

# Bite Size Bible Study

## God's Desire for Us #176

By Pastor Lee

The other morning I was thinking about a person that I know quite well. I can tell that he really loves God because he tries to make sure that everything he does pleases Him. But he is very afraid that he will do something that will cause Him to reject him. He has to check and recheck to see that what he has done is OK, that he has not inadvertently sinned and that God has finally said, "That's enough! You have messed up just too many times."

I know that many people feel this way to greater or lesser extent. Sometimes we wonder if we have finally committed some unpardonable sin – that one thing that God will not forgive and causes Him to give up on us. The peculiar thing is that if asked what an unpardonable sin is, most cannot give a specific answer – just that it is something that God cannot forgive. We sure know how to handcuff God, at least in our own minds. We readily admit that there is nothing that God cannot do; yet when it comes to OUR sin, WE set the boundaries and limits for Him as if we know best. We determine what He is willing to forgive and what He cannot.

### How pompous!

But David as he wrote the 103rd Psalm was not setting boundaries and limits on God. He saw His unlimited love for each of us.

### God's Blessings

*Bless (affectionately, gratefully praise) the Lord, O my soul; and all that is [deepest] within me, bless His holy name! Bless (affectionately, gratefully praise) the Lord, O my soul, and forget not [one of] all His benefits— Who forgives [every one of] all your iniquities, Who heals [each one of] all your diseases, Who redeems your life from the pit and corruption, Who beautifies, dignifies, and crowns you with loving-kindness and tender mercy; Who satisfies your mouth [your necessity and desire at your personal age and situation] with good so that your youth, renewed, is like the eagle's [strong, overcoming, soaring]!*  
Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

### God's Attitude towards Us

*The Lord executes righteousness and justice [not for me only, but] for all who are oppressed. He made known His ways [of righteousness and justice] to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy and loving-kindness. He will not always chide or be contending, neither will He keep His anger forever or hold a grudge. He has not dealt with us after our sins nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great are His mercy and loving-kindness toward those who reverently and worshipfully*

*fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.*

### God's Knowledge of Us

*As a father loves and pities his children, so the Lord loves and pities those who fear Him [with reverence, worship, and awe]. For He knows our frame, He [earnestly] remembers and imprints [on His heart] that we are dust. As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourishes. For the wind passes over it and it is gone, and its place shall know it no more. But the mercy and loving-kindness of the Lord are from everlasting to everlasting upon those who reverently and worshipfully fear Him, and His righteousness is to (His – i.e. God's) children's children*

Psalm 103:1-17 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

So while I was thinking about this, I was in that dream state between awake and asleep. I saw this person in something like the judgment time. He was standing quite a distance off from Jesus, who was sitting on His throne. He was asked if he accepted Jesus as his Savior. He said, "Yes," and hesitated there, waiting to see if he had answered correctly and that it was all right. After waiting a moment he started running toward Jesus. For a moment, Jesus just stood there by His throne with a big pleased smile on His face and His arms outstretched to catch him. But then before he could get to Him, He broke into a run toward him. The next thing I noticed was that it was not just Jesus, but the Father and the Holy Spirit all running toward him.

God has such a great desire for us, but we only get a glimpse of it from time to time. He doesn't just accept us if we are "good." On the contrary, He pursues us in our present condition, just as the young man pursues the woman he desires for his wife and lifelong companion. It doesn't matter that there are some things that aren't perfect – he pursues her because he sees what she can be. He sees through eyes that filter out the negative things and only allow the good to pass through.

God sees us as we can be, and with His help, as we will be. He knows that there are imperfections, things that aren't mature yet. He created each and every one of us and knows our strengths and weaknesses. He knows that we are not righteous or perfect in our conduct. He is also well aware that we will never attain perfection in this current physical condition.

He loves us unconditionally. There should be no doubt whether we will inadvertently do something that will break that bond. It won't happen – He is more forgiving than that. He desires to be with us now and throughout eternity and He knows how to make that happen.

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