



First Christian Reformed Church of Lynden
From Generation to Generation for the Glory of God

God's precious and exceedingly great promises in hard times

*Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

Scripture

Reflections on "Blessed" in Scripture after Sunday's sermon on the Beatitudes.

[Note: the ESV NT has 112 references with the words bless, blessing, or blessed, none of which connects blessing to material prosperity.]

Matthew 5:3-10

- ³ Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
- ⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
- ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
- ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
- ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
- ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Psalm 1:1-2 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
² but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

Psalm 34:8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Psalm 119:1-2 Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord!
² Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart.

Proverbs 22:9 Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.
⁸ He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

Luke 11:28 Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!

Romans 4:7 Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven.

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

James 1:12 Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

I Peter 3:14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled.

Revelation 1:3 Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

Revelation 14:13, 19:9 Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.
Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb

Numbers 6:24-26 The Lord bless you and keep you;
²⁵ the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
²⁶ the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Song

Psalm 59:16 But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.

[You can Google the hymn to hear it if you would like to sing along.]

Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful,
Where your streams of abundance flow;
Blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place.
Though I walk through the wilderness,
Blessed be your name.

Refrain: Every blessing you pour out, I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord still I will say,
"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name."
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name."

Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's "all as it should be."
Blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name on the road marked with suffering;
Though there's pain in the offering,
Blessed be your name. *Refrain*

You give and take away, You give and take away.
My heart will choose to say, "Lord, blessed be your name."
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name."

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Prayer

II Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Pray thanking God for His blessings, great and small, in the past week or month.
Pray thanking God for trials and troubles that you have seen blessings come out of; or for blessings that at first came disguised as something else.
Pray thanking God for blessing you can see in the lives of your family and friends.
Pray thanking God for the blessings of our community, state, nation.
Pray thanking God for the blessings of His Word and Spirit, His Son and His Church.
Pray thanking God for the promised future blessings that are ours in Christ Jesus.
Pray for God's blessings on those around you or in our world who the Holy Spirit brings to mind who most need a blessing.