

Today's Order of Worship

- Announcements: Greg Lowery
- Song Leader: Josh Berryhill
- Opening Prayer: Billy Box
- On the Table: Head - Eddy Dickinson
Servers - Charles Berryhill
Greg Lowery
Ralph Burleson
- Closing Prayer: David Key
- Preparing the Lord's Supper: Linda Lawrence

Weekly Service Times

	Sunday	
Bible Study		10:00 am
Morning Worship		10:45 am
Evening Worship		5:00 pm
	Wednesday	
Bible Study		7:00 pm

Visit Our Website
www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Leonard Key / David Key
 Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

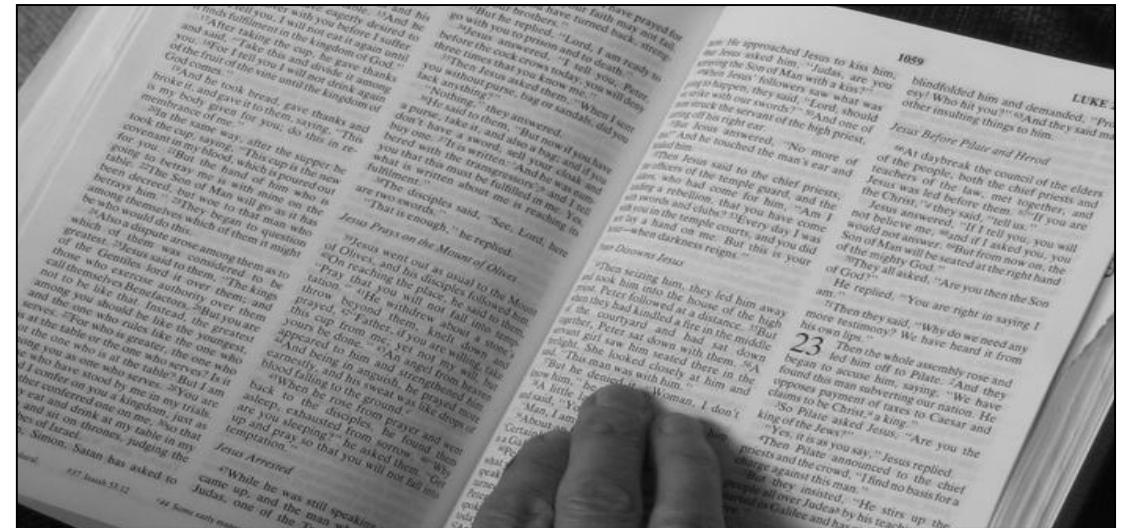
Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Minister: Greg Lowery

Contact Information:
 Phone: (205) 465-9142

Brilliant Church of Christ
 930 Main Street
 P.O. Box 222
 Brilliant, AL 35548

O Thou Fount Of Every Blessing



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



Conditional Blessings

By Sam Willcut

God freely gives us certain blessings. He is the originator of these—we cannot produce them if we tried. It is similar to the scientists who challenged God to a contest to see who could create the perfect human, only for God to stump them immediately when He told them to create their own dust (matter). Without God and His provisions, we would never survive. However, the point of this particular article is to see the conditional nature of these blessings. While we could never obtain by origination these blessings, we still have a part in their access. Notice three examples of conditional blessings.

The first example is our food. Since God created the plants and trees that produce our food, He ultimately produces the food we eat as it originates from Him. As such, without Him providing our food, we would starve. We can see this easily illustrated from His provisions for the nation of Israel during the wilderness journey. When they were hungry, He provided for them food that only His power could provide—manna in the morning and quail in the evening. Without such, they would have starved. However, He did not hand their food to them on a silver platter outside their tent doors, but they had an obligation (condition) to wake up early and gather it. Any Israelite who tried to lie around lazily without gathering the morning manna would have starved. In like manner, God provides for us in answer to prayer our “daily bread” (cf. Matt. 6:11), showing the recognition that our food ultimately comes from Him. However, while He freely provides such, we have an obligation to work in order to obtain. Paul told the brethren from Thessalonica, “For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat” (2 Thess. 3:10). Therefore, the free blessing of food is conditional upon our work.

The second example is wisdom. James admonishes that wisdom ultimately comes from God: “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him” (James 1:5). Since God has provided for us His divine revelation concerning His will for our lives, and how He desires us to live and serve Him, He alone can provide the wisdom necessary to assimilate and apply the divine knowledge contained in the word of God. Yet, He does not miraculously endow us with divine knowledge, but it is conditional based upon our study.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Faye Cotton: please continue to keep her and her family in your prayers

Danny Berryhill: having trouble with his lungs, please pray that he can receive help with this problem

Dewight Kitchens: (Al’s Boss) recovering from recent colon cancer surgery, please praying that they all the cancer was removed

Alice Foster: was diagnosed with congestive heart failure and having problems with her lungs, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Rainey: she has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Maylene McWhirter: her blood gases are showing signs of myeloid leukemia, please be praying for her and her family

Chad Henderson: this young man is battling cancer, please pray that he will be able to receive treatment that will help him in his fight with this terrible disease

Jack Waldon: {Linda’s Brother-In-Law} he is under hospice care, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Billy Lee: {Carolyn’s Brother} diagnosed with renal failure, please keep him in your prayers

Connie Autrey: recent scans show that the cancer is shrinking, please continue to pray that the treatments will continue to work in defeating her cancer

Jack Frazier: (Lellie’s Brother-In-Law) his funeral was last Friday, please continue to keep this family in your prayers

Patsy Busbee: her surgery went well to remove a tumor from her thyroid, please pray that nothing serious will be found and that she will have no further problems

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Bobby Sanderson: is showing signs of improvement from knee surgery, please pray that this improvement will continue

Arthur Ewing: has lung cancer, please pray that he will be able to receive treatment that can help him

Robeana Green: has been diagnosed with cancer, please be praying that with treatments that this cancer can be defeated

Angie Ganey Gardner: she has been diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer, please pray that this cancer will be treatable

Deborah Pollard: is currently taking cancer treatments, please pray that these treatments will be successful in defeating her cancer

Bobby Burleson: (Mrs. Barbara’s Brother) he has throat cancer and doctors not giving much hope, please pray for him and his family

Upcoming Events

Today	Missionary Report {Mike Brooks}	10:00 am
Today	Tri-County Singing {Here}	2:00 pm
June 3 rd	Country Place	2:00 pm
June 10 th	Nursing Home	2:00 pm

Paul encouraged Timothy, “Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine” (1 Tim. 4:13). His spiritual education came by studying with and learning from his mother and grandmother—“But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them” (2 Tim. 3:14; cf. 1:5). Therefore, the free blessing of wisdom is conditional upon our study, since one cannot obtain wisdom without the gathering of divine knowledge.

The final example is salvation. Paul said in Romans 6:23, “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” The ASV translates the Greek word charisma as “free gift.” Yet, just because it is free does not mean that it is unconditional. On the contrary, the blessing of salvation, while free, is also conditional upon our faith expressed in obedience. The Hebrew writer wrote, “Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him” (Heb. 5:8-9).

Therefore, we have seen three examples of conditional blessings. Working together by the grace of God (cf. 1 Cor. 3:9), we are able to appropriate the free blessings that He provides conditionally, such as our food, wisdom and salvation.

Obtained at: www.churchofchristarticles.com

Count Your Blessings

By Tim Dooley

“Count Your Blessings”

In the twenty-third Psalm David wrote of the vastness of God’s blessings when he said, “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over”. The idea of counting our every blessing is an intriguing one to be sure. We certainly give it plenty of lip service and we even on occasion sing about the bountiful blessings of God. It is because what David said is true, that our cup does indeed run over, that it is certainly not possible to sit down and count every blessing. However, though it may be an exercise in futility, it is profitable for us to stop frequently to consider the many blessings God has bestowed upon us. Not only that, but it is also our duty to meditate upon the goodness of God.

“Name Them One By One”

Some think of their blessings only en masse, in the abstract; with broad general strokes we thank God for them. There is however an urgent need in our lives to begin thinking of God’s blessings more specifically. We need to particularize our blessings in order to fully understand the graciousness of God. This will also allow us to come to a fuller understanding as to our utter dependence upon Him. It is He who holds all things together and upholds the universe by the power of His word (Colossians 1.17; Hebrews 1.3).

“And It Will Surprise You”

In Malachi 3.10 God says, “...put me to the test”. If we will not only be truly thankful for all that we have and rightly give God the glory for the blessings in our life, He will bless us beyond compare. This means that I must first give myself to Him (Luke 14.26; Matthew 16.24; 2 Corinthians 5.8). The wealth of His blessings will astonish us if we give to Him (physically, spiritually, and thankfully) as He has prospered us (Luke 6.38; 1 Corinthians 16.2). “Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men” (Psalm 107.8)!

“What The Lord Hath Done”

Remember the glory belongs to God! What has God done for you in this life? How blessed are we both physically and spiritually? God has given you life! He has blessed you with the fullness of the earth. He has cared for us spiritually and given us the hope of eternal life in the sacrifice of His dear Son. The problem for so many of us is that we hold on to all that we have as though it is ours by our own power. We fail to see that it is God who has shared with us what belongs to Him. We give ourselves praise, honor, and glory for what we have, not Him. There needs to be a change in our attitude toward the blessings of God. And when there is, how wonderful will be the vision, when the haze of selfishness and pride is lifted.

First of all if you are not a Christian today, take a good hard look at what God has already done for you. Especially for His love and mercy! Love Him in return by being obedient to Him (John 14.15). Hear the Word of God (Romans 10.17); believe on the name of the Lord Jesus, the Christ (Mark 16.16); confess Him as the only begotten Son of God (Matthew 10.32-33); repent of your sins (Luke 13.3); be buried with him in baptism in order to be saved and added to the church (Acts 2.38; Galatians 3.27; 1 Peter 3.21). Then be thankful and be faithful!

Obtained at: www.churchofchristarticles.com