

January 1998

"Blessed is the man that fears the Lord... His descendants shall be mighty on the earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed....the desire of the wicked shall perish" (Psalm 112)

Just as certain as the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, so is overabounding blessedness upon that believer, and his "descendants shall be mighty on the earth". Our family name is not something like Jones, Smith or Murrell. Nor is it Spurgeon, Bunyan, Calvin or Wesley. He Who was prophesied as "Everlasting Father" has written upon us His new Name. We, our forebears and descendants, shall be known as Christian. These are the salt of the earth and the light of the world, those for whom the Almighty will spare nothing to ensure their blessedness and prosperity. How can they not be mighty on the earth?

The wealth and riches in our houses will not be those corruptible things that thieves of this world are ever plundering and which moths eat and the elements rot, but those eternal riches which we not only take with us, but which forever grow brighter and more glorious.

The righteousness in which we now rejoice and rest is secure. It does not arise from fickle and failing flesh, but flows from the eternal Fountain of the immaculate and impeccable Son, with Whom we are in Eternal union. With one offering He has put away sin forever!

While we must live in this Sodom, darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people. All around, the world gropes for truth and reality, as blind men must. They are ever searching for, and missing, the way. But the glory of the Lord has rested upon us and He shines brightly for our paths. Is God our Father? Then His Spirit is our guide!

Grace has stamped the loving kindness of God upon our hearts. We shall be generous to give, to bestow our goods and services upon the needy, to uphold the poor, and pour out compassion on the wounded. We shall be no poorer for giving, nor our strength drained by serving, nor station threatened by humbling.

Wisdom begun in the fear of the Lord will not fail us in our business. We shall conduct our affairs with unimpeachable discretion, living blameless in a wicked and deceitful world.

Evil tidings which terrify those whose might and strength is in perishing flesh cannot move the God-fearing. They are not going to pass away, or their memory erased. Their hearts will not be shaken by the removal of heaven and earth, for they are fixed, trusting in the unchanging God. Worldlings who must compete and vie with one another for dominance learn to cast their eyes downward or aside when facing a feared superior, but the righteous are not compelled to play these silly games. He who fears God need fear none other. We may calmly face our enemies and stare them down.

Yes, the generation, the descendants, the tribe of the righteous shall ever be the mighty ones upon the earth, and their "horn" (power) shall be exalted with honor.

- C. M.

