

The Wise Thing to Do

Scripture Reading — Psalm 119:1-8

Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord. — Psalm 119:1

When you get a new coffee pot, a power tool, or a car, it makes sense to follow the maker's instructions. They tell you what you need to know about using the new product.

Similarly, we need to follow *our* Maker's instructions. They are essential for living life to the fullest, as God intends for us.

As Psalm 119 begins, it points out that people who follow God's way are blessed and blameless. But we need to clarify two things.

First, in giving his Word, God tells us, "This is how I created you to live. When you live according to my instructions, you will be blessed." This does not mean everything will be easy, but, whatever the circumstances—easy or difficult—your life with God and others will flourish because you aim to honor and obey God.

Second, we must consider the meaning of *blameless*. *Blameless* does not mean "perfect." Everyone sins, falling short of God's righteousness and perfection (Romans 3:23). But all who are redeemed by Christ, the Savior, are declared righteous by God. When we believe in Christ as our Savior, we long to be like him, to live God's way, according to his *Torah*. And Jesus says, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled" (Matthew 5:6). The hunger for righteousness leads to being filled.

What are you hungering for? If you want to please God, follow his Word with all your heart.

Prayer

O Lord, guide me in your ways, and "I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws." Amen.

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