

# BLESSINGS

**Rev. Robert H. P. Cole**

Lesson: Psalm 103; *True Christian Religion* 43

Several times during the week we ask the Lord for a blessing. In our worship— at the end—we ask the Lord to bless us and the things that we do. At mealtime we also ask His blessing and give thanks to Him for the good things that He provides for us.

“To bless” means to make holy or to make happy. By means of blessing the Lord fills us with all that is good. This means that He gives us love and things to understand about doing good for others. Only the Lord can give us these things, so when He blesses us, He is present with us. The best things that the Lord gives us are the things of heaven. They are things that have to do with love to Him and love toward one another.

Because we live in the world and have uses to perform or jobs to do every day, the Lord provides us with many worldly, bodily and earthly things which we need and which, when we do our work as well as we are able, help to make us happy. So, blessing involves each and all good things which are from the Lord. When we sing to the Lord and listen to His Word, and when we acknowledge the Lord in our hearts, believing in Him, we are blessed by Him. In blessing us, the Lord gives us to enjoy all good things.

If we want to, we can show the Lord that we are grateful to Him for giving us so many blessings. We can do this by avoiding things that are wrong, by trying to do as many useful and helpful things as we are able to with what we are given, and by learning to share what we have with others.

If someone gives us a good book, we read it and try to understand what it says and perhaps tell others about it. And if we have wonderful books like the Word, which is the Old and the New Testaments and the Heavenly Doctrine of the New Jerusalem, we read them and think about what they say and try to do what they teach us to do so that we will be better people. By using our gifts from the Lord in the right way, by being helpful and useful with them and by sharing the good things in them with others, we thank the Lord for blessing us with so much that is heavenly, and He blesses us many times more.

Amen.