

A Long Obedience in the Same Direction

Pastor Ray Swash

“Why is it, Others get blessed, and I don’t?”

Psalm 134 (MESSAGE)

*Come, bless God,
all you servants of God!
You priests of God, posted to the nightwatch
in God’s shrine,
Lift your praising hands to the Holy Place,
and bless God.
In turn, may God of Zion bless you—
God who made heaven and earth!*

God has not called you to a ‘success’, but to be ‘faithful’!

The Keys to a Faithful & Blessed Life:

REPENTANCE (‘teshubah’ - vs. 1 - translates: Bless)
*(turning from (repent) the direction our humanity leads,
and following God’s plan)*

PRAISE (‘berakah’ - vs. 3 - translates: Bless)
(living a life focused in relationship in praising to God)

Your Praise of God is completely a choice:

Moving beyond your **FEELINGS**:

Excuses: *“But I don’t feel like it . . . Today! And I won’t be a hypocrite!
I can’t bless God if I don’t feel like blessing God. That just won’t be
honest!”*

God’s Response: *“Lift your praising hands to the Holy Place,
and bless God.” (vs.2)*

Myth: *“If I change my feelings my behavior will change!”*

Moving beyond your **INTELLECT**:

Excuses: *“But I ‘m not sure. There are too many things I don’t
understand . . . And the way I process is that I need to know all the facts,
meditate on them (for years) and then if it makes sense, I might find
myself open to a supreme and personal being.
After all, I’m not stupid, you know!”*

God’s Response: *“You priests of God, posted to the nightwatch
in God’s shrine, Lift your praising hands to the Holy Place,
and bless God” (vs.1, 2)*

Myth: *“If I know everything then I can exercise my faith!”*

**What is the chief end of man?
“To glorify God and to enjoy him forever.”**

Westminster Catechism

Bless God

Psalm 134.1

Blessing given from God is the fullness of God’s Plan!

But when the Complete arrives, our incompletes will be canceled.

1 Corinthians 13.10 (MESSAGE)

God Bless You