

Lesson No. 4

Christian Behaviour

References:

Notes For Servants:

- 1.
- 2.

Objectives:

General:

Specific:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Instructions:

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- 3.
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Bible Verse:

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.@

(Ps 1:1)

Lesson:

Christian Behaviour

Everything in life goes according to a fixed, regulated system; nature is controlled by very strict laws and does not deviate from them at all. All living creatures on earth are governed and conducted by some fixed laws; even plants are controlled by some laws. Man as the master and the crown of all creation, is governed by laws established by God Himself. The purpose of these laws is not to let man live in captivity but to regulate and guide his life and his behaviour, so as to realize God's purpose in his life, which is to show the image and likeness of God in him as the Bible says, **A...** that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in

heaven." (MATTHEW 5:16) This means that by living as Christians, we reflect through our conduct and our works, the image of the Heavenly Father Who created us, and thus glorify Him. The divine commandments have been given to us so that we may have life and have it abundantly. The divine commandments regulate and direct our lives. The divine commandments enlighten our path in a world of darkness, as David says in his psalm, "Thy Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (PSALMS 119:105) King Solomon said, "The commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life. " (PROVERBS 6:25) King David said in Psalm 119, which talks mainly about the importance of keeping the commandments, "How can a young man keep his way pure?" He answers, "By guarding it according to Thy Word." (PSALMS 119-9) Also in the same psalm, "Let me not wander from Thy commandments. I have laid up Thy Word in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee. Blessed be Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes... I will meditate on Thy precepts and fix my eyes on Thy ways." (PSALMS 119:9-15) Psalm 119 also says, "I am a stranger on earth, hide not Thy commandments from me. Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes; and I will keep it to the end. Give me understanding that I may keep

Thy law and observe it with my whole heart. Lead me in the path of Thy commandments for I delight in it." (PSALMS 119:3335) "I am a companion of all who fear Thee, of those who keep Thy precepts. " (PSALMS 63) "The law of Thy mouth is better to me than thousands of silver pieces. I will never forget Thy precepts; for by them Thou hast given me life." (PSALMS 93) "Thy commandments make me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me." (PSALMS 98)

The Psalmist David kept the commandments even in time of affliction. He said, "Many are my persecutors and my adversaries, but I do not swerve from Thy testimonies." (PSALMS 119:157) "I have gone astray like a lost sheep, seek Thy servant, for I do not forget Thy commandments." "Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me, I do not forget Thy law. " "If Thy law had not been my delight, I should have perished in my affliction. " (PSALMS 92) Speaking about those who neglect the Lord's commandments, David also said, "My eyes shed streams of tears, because men do not keep Thy law." (PSALMS 119; 136) Thus, we can see the importance of God's commandments regarding human life: they regulate man's life, guide his steps, enlighten his path, lead him to a steady, calm life till they bring him to the harbor safe and sound.

Behaving According To God's Commandments Assures Comfort:

Each one of us has to respect legislation and worldly laws; we have to accept them as they are, with no other choice. The person who deviates from the law, will receive punishment. A simple example is a traffic law; you cannot drive through a red light. You cannot go to work when you feel you'd like to go and not go when you don't feel like it. You cannot say I am free to do whatever I want to do. You cannot infringe on the freedom of others. You cannot take away their possessions, and if you do, you will find that the law harshly punishes you.

Isn't it strange that we respect all these laws that govern our life, our behaviour, and our dealings with other people, even though these laws are made by people, but we do not obey and follow God's commandments that He gave us for our benefit and that lead us to a better and more peaceful life? In this regard, King David says, "Blessed are those whose way is blameless. Blessed are those who keep His testimonies. O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping Thy

statutes, then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all Thy commandments." (PSALMS 119:1-2, 5-6) David also said, "Thy testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them." (PSALMS 119:129-130)

Declaring his joy when fulfilling God's commandments in his life, he says, "My lips will pour forth praise that Thou dost teach me Thy statutes... My tongue will sing of Thy Word... Thy law is my delight." (PSALMS 119:171-172,174-175) Following God's commandments does not mean suppression of our freedom, but direction of our life in the right path to a good life. God put these commandments in order to direct our energies, abilities and instincts to the fulfilment of His holy purpose.

God wants us to follow His road to lead us to His goals so that we do not deviate from His holy purpose for us. Following God's commandments then leads us in the correct path that God intended for us and thus we are protected from the consequences of disobedience to them. These consequences include depression, fear, and inner conflicts caused by the feeling that one has sinned and broken God's law and is waiting to be punished. Disobedience deprives us of peace and inner comfort and causes many physical, psychological and spiritual problems ending in loss and destruction of one's personality.

Let us hold fast to the commandments of God and live by them for in them we find safety, security and comfort for our lives and for all those around us.

Conclusion:

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