

Volume 3

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit," Jeremiah 17:7 – 8

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD!" There is quite a difference between hope in the Lord and hoping in Him to do something for you! Yes, we all need the Lord to do certain things for us, and most certainly "He longs to be gracious to us!" (Isaiah 30:18).

However, foremost in the Lord's heart for His people is that we would come to Him primarily for fellowship with Him. Abraham, the friend of God understood this as he heard the Word of the Lord come to him saying, "Fear not Abram, I am your shield and your exceeding great reward." (Genesis 15:1). Jesus called His disciples to Himself before He sent them out to minister to the poor and needy! (Matthew 10:1).

To our contemporaries, reward is most typically thought to be financial in nature, with relationships being taken for granted and even falling into disrepair. Endeavor to develop your relationship with Christ. All else that life needs or wants will flow out from that vital union. "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33).

Ask yourself – am I genuinely trusting the Lord or am I relying upon my own abilities and strengths? Do I find myself anxious when trouble comes or am I resting in Christ's greater ability and superintending Lordship?

"Lord, I cast my cares upon You – all of them – for You care for me! (1 Peter 5:7)

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