

The principle of reciprocity

Review

1. Inspired by David's example to have a deep sense of love for God
2. Every reason to love God, as we have experienced him in so many ways, more deeply...as our rock, fortress, deliverer and more
3. The challenge is to call upon the Lord as we go through times of distress
4. Let us also respond by giving praise to the Lord for who He is and all that He has done
5. To fully trust Him to hear and answer our prayers...out of His love, grace and mercy

The principle of reciprocity

1. Understanding the principle of reciprocity
 - a) What you do to others, it will be done back to you
 - b) It should challenge us to be righteous
2. With reference to the righteous
 - a) Regarding the merciful
"With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful;" Ps 18:25
 - b) Regarding the blameless
"With a blameless man You will show Yourself blameless;" Ps 18:25
 - c) Regarding the pure
"With the pure You will show Yourself pure;" Ps 18:26
 - d) Regarding the humble
"For You will save the humble people," Ps 18:27
3. With reference to the unrighteous
 - a) Regarding the devious
"And with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd." Ps 18:26
 - b) Regarding the proud
"But will bring down haughty looks." Ps 18:27

The personal testimony of David in applying the principle of reciprocity

1. David's practise of righteousness

- a) He had kept the ways of the Lord Ps 18:21
- b) He had not departed from the Lord...in a wicked way Ps 18:21
- c) He kept all God's judgment Ps 18:22
- d) He kept the statutes of the Lord close to him Ps 18:22
- e) He saw himself as blameless before God Ps 18:23
- f) He kept himself from iniquity Ps 18:23

2. The reward/recompense of the Lord

"The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed me." Ps 18:20

- a) David considered how God would reward him
- b) The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness
- c) He would recompense him according to the cleanness of his hands

Lessons learned

- 1. Certainty in this principle of reciprocity
- 2. Commitment to be righteous
 - a) To be merciful and blameless
 - b) To be pure and humble
- 3. Choosing wisely not to be unrighteous
 - a) To not be devious
 - b) To not be proud
- 4. Continuing in gratitude when God reciprocates