

LENT DEVOTION

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By: Ps. Dr. Samuel Madavaraj

There are both temporal and eternal blessings associated with “righteousness.” When a believer pursues righteousness the Bible says: “The Lord’s curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous” (Proverbs 3:33). “Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways, you will eat the fruit of the labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table. Thus is the man blessed who fears the Lord” (Psalm 128:1—4).

Abraham was made righteous in the sight of God and “because he believed in the Lord, God credited His righteousness” to Abraham (Genesis 15:8). We all know that “the Lord has blessed him in every way” (Genesis 24:1). His family was blessed and so were his children and the children’s children. He was made into a great nation. His name was made great and is being called the “Father of the faithful.” He became a channel of blessing to all the people of the earth (Genesis 12:2—3). God blesses the home of a believer when he/she pursues God’s imputed righteousness and they are special blessings (both seen and unseen blessings) on the generations to come.

The same was true in the life of Joseph to whom Jesus’ mother Mary was pledged to be married. Joseph was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace and he had in mind to divorce her quietly – because she was found to be with the child through the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18—19). But Joseph obeyed God’s word and took her to be his wife when given the correct information by the angel of the Lord. He was given the privilege of naming the God-Child as “Jesus.” Added to that he and his entire family had become a channel of blessing to the people and especially to the Church.

God has His own way of honoring and rewarding ‘a righteous person’ during his earthly life and one of the blessings is that: “God blesses the home of a righteous person.” No matter what happens, in spite of the circumstances, when a believer continues to think right, do what is right in the sight of the Lord and strives to live a life with moral-ethical purity and holiness his/her home will be blessed by the Lord. This is the promise from God who is faithful and He will certainly keep up His promises.