

Psalms 111 and 112

These two Psalms are a pair dealing with twin themes. **Psalm 111** is in praise of the Creator God and **Psalm 112** is a eulogy of the Godly person.

Psalms 111:1 [New King James] *“Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.”*

The Psalm opens with the Psalmist’s declared intention to worship the Creator God with all his being, joined by others with the same desire.

The Psalm continues by grounding this desire on the knowledge of Who the true Creator is and all His wonderful works for humanity, [verses 2-4].

The covenant that the Creator God has made with His people with its association to all the provision and blessings that the Creator God has given to His people, who worship Him and respect His Sovereignty, [verse 5].

Psalms 111:6 [New King James] *“He has declared to His people the power of His works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.”*

The inheritance of the nations is linked to the covenant made to Abraham.

Genesis 22:17-18 [New King James] *“blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”*

Because of Abraham’s trust, faith and obedience, all humanity will be blessed. The “seed” is referring to the physical Jesus Christ, [Matthew 1:1].

Psalms 111:7-9 [New King James] *“The works of His hands are verity and justice; all His precepts are sure. They stand fast forever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness. He has sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever: Holy and awesome is His name.”*

The basis of this heritage is the faithfulness, justice and precepts that the Creator God brings to the nations through His people, and the redemption through the Son of Abraham, Jesus Christ.

Psalms 111:10 [New King James] *“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.”*

The awesome respect [fear] of the Creator God is the starting point for all the above blessings, linked with thanks and praise.

Psalms 112:1 [New King James] *“Praise the LORD! Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, Who delights greatly in His commandments.”*

The theme of the last part of **Psalm 111** is continued in this Psalm.

The righteous person will delight in obeying all the commandments of the Creator God and this will bring blessings to their descendants.

Psalms 112:2-6 [New King James] *“His descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches will be in his house, and his righteousness endures forever. Into the upright there arises light in the darkness; He is gracious, and full of compassion,*

and righteous. A good man deals graciously and lends; He will guide his affairs with discretion. Surely he will never be shaken; the righteous will be in everlasting remembrance.”

The “wealth and riches” in the family will be those that are eternal, righteous character.

No longer blinded to the reason for human existence, deals graciously with their fellow human beings, helping in physical ways where needed.

Generosity is the hallmark of all their dealings with other human beings.

Stability is a facet of their wellbeing, even in adversity, [verse 7-8].

Psalms 112:9-10 [New King James] *“He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever; His horn will be exalted with honour. The wicked will see it and be grieved; He will gnash his teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked shall perish.”*

The Psalm concludes with a contrast that clinches all that has been said.

The godly person is generous, enduring and will be honoured while the wicked person is grudging, disappointed and fleeting in existence.