"Blessed Ones"

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

Discrimination & Delight

<u>Psalm 1:1-6</u> – (1) "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 <u>delight</u> is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. (3) He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. (4) The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. (5) Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; (6) for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish."

The Way of the Righteous

Matthew 7:13-14 — "Enter by the narrow gate...for the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

<u>John 6:67-69</u> – (67) "So Jesus said to the Twelve, 'Do you want to go away as well?' (68) Simon Peter answered him, '<u>Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life</u>, (69) <u>and we have believed, and have come to know</u>, that you are the Holy One of God."

<u>Psalm 37:23-24</u> – (23) "The steps of a man are established by the LORD, <u>when he delights in his way</u>; (24) though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand."

The One Who Delights in the Lord is Blessed

The Way of the Wicked

Matthew 7:13 – "For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many."

2 Peter 2:1-2, 15, 19-21 — (1) "But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. (2) And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. (15) Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing, (19) They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved. (20) For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. (21) For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them."

Repair 'Love-Gap' by Repentance

"But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent." (Revelation 2:4-5)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Do I realize that if I delight in God, I can enjoy many different things as well? (Psalm 37:4; 1 Tim. 6:17)

Is God my chief delight? (Psalm 16:5-11, 63:1-5)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)