

#### 4) Psalm 119:2b

"Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart."

Blessed we are when we walk in the Law of the Lord. Blessed we are when we keep His testimony. The act of keeping the testimony of the Lord is an act of Faith. To remember and to realise the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11), the process starts by believing and by confessing Jesus is Lord (Romans 10:9-10), then it develops. It develops into obedience, obedience birthed by love (John 14:15).

Again we look into the word of the Lord expressed to his people in Deuteronomy 6. The heart and the motif of the restoration project established by God, to bring man back to Himself (even through the system of the law) is to establish a relationship based on love. Here we see God calling His people to Himself. He wants His people, his children, to know Him, and to love Him.

<sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD: <sup>5</sup>And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. <sup>6</sup>And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: <sup>7</sup>And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. KJV

The pursuit of God is a pursuit of the heart. The heart is the center of the soul. It is the desire and the will of the person. The heart's desire is what makes us who we are, it's what wakes us up in the morning, it is what puts us to bed at night. When the heart is made whole by the birth of the spirit, all it wants is to be in the presence of God. And when the flesh hungers for sin, and draws the heart from its true goal, the heart breaks. Sin brings forth death (James 1:14-15). God, who so loves the entire human world, gave his only Son to save us from death, and wants to give us eternal life, not just the promise of eternal life, but the reality of the practice of eternal life. And this begins and continues within the human heart.

The practice of eternal living is given to us by grace, through the work of Christ on the Cross. As a result, giving us the status and practice of eternal life, which is the power to overcome sin in our lives. This new, eternal life, is real life, it is the strength 'To keep his testimonies', and to 'seek him with the whole heart.'

What are we filling our hearts with? Is it with the cares of the world, lifting up other gods higher than the true God; who clearly said "YHWH, our God is one, YHWH" (YHWH is the ancient written name for the one true God, the creator of the heavens and the earth, the self-existent I AM THAT I AM). Have we not loved him with all of our might? Have we not shared and practiced His testimonies with the new generation? Is his word truly in our hearts, or are we filled with selfish desires?

Whatever the answer may be, the fact remains, that He should by right and by virtue be the focus of our hearts and our lives. This is blessedness; when we sit in our homes and relax after a hard day's work, when we travel out and about our towns and cities, before we go off to sleep and when we get up in the morning we are blessed by the testimony of the Lord as it engulfs the love of our hearts.