

VICTORIOUS CHRISTIANI MINISTRY

Wednesday Bible Study - 25:02:2009

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STUDY 10: GOD – THE UNCHANGING SOURCE OF GOOD AND PERFECT GIFTS

James 1:16, 17

Freedom from error leads to the proper understanding that God is the source of divine blessings. He gives bountifully of His resources to meet the total needs of mankind (Psalms 84:11; II Peter 1:3,4). Our text reveals that God gives only good gifts and there is no fickle nor change in His nature. A proper concept of God and a steady foundation of faith are essential requirements to tasting and seeing that the Lord is good (Psalms 34:8).

OUR CONCEPT OF GOD

Our concept and opinion of God not only sets our character and philosophies of life but also determines our behaviours, attitudes and responses to situations and circumstances. Basically, a defective concept of God is the reason behind hypocrisy, backsliding, worldliness, shallowness and instability in modern day Christianity. Abraham waited 25 years for the fulfillment of a divine promise; Joshua and Caleb believed through 40 years of wilderness wandering to the possession of the promised land and Jabez changed his destiny from doom to dominion - all through a proper concept and opinion of God as well as a strong foundation of faith (Romans 4:16-24; Numbers 13 & 14; I Chronicles 4:10). A wrong concept of God or shaky foundation of faith generally results in:

- 1. Living in deception and error (James 1:16,17).
- 2. Mistaking evil things to be gifts from God (Job 2:10).
- 3. Living in worry and anxiety (Matthew 6:25-33; Philippians 4:6).
- 4. Getting lost in a "rat-race" and falling into satan's traps (Matthew 6:19,32; I Timothy 6::6-10
- 5. Despising our birthright for a pot of porridge (Genesis 25:29-34); forsaking divine privileges for earthly gains (II Timothy 4:10) and seeking the help of devils (I Samuel 28:6,7).
- 6. Making choices based on sight and circumstances (Genesis 13:10,11).
- 7. Settling down in the wilderness instead of pressing on to the Promised Land (Numbers 32:5-7).

A wrong concept of God is satan's strategy designed to enslave believers to satan's "apples" which always have "worms". It takes prudence to stay with God.

THE CHARACTER OF HIS GIFTS

God gives good gifts (Psalms 84:11) that pertains to all areas of life (II Peter 1:3,4) to everyone (Matthew 5:45) and particularly the believers (Romans 8:32). He gives liberally and upbraids not (James 1:5) and there is no sorrow associated with His blessings (Proverbs 10:22). God never change and there is no variableness nor shadow of turning in His blessings (Psalms 102:27; Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 1:12; 13:8; James 1:17; Isaiah 46:4; Romans 11:29). Believers can confidently ask (Matthew 7:7) and trust God to supply all their needs (Philippians 4:19; Psalms 23:1-6; 34:10; 37:25). God has no favourite children. Similar blessings as of Elijah, David, Abraham and Hannah can all be ours if we would exercise faith and patience (James 1:5_8; Hebrews 11:6; 10:36); walk humbly in obedience (Micah 6:8) and give back the glory to God (Proverbs 3:9; Deuteronomy 8:10-20). These conditions are essential as God generally does not bestow His bounty on those having a tendency towards prodigality.