

Remembering to Praise

Psalm 103:1-5

In the Old Testament the word “forget” does not describe a lapse of memory so much as it describes an abandonment of God’s Word and an apathy toward God’s works. According to Psalm 103:1-5, when we fail to praise the Lord, we “forget” who He is and what He has done.

I. Praise for _____ (3)

A. Our pardon means we are _____.

B. Our pardon means we are _____.

II. Praise for _____ (4)

A. Our preservation begins with _____.

B. Our preservation ends with _____.

III. Praise for _____ (5)

A. His provision _____.

B. His provision _____.

You have often heard, that when God is said to bless men, and they on the other hand are excited to bless him, the word is taken in two very different senses. God is the only fountain of being and happiness, from which all good ever flows; and hence he is said to bless his creatures when he bestows mercies and favors upon them, gives them any endowments of body and mind, delivers them from evils, and is the source of their present comforts and future hopes. But in this sense, you’ll see there is no possibility of any creature’s blessing God; for as his infinite and unblemished perfection renders him incapable of receiving any higher excellence, or improvement in happiness; so, could we put the supposition that this immense ocean of good might be increased, it is plain that we who receive our very being and everything that we have or are from him, could in no case contribute thereto. To bless God, then, is, with an ardent affection humbly to acknowledge those divine excellencies, which render him the best and greatest of beings, the only object worthy of the highest adoration; it is to give him the praise of all the glorious attributes which adorn his nature, and are so conspicuously manifested in his works and ways. To bless God is to embrace every proper opportunity of owning our veneration and esteem of his excellent greatness, and to declare to all about us, as loudly as we can, the goodness and grace of his conduct towards men, and our infinite obligations for all our enjoyments to him, in whom we live, move, and have our being. And a right blessing of God must take its rise from a heart that is full of esteem and gratitude, which puts life into the songs of praise.

- Charles Spurgeon