

God Gives Every Good and Perfect Gift  
(James 1:17)

Introduction:

1. The Scriptures emphasize the fact that "God gives every good and perfect gift" to His children.
2. This great principle is clearly revealed in James 1:17.
3. The Bible also teaches in:
  - a. Ephesians 1:3 that God has blessed His children with "*all spiritual blessings*"
  - b. 2 Peter 1:3 that God has given His children "*all things that pertain unto life and godliness.*"
4. In our lesson we are pointing out 5 of the special gifts that God provides for His children.

Discussion:

- I. FIRST, GOD PROVIDES INSTRUCTION (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
  - A. In His Word God provides the teaching, the reproof, the correction, and the instruction in righteousness that we need.
  - B. The proper attitude toward the Scriptures is revealed in Psalm 119:97.
  - C. The proper way to approach the Scriptures is addressed in:
    1. Psalm 119:18
    2. 2 Timothy 2:15
    3. James 1:21-22
  - D. By putting God's Word into practice we will be the kind of people that He wants us to be (James 1:25).
- II. SECOND, GOD PROVIDES DIRECTION (Psalm 23:3b)
  - A. Concerning direction, we must realize our limitations (Jeremiah 10:23).
  - B. Solomon presented the right way to receive God's direction in Proverbs 3:5-6.
  - C. This is important because "*the paths of righteousness*" sometimes include obstacles.
- III. THIRD, GOD PROVIDES ASSISTANCE DURING TIMES OF TRIAL
  - A. God wants His children to pray when trials appear (1 Peter 5:7).
  - B. As we pray we are to ask for wisdom (James 1:5-6).
  - C. In addition to giving wisdom, God will provide:
    1. mercy and grace (Hebrews 4:16)
    2. a way to bear up under the trials we face (1 Corinthians 10:13).
- IV. FOURTH, GOD PROVIDES COMFORT IN TIMES OF SORROW
  - A. David touched on this blessing in Psalm 23:4b.
  - B. Paul also touched on it in 2 Corinthians 1:3-4.
- V. FIFTH, GOD PROVIDES ASSURANCE THAT ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD (Romans 8:28)
  - A. We have numerous illustrations of God's providential care in the lives of Bible characters (Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Esther, Naomi, Daniel, etc.).
  - B. This assurance is only available to "those who love God" and "those who are the called."

Conclusion:

1. This is not a complete list of the blessings that God provides for His children, but we have examined 5 that are very special.
2. We learn from Galatians 3:26-27 how to become God's children to gain access to all of His good and perfect gifts.