

Today we will be covering the "KEY" to the "12 Vital and Unlock-able Blessings From God." This is a list of 12 things the Bible says <u>you can do</u>, <u>you can have</u>, & <u>you can experience</u>! The great thing for us is the key to unlocking the blessing is in the verse that talks about the blessings. The singular key that can unlock these blessings is doing what God would have you to do. It is through obedience that the lock is released and the blessings flow out. As we obey God, there is nothing Satan, demons, the world, or anything else can do to prevent them from reaching you! So,

let's jump right in and take hold of these amazing blessings. Blessing #1)

You Can Experience The Fullness Of God's Love!

(John 15:10) "If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love; even as I have kept my Father's Commandments, and remain in his love."

(John 14:20-21) "At that day you shall know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. He who has My Commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him."

Blessing #2) You Can Love God & Jesus!

(John 14:23-24) "Jesus answered him, "If a man loves me, he will keep my word. My Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our home with him. He who doesn't love me doesn't keep my words. The word which you hear isn't mine, but the Father's who sent me."

(John 14:15) "If you love me, keep my Commandments." God Spells "LOVE": "O-B-E-Y"

Blessing #3) You Can Love God & Fellow Believers!

(1 John 5:1-4) "Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God. Whoever loves the Father also loves the child who is born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep his Commandments. For this is loving God, that we keep his Commandments. His Commandments are not grievous. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world: your faith."

Blessing #4) You Can Tell The World That You Love God!

(John 14:31) Jesus said: "But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father commanded me, even so I do. Arise, let's go from here."

Blessing #5) You Can Say That You Know God!

(1 John 2:2-5) "And he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world. This is how we know that we know him: if we keep his Commandments. One who says, "I know him," and doesn't keep his Commandments, is a liar, and the truth isn't in him. But whoever keeps his word, God's love has most certainly been perfected in him. This is how we know that we are in him:"

Blessing #6) You Can Be God And Jesus' Friend!

(John 15:14) "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you."

Blessing #7) You Can Count On God's Presence!

(John 8:29) "He who sent me is with me. The Father hasn't left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him."

Blessing #8) You Can Receive The Fullness Of The Holy Spirit!

(Acts 5:32) "We are His witnesses of these things; and so also is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

(1 John 3:24) "He who keeps his commandments remains in him, and he in him. By this we know that he remains in us, by the Spirit which he gave us."

(John 14:15-18) "If you love me, keep my commandments. I will pray to the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, that he may be with you forever: the Spirit of truth, whom the world can't receive; for it doesn't see him, neither knows him. You know him, for he lives with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans. I will come to you."

Blessing #9) You Can Count On Having Your Prayers Answered!

(1 John 3:21-22) "Beloved, if our hearts don't condemn us, we have boldness toward God; and whatever we ask, we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do the things that are pleasing in his sight."

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(John 15:5-7) "I am the vine. You are the branches. He who remains in me, and I in him, the same bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If a man doesn't remain in me, he is thrown out as a branch, and is withered; and they gather them, throw them into the fire, and they are burned. If you remain in me, and my words remain in you, you will ask whatever you desire, and it will be done for you."

We prove our love for God to the world, by keeping His commandments!

Blessing #10) You Can Have The Expectation Of Salvation!

(Revelation 14:12) "Here is the patience of the saints. Here are the ones who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

(Revelation 22:14) "Blessed are they who do His commandments, that their authority will be over the Tree of Life, and they may enter in by the gates into the city."

Blessing #11) You Can Be Called Great In The Kingdom Of Heaven!

(Matthew 5:19) "Whoever, therefore, shall break one of these least commandments, and teach others to do so, shall be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven; but whoever shall do and teach them shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven."

Blessing #12) You Can Participate In The War Against The Forces Of Darkness!

(Revelation 12:17) "And the dragon [Satan] was wroth with the woman [The Church], and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

(Ecclesiastes 12:13) "When all has been heard, the conclusion of the matter is this: Fear God and keep His commandments, because this is the whole duty of man."

(*Hebrews 5:9*) "And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;"

We have just covered the "12 Vital & Unlock-able Blessings From God" and we learned that we can have these blessings in our life, if we obey God. The opposite must be true as well. If we don't obey and do what God would have us do, then we forfeit these wonderful and amazing blessings. We don't want to do that! Let's embrace the commandments of God and not let the Devil steal away our blessings through disobedience.

<u>One Final Note:</u>

Most don't realize that "commandments" are being followed even in lawlessness. Lawlessness is a command that tells you not to obey. The question is, who is it a command not to obey? It's a commandment to not obey God! Instead of having a heart attitude of "I can love God in this manner", they take the perspective of "Oh, do I have to?" You often hear that we are "saved by faith, not by works"- which is very true. But, they are getting the point of obedience confused. We are saved by faith. Now that we are saved, what is required of us to walk in our new found salvation? We have been given a gift, now how do we handle this gift? We must still obey the Law of God. If the 12 blessings were not enough to prove this, then please review the following proof!

1. (1 Corinthians 9:21b) "Being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,"

- 2. *(Romans 3:31)* "Do we then make the Law void through faith? Let it not be! But we establish the Law."
- 3. (James 2:26) "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." See also: James 2:14-26
- 4. *(Ephesians 2:10)* "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them." See also: Ephesians 2:1-10
- 5. *(Revelation 2:25-26)* "But that which you have, hold fast until I come. And he who overcomes and keeps My works to the end, to him I will give power over the nations."

We are saved by grace, not of works- this is true. The question before us is "how do we act after we have been saved?" Most Christians fail to separate the two concepts. They get stuck with "saved by grace," or "saved by works." Both are wrong and destitute of spiritual discernment. The answer is "Yes" and "Yes." We are saved by grace not by works, yet now that we are saved, there is a calling to obey. We didn't earn our salvation, yet now that it has been given, it comes with guidance. Failure to head the guidance is to reject the offer of salvation. Grace and works are intimately connected. You can never be good enough. That is why there is the sacrifice of Jesus and then grace and mercy. But, you cannot remain with a heart of rebellion and call Jesus "Lord". That is why there remains God's way of doing things, also called the Law/Commandments. To say you can have a relationship with God on your own terms and conditions is to deny the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Another way to put it is this: You have been given free tickets into the city of Heaven, and it didn't cost you thing. Now that you have entered into this kingdom, there are expectations on your conduct as you become a citizen of Heaven.

By Obeying God And Seeking His Will In All Things, You Will Never Have To Worry About Being Blotted Out Of The Book Of Life.

(Revelation 3:1+5) "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars says these things. I know your works, that you have a name that you live, and are dead... The one who overcomes, this one will be clothed in white clothing. And I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life, but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels." See also: Revelation 22:19

Your Obedience Ensures Your Place In The Book Of Life.

(*Revelation 21:27*) "There will in no way enter into it anything profane, or one who causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life."

(Psalms 69:28) "Let them be blotted out of the Book of Life, and not be written with the righteous."

We are not declaring perfection through works. No. We are declaring the need to expel the heart of rebellion. Put on humbleness in the Spirit of God, and obey Him. If this is done, God has grace and mercy for all our sins and failures. He is willing to forgive us when we are humble before Him and He is faithful to do so.

(James 4:6) "But He gives more grace. Therefore He says, God resists the proud, but He gives grace to the humble."

(Romans 5:20-21) "The law came in besides, that the trespass might abound; but where sin abounded, grace abounded more exceedingly; (21) that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Let us not practice lawlessness, but obey and receive all the blessings of Heaven. (1 John 3:4) "Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness."

Now that we have learned the truth about obedience, we must continue in obedience if we want to be able to call God our Father and Jesus our Lord. For there is no salvation without relationship! And there is no relationship without loving God supremely! Finally, we cannot say we love Him if we don't keep His commandments.