

July 15, 2021

Ps. 5:12, “Surely, LORD, You bless the righteous; You surround them with Your favor as with a shield.”

The Hebrew word for *bless* is **tevaresh** which means *to abundantly bless, persistently bless, salute or congratulate*. The LORD blesses the righteous. In other words, the LORD pours out His blessings on those who choose to live a righteous or blameless life.

In the first verse of **Job** it puts this into perspective: ***In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil.*** Now this doesn't mean that Job never sinned. We know that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. What it does mean is that when Job did sin, he confessed his sin to the Lord and repented of that sin. **1 John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”**

When we stay in a “right” relationship with the LORD, the scripture tells us He will surround us with His favor as with a shield. The Hebrew word for *favor* is **ratzov** which means *to be accepted, favored and completely loved*. We all want to be accepted. Even more so, we should want to be accepted by the LORD Himself. And when He does this, He also protects us as a shield. There is nothing that can penetrate the shield of God. This is the ultimate blessing of God's protection.

Dear LORD, help us to walk in repentance so that we can be blessed in all of our ways. You will surround us, hedge us in with protection, and show us Your favor in all that we do. We truly are blessed by the Father. In Jesus Name, Amen.