The Biblical Blueprint for the Home # 5 The Focus of the Home

Psalm 37: 3-6

Over the past few weeks, we have been considering the *Biblical Blueprint for the Home*. We have discussed the foundation of the home. Common sense and reason teach us that a foundation is essential for the stability of any structure. We have considered the fortress within the home. Every home ought to be a place of safety, comfort, and love, providing a fortress to escape the burdens and cares of the world. We also discussed the framework of the home. In order for the home to function properly, providing the strength and comfort it needs, the house must be built properly upon the foundation. Each member of the family is important and needs to understand their role and expectations. Last week we considered the fortitude of the home. Building a godly, biblical home requires effort and fortitude. Spiritually healthy and prosperous homes have experienced much labor and commitment by those who make it up.

Today I hope to finish our study; and as we conclude, I want to emphasize the need for proper focus within the home. Tragically, many homes were built upon the right foundation. They provided a safe haven for the family, with each knowing their place and contributing to the home. For a time they even continued to put forth the necessary effort to ensure the stability of the home. Sadly over time though, they lost their focus. More often than not, this was not intentional; it just happened over time. The family became so busy and consumed with outside influences that the home began to suffer. Eventually the home began to fall apart due to neglect.

None of us are exempt from such temptation and possibility. If you enjoy a strong and thriving home, you ought to be thankful and give God the glory. However, you must never lose your focus and get complacent. If we maintain a proper perspective and keep our focus, with the help of the Lord, we can continue to maintain a biblical home. I want to examine the observations of David as we consider: The Focus of the Home.

<u>I. Our Dependence on the LORD</u> (3) – Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. To maintain a prosperous home in the Lord, we must never fail to realize our dependence upon Him. This is dealing with our personal lives and the home. The word dwell means "to settle down, to abide or establish." If we are to dwell in peace and contentment that pleases God then we must depend upon Him. Consider:

A. The Principle (3a) – This principle is two-fold concerning our dwelling. First we must:

1. Trust in the Lord — That is simple enough to understand, but often we have trouble living that out. The Lord just wants us to trust Him by faith. Rom.1:17 — For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. Heb.11:6 — But without faith it is

impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

- God did not save us to make our own way spiritually. We are to trust in the Lord! Praise Him for those things that you do understand and trust Him in the areas you don't understand. He has promised to never leave nor forsake us and we can trust in Him! If you are trying to figure it all out and keep it together apart from God, you will utterly fail. Trust Him!
- <u>2. Do Good</u> This too is simple enough to understand, but often our lives don't reflect the desire of God. We are called to live a godly life before the Lord, within our homes, and the world in which we live. The world and our families know our claim to Christ. My question is: would they want what we have? We must live a godly live before others if our homes are to remain prosperous in Christ. This simple command will go a long way in sustaining your home and influencing others!
- **<u>B. The Promise</u>** So shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. This promise is two-fold. If we trust in the Lord and do good, it provides:
- 1. Stability We are promised to dwell in the land. This was a promise made to Israel concerning the Promised Land, but there is application for us as well. Remember the word dwell means "to settle down, to abide or establish." If we trust in the Lord and do good, He has promised to settle our lives, to establish us where we are. I don't know about you, but that is a wonderful promise to me. God is saying we can be established in Him even in the midst of adversity. He can settle us and calm us in the midst of the storm.
- Who among us doesn't desire stability in our lives? Is your life in a mess? Have you wished things could just settle down? Have you longed for the time when you could just enjoy living? Trust in the Lord and do good and you can have the stability you desire!
- <u>2. Strength</u> Verily thou shalt be fed. Once again God promised to meet the needs of His people. If they would trust in Him and do good, He would provide stability and strength for them.
- Now, I am absolutely convinced that God meets my physical needs. Jam.1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. However, this goes much deeper than a physical meal. We can be fed from the Master's table! We can draw strength from that Living Well that will never cease to flow! For those who trust in the Lord and do good there is strength in Him. He can establish and maintain the home, if we will only seek Him by faith.

<u>II. Our Desire for the LORD</u> (4) — Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. This is not a promise for health and wealth within the home; it is much better than that.

A. The Principle (4a) – Delight thyself also in the LORD. If we are to have the desires of our heart, we must first delight ourselves in the Lord. The word delight means "to take exquisite delight in; to make merry over." Simply we are to make much of Him regardless of the circumstances of life. Even in the valley, God is good and He is always worthy of our praise and adoration.

A lot of families aren't delighting in the Lord much anymore. Our focus and desire for the Lord has been replaced with worldly pleasures and pursuits. How could we possibly not delight in such a wonderful Savior? I assure you, if you begin to really consider all He has done and what He endured for you, you will delight in Him! Make Jesus the desire of your heart and home!

B. The Promise (4b) – He shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Preacher what exactly does that mean? It means just what it says. The word desires in our text means just that: "a desire, petition, or request." God will grant the desires of our hearts if we will delight in Him.

Am I saying that God will answer every prayer just as you desire? Am I saying He will send money in the mail when the bills are overdue? I cannot promise He will, but He is more than able to do that. We must be careful not to take this verse out of context. We have already been exhorted to trust in the Lord, to do good, and to delight in Him. If we have done these things then our hearts ought to be right with God. For those who are right with Him, their desires will be consistent with His will. You will only have a desire for those things that please the Lord. Many don't see their desires fulfilled because they are not consistent with the will and ways of God! Mat.6:33 – But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

<u>III. Our Devotion to the LORD</u> (5-6) – David goes on to speak of our devotion to the LORD. Surely you will agree that we need a committed devotion to the Lord. Consider:

A. The Principle (5a) – Commit thy way unto the LORD. The word commit means "to roll away or onto, to flow down." This has the idea of rolling our problems and cares onto the Lord. We are not to fret and worry over the circumstances of life. God is sovereign and He is in control. I am amazed that we will trust the Lord with our eternal destiny, but most of the time we won't trust Him with our daily problems. 1 Pet.5:7 – Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. Luke 12:25 – And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?

B. The Promise – Once again we find a two-fold promise.

- 1. Assurance (5b) Trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass. There is no need to fear when troubles of life come. Our adversity has not caught the Lord off guard. He is well aware of your situation and well able to meet whatever need you may have. You can rest assured in the Lord's ability. If we commit our ways to Him, He is the One in charge and He will bring it to pass! Phil.4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
- 2. Advancement (6) And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday. Simply put, a life or home that honors God will be honored of Him. If we will cast our cares upon the Lord and trust Him, He will guide our lives and work through them for our good. You likely won't be able to see the good while in the midst of the storm, but you will make it through and you will be closer to the Lord and more like Him on the other side. It will be evident for you to see as well as those who are watching your life. It is in the fire, trusting the Lord that we are made more like Him.

Conclusion: This was possible in the life of David because he enjoyed a personal relationship with the Lord and walked daily with Him. David had endured much in his life, but he always found God to be faithful. He had learned that he must trust the Lord and follow His direction if his life was to be prosperous in the Lord.

Many lives and homes are in turmoil today because people have lost their focus and are no longer depending on the Lord or striving to serve Him. They feel as if they had obtained a measure of success through their own abilities and have left God out of the equation. If you desire to build and maintain a home that honors God, you must seek Him and depend upon His strength and guidance. Maybe you need to come and renew your commitment to God and seek His direction for your life, home, and family. If you are facing difficulty, you need to realize your inability to straighten things out on your own.

Maybe you are here and you have never received Christ as your Lord and Savior. Has He spoken to you in regard to salvation? Do you feel the Holy Spirit working within your heart? If so, I urge you to come to the Lord and receive salvation through Him. He alone can change your life and equip you to live for Him.