

“UNSEEN FAVORS”

MALACHI 3:16-18

We prefer the “right now” result instead of the “down-the-road” outcome. It’s how we impatiently roll along life’s roads. That’s why we need a refresher lesson from God.

BLESSINGS FROM GODLINESS

① A _____ (3:16a)

In a world of nearly 7 billion people, you aren’t lost in the shuffle, even though you make up just .0000000001 of the present global population.

Indeed, scripture affirms this truth (Ex. 2:24; Psalm 34:15; Proverbs 5:21; Isaiah 59:1; Heb. 4:13).

② A _____ (3:16b)

His knowledge of our efforts leads to these crowns:

1. of the _____ (1 Cor. 9:25)
2. of _____ (1 Thess. 2:19)
3. of _____ (2 Tim. 4:8)
4. of _____ (1 Peter 5:4)
5. of _____ (James 1:12)

③ A _____ (3:17a)

We want it so badly that we diligently seek for it horizontally. Unfortunately, only the vertical ultimately satisfies.

This “treasured possession” concept stretches from the Israelites in Moses’ day (Exodus 19:5-6) to the Christians of this day (1 Peter 2:9)

④ A _____ (3:17b)

You are never undefended or unprotected. Someone stands with you (1 John 2:1-2).

He’s got your back, He’s gone before you, and He’s lives in you. That’s quite the _____ (Psalm 139:5)!

⑤ A _____ (3:18)

God will set the record straight one day. Embrace (i.e. *Chill out*) such a certainty.

CONCLUSION

Our daily temptation is to place entirely too _____ merit in what others say or do and too _____ in what God Himself has said and has done. Thus, we live in dread or fear or anguish or stress of people as we bow down and worship their approval and recognition.

We must confess this sin of idolatry and return to devotion and awe and worship and amazement of the one true God. In so doing, these blessings flow to us from God.

1. He _____ you and has His caring eyes upon you.
2. He _____ all your works and will reward you.
3. He _____ you His own and takes you as you are.
4. He has your _____ as He reigns over the world.
5. He _____ the end and has it all worked out.