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# BLESSINGS

It's more than a positive attitude; much more than viewing the world's glass as being half-full. Appreciation for God's blessings is rooted and grounded when we have a **"done-deal"** approach of living for Jesus Christ.

Not, only are we **"partakers of the heavenly calling"** (Heb 3:2) and **"have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come"** (Heb 6:5), but, **"God...raised us up with Him (Jesus) in the heavenlies"** (Eph 2:5-6).

With such eternal truths fixed in the heart, blessings can be seen every where. They come from a variety of ways and diverse manners - like a few weeks ago, when Lavon and I took some grandkids to Taco Bell after Wednesday night prayer meeting. The joy was being with the kids, of course, but I received an added blessing - one that made paying for the meal a lot easier. Kids eat a ton, you know.

After, paying, I was given a number that would be called when **'el taco de mio'** (my taco) was ready. The young clerk said, **"Your number is 316."** I looked up at him and down to his name tag and, sure enough, his name was John - as in, John 3:16. I still have the ticket with the number **316** on it.

In these small, kinds of blessings, I'm reminded of the great things that God has done. These blessings are little faith **"pick-me-ups"** that take me to a miniature **"Mount of Transfiguration;"** each one echoing John 17 to my heart. All that's left - all that matters - is Jesus. I'm glad for my wife and grandkids; but, I'm elated for Jesus, who gave them to me.

Often, I hear God's still small voice and experience an **Elijah-like** encounter with God (I Kgs 19:9-13). There's no **wind, earthquake or fire**, but I sense a **"gentle blowing"** of the Holy Spirit over me, reminding me of my calling. **"What are you doing here, Elijah?"** (V 13). What are you doing here, Jim?

Certainly, the little things flow out of the great things God has done. As **"value-reminders,"** little blessings support the heart in daily appreciation for the cost of our **salvation, God's love** and the **work** that God has called us to do. They succor our heart, making this life special, while we await the life to come.

I don't have to look for these little jewels. They just happen. They pop up everywhere, really! I am sure that these kinds of blessings happen to others, as well. Yet, too many church members are so burdened down with cares of this life that such blessings are missed; or, not appreciated as they should be. There're too many grumpy church members.

Yet, don't we think we should be sensitive and positively motivated by the little things in life? Especially, since the Bible states "**all things work together for good,**" Romans 8:28.

Yes, the Christian walk is trying at times, but look up, there's another blessing just around the corner. Open your heart and expect it. When it comes, seize the moment and thank the Lord for His greatness that reached down to you.

It's not that I need God's little blessings. Of course, I do; but, in light of all that He has done for me in the past - gloriously saved me; led me in His truth; and, called me in His service, makes me an eternal, "happy camper." It's personal, you know. When one is happy in the Lord, he sees things others cannot; or, things that God has just for him to see. Amen!