sup>the curse if you disobey the commands of the Lord your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known."*

Deuteronomy 11:26-28 (NIV)

You may think this sounds like a very harsh statement from such a loving God. But is it really? Let's reflect upon our childhoods. When you were a child your parents expected you to obey them. They did not request that you obey them - they EXPECTED it. If you did not obey them - there was usually discipline for your disobedience. Were your parent's rules meant to harm you? No, their rules were meant to teach you right from wrong. Their rules were meant to make you a better person. God says if we do not obey His commandments that we will be cursed. He gave us commandments to obey because without them we would not know what He considers right from wrong. Without God's commandments we would not be able to become a mature Christian. Yes, we can still ask for Jesus to come into our hearts, and we will go to heaven - BUT, we would not become a mature Christian unless we obey God's commandments and let Him bless us.

If we are obedient to the Lord and obey what He commands of us, He will bless us. He will bless us in such a great manner that we will stand in awe of Him. When you were a child and you were good for the day your parents probably rewarded you with a small token to show their appreciation. With God, our obedience is awarded with great blessings, because He loves us so much.

*"<sup>1</sup>The Lord had said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."*

Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV)

God requested of Abram (who later became Abraham) to leave his own people and go unto a land that his Lord would show him. God's commandment probably astounded Abram, but he did as his Lord had commanded. And the Lord blessed him by making him a great nation. WOW! The Lord really does give us great blessings for obeying what He commands.

The Lord's blessings are spiritually given. He gives us blessings because we obey His commandments, but most of all He gives us blessings because He loves us. Just like He loved us enough to send His only begotten Son so we would have eternal life. Reflect upon the many blessings God has given you and make the decision to always obey His commands. You will receive awesome blessings.