**HEART TO HEART**/A word of hope and encouragement by Mennie Morrison

**MAY 2024**

**HOW IS YOUR BENEFIT PACKAGE? (PART 1)**

Greetings to you and Happy May. I hope that you are enjoying some of the warmer weather of the year, at least on the east coast of the country where I live.

Last month we ended our teaching entitled, **You Can Live Carefree**, and what a powerful and timely teaching it was. This month we are starting a new teaching entitled, **How Is Your Benefit Package**?

Now, if this question is being asked from a natural standpoint, most of us would begin to examine our benefit package that our employer offers. However, in this teaching we will not be focusing on our natural benefits but looking at some of our spiritual ones, let’s call it **God’s Benefit Package**.

To begin our teaching, let’s define the word **Benefit,** and we will look at just a few definitions as we are looking at **God’s Benefit** package that is laid out in His powerful Word.

One definition of **benefit** is: S*omething that produces good or helpful results or effects, or that promotes well-being. In reference to this definition, l*et’s look at these (2) scriptures:

**Psalm 107:20 (KJV)** *He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.*

**Proverbs 4:20-22 (AMPC)** *My son, attend to my words; consent and submit to my sayings.*

*Let them not depart from your sight; keep them in the center of your heart.*

*For they are life to those who find them, healing and health to all their flesh.*

Another benefit from the Word of God can be found in **Psalm 119:130 (KJV)** *The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.*

**Let look at one more definition of the word, benefit. It means: *T****o be useful or profitable to.* Let’s read**2 Timothy 3:16-17** as being one of our benefits from the Word of God. ***16****The whole Bible[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+3%3A16-17&version=TLB#fen-TLB-26882a)*] was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right.****17****It is God’s way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone.*

Now, let’s turn to our foundation scripture and one of my favorite **Psalm**, chapter **103:1-2 (KJV)** It reads: *Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefit*.

Let me note a few other versions or translations of the “word” benefit in this verse 2. The (**NLV**) refers to **benefit** as *acts of kindness*. The **NLT** version says *the good things He does*. Then the **Living Bible** translates (benefit) as *the glorious things He does for me.*

Our great God has prepared acts of kindness, good and glorious things for those that love Him and will walk upright before Him. His amazing **benefits** are found all throughout his Powerful Word.

Before we move on looking at the **benefits** listed in verses **3-5**, I want us to notice something in verses **1-2 of Psalm 103**. The “Word” **Bless** is mentioned (3) times in these two verses.

What this word, **Bless** means in this verse is **To Praise God with strong affection**. The writer of this **Psalm** is even speaking to his soul (mind, will and emotions) to **Bless God**. The basic of this **Blessing** in this verse is remembering who God is.

In this life, with some of the things we experience, we may not always feel like blessing God or praising Him, but it is imperative that we do. We have to sometimes speak to our soul and command it to **Bless** **the Lord**. When we do, we are showing Him strong affection and remembering who He truly is and what He has already done (remembering **His benefits**).

Now, let’s look at verse **3-5** of our foundation scripture of **Psalm 103 (KJV).**  *Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;**Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

Verse (3) says that one of **our benefits** is that He forgives us and heals us**. Psalm 85:2 (ASV)** says: *Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people; Thou hast covered all their sin*. Then **Hebrews 8:12 (ASV)** says: *For I will be merciful to their iniquities, And their sins will I remember no more.*

Most believers/Christians don’t have a problem believing that God has forgiven us of sin and iniquity, but when it comes to healing, a lot of us don’t believe this **benefit**. However, we have so many accounts in the Word of God where Jesus manifested that **powerful benefit** of healing. I will reference just a few scriptures of our **healing benefit** found in God’s Word. **Isaiah 53:4-5, Jeremiah 30:17, Psalm 41:3, 1 Peter 2:24 and 3 John 1:2**. Trust God today to not only be your Savior but your Healer, which He is and wants to be for you.

The word *Save* which most Christian use in referring to receiving Jesus as personal Lord and Savior is translated in the Greek as *Sozo*. This word means to Save and Heal. It can also mean to restore, to deliver.

Wow, that is so powerful and so many Christians are missing out of this amazing **benefit** because of incorrect teaching amongst many other reasons. This verse 3 clearly states that God forgives our sin (iniquities) and heals our bodies. Don’t allow anyone to talk you out of this amazing **benefit** of healing. Dig deep into the Word of God for yourself and Receive all the **benefits** that God our Father has provided through His son and our Savior Jesus the Christ.

What **amazing benefits** and promises that we have at our disposable as God’s children, and so many of us don’t take advantage of our wonderful **benefit package** that has already been provided for us.

I want to close the teaching for now and pick up again next month for part 2 of **How Is Your Benefit Package?**