

Psalm 112 Commentary

This Psalm is a beautiful, verse-by-verse portrait of what it looks like to live a life anchored in God. It is a "Wisdom Psalm" that serves as the perfect theological antidote to the hyper-focus on spiritual bondage. It provides a blueprint for an automatic, generational inheritance.

Classic commentators like *Matthew Henry* and *Charles Spurgeon* offer insightful commentary on each verse, revealing how it highlights a believer's position of strength rather than legalistic rituals.

Verse 1: The Root of the Blessing

"Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments!"

- **The Commentary:** True happiness does not come from trying to fix the past; it comes from a present relationship with God. The "fear of the Lord" here isn't a terrifying dread of punishment, but a deep, loving reverence. *Matthew Henry* notes that a true child of God doesn't see God's word as a heavy, legalistic checklist, but *delights* in it. Obeying God is a joy, not a forced chore or a "work" to gain freedom.

Verse 2: The Automatic Generational Blessing

"His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed."

- **The Commentary:** This directly counters the multi-step deliverance mindset. *Charles Spurgeon* famously wrote that *"no inheritance is equal to that of an unblemished name, no legacy can excel the benediction of a saint."* The word "mighty" here doesn't mean worldly power or physical strength; it means a person of spiritual stature and respect. The blessing on your children is a spiritual default because of a parent's upright positioning in God.

Verse 3: True Riches

"Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever."

- **The Commentary:** While the Old Covenant often highlighted physical prosperity, Christian commentators note under the New Covenant this refers to spiritual wealth - peace, joy, and contentedness. Furthermore, the verse notes a righteous man's standing isn't fragile. It says his *"righteousness endures forever"* isn't easily broken or stolen away by hidden ancestral legal rights.

Verse 4: Light in the Hard Times

"Light dawns in the darkness for the upright; he is gracious, compassionate, and righteous."

- **The Commentary:** This verse is a wonderful piece of realism. God does not promise that a Christian will never face dark seasons or emotional pain. However, *Spurgeon* points out that while the upright person will have their days of sorrow or loss, *"the Lord will bring him light in due season."* You don't need a special deliverance ritual to escape the dark; the light of Christ automatically dawns for you.

Verse 5: Wise and Discretionary Living

"It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice."

- **The Commentary:** Rather than being consumed by inward fears of spiritual oppression, the truly free person looks outward. Because they know they are blessed by default, they live a life of open-handed generosity. They operate their everyday life, business, and relationships with integrity and discretion.

Verse 6: Unshakable Stability

"For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever."

- **The Commentary:** This stands in stark contrast to the anxiety taught by extreme ministries, where a hidden sin could suddenly upend your life. The Bible promises the exact opposite: the righteous will never be moved. Their spiritual foundation is rock-solid and secure for eternity.

Verses 7-8: Freedom from Fear and Bad News

"He is not afraid of evil tidings; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord. His heart is steady; he will not be afraid..."

- **The Commentary:** This is one of the most comforting sections of the Psalm. A believer doesn't have to live in "spiritual anxiety," constantly looking to see if a generational curse is going to sabotage their health, finances, or family. *Matthew Henry* notes that a good man has a "*settled spirit*." Because his heart is "fixed" on the finished work of Jesus, bad news cannot shatter him.

Verse 9: Honoured and Exalted

"He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever; his horn is exalted in honour."

- **The Commentary:** In the Bible, a "horn" is a symbol of strength and victory. The person who relies on faith rather than rigid, works-based legalism ends up exalted with true honour. Their legacy is defined by what they gave away, not by the curses they spent their life trying to break.

Verse 10: The Contrast of the Wicked

"The wicked man sees it and is grieved; he gnashes his teeth and melts away; the desire of the wicked will perish!"

- **The Commentary:** The psalm ends by showing that the enemy and the wicked have no lasting power over the righteous. While the extreme deliverance movements make the enemy seem looming, powerful, and legally clever, Psalm 112 shows the reality: the enemy looks at a blessed believer, is filled with tooth-gnashing frustration, and melts away. The darkness loses its grip entirely.