

God-The Ultimate Humanitarian
Chapter 18: A Humanitarian by
Giving Us a Wonderful Life Here and Now

We often say that Jesus gives us the spiritual gifts of faith, forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We understand faith, forgiveness and salvation, but we often miss the life part.

While we look forward to our life in heaven, Jesus doesn't want us to walk around in this world with a cloud over our head. Just the opposite, Jesus wants us to rejoice and be joyful because heaven is ours. He wants us to show the great joy that can only come from knowing that we are forgiven.

For that reason, he also preserves, provides, and protects us while we live on this earth. God gives special promises to his children even when we are on this earth.

In this lesson, we will see how God shows his great love to us by giving us a blessed life here on earth.

.....what did you learn from chapter 18?

1. Agree or Disagree: It is easy to see how our God exercises his control of history for the good of believers.

Disagree --- Many times it is hard to see how God's hand of mercy is working in human history. Many times people look at these events and come up with a very different understanding of God

Agree --- There are times when God has clearly blessed his church, congregation, Gospel by spreading it throughout the world

2. Discuss the special blessings believers enjoy as revealed in the following passages.

⌘ Romans 8:34. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

#1 _Jesus intercedes for us, comfort is in the active, at the ready to plead our case if the need arises_

⌘ Romans 8:26. ²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

#2 ___What a blessing that Holy Spirit stands ready to “translate” our heart ache and struggle into meaningful prayer

⌘ Matthew 10:30. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

#3 ___God loves us so intimately that he knows even the smallest details ___

✦ Romans 5:1-5. Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

#4 ___ We don't need to live in fear of punishment, Jesus has justified us, we can live in the peace and love of our God. We stand in God's grace even now. We are forgiven. We can stand firm in this life

✦ Ephesians 2:8-10.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

#5 ___ Our salvation does not rest on us, it rests on what Jesus has already accomplished and completed for us. Our life is not a constant struggle to make it to the top of the mountain

✦ John 5:24. Truly, truly I say to you. Whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

#6 ___ Eternal life is not something we need to strive for. It is something we already have through our Savior Jesus. We live in that grace of God every day knowing his greatest gift is ours.

2. We often don't want to talk about good works because of the false teaching of working our way to heaven. However, God does talk about good works in the life of a Christian, NOT to gain heaven, but for another purpose. What are good works in God's sight?

✦ John 15:5. I am the vine; you are the branches. **If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.**

#1

✦ Matthew 15:9. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.”

#2 ot blind following

✦ 1 Corinthians 10:31. So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

#3 Done to thank and praise God for Jesus

✦ Galatians 5:13. ¹³ You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.

#4 Done to serve each other

3. Agree or Disagree: Only a Christian does good works.

Only a Christian is able to do things which are fruits of faith, which make them pleasing to God.

4. Agree or Disagree: Even unbelievers at times know the peace that Christians experience.

Maybe if they are so hardened in unbelief they don't care about their sins or eternity
However, true peace can only come from faith in Christ

5. Can you think of blessings that believers enjoy that were not mentioned in this lesson?

Peace, angels, Rejoicing, Comfort, Preservation and protection

6. How does God demonstrate himself to be the Ultimate Humanitarian by giving us a wonderful life here and now?

Assignment: Please read Chapter 19 of *God-The Ultimate Humanitarian*