PSALM 34 - THE FOUNDATION OF THE FEAR OF THE LORD

I WILL BLESS THE LORD AT ALL TIMES: His praise shall continnally be in my month.

As Bible-believing, born-again disciples of Jesus Christ, we should always be abounding in the work of the Lord. We should always be faithful ambassadors and representatives of our Saviour in every word and deed, always be diligent in our reading, writing, studying, and memorizing God's word, always be labourers in prayer, always be someone that the Lord can count on for his plans and purposes, and always praising, thanking, magnifying, and glorifying the Lord. It is our job to make God look good in every way! Unfortunately, these things are impossible to do in a perfect manner while we are in our fleshly bodies and in this corrupt world. The reality of most days reveals that we fall desperately short. Does this mean that we should accept defeat, settle for a mediocre Christian life, and make excuses that justify our compromises? God forbid! Rather, we need to be reminded that our imperfect life can exponentially glorify God and make him look good... the key to all this is a proper fear of the Lord.

1. The heart of humility – vs. 1-7

- 2. The burden for people vs. 8-10
 - a. The Lost vs. 8; 2 Cor. 4:4; Ps. 119:103; 1 Jn. 1:3
 - b. The Saved vs. 9; Heb. 12:28-29; Prov. 1:7; 9:10; 3:7; 8:13; 15:33; 16:6; 23:17; 29:25

<u>The Fear of the Lord</u> = "A _____ disposition that responds to the authority of God with reverence, respect, fear, submission, obedience, personal responsibility, and love."

c. The Young - vs. 10; Matt. 6:31-34; Deut. 6:7-9, 20; Josh. 4:6

3. The work of the ministry – vs. 11-22; 2 Cor. 3:2; 1 Thess. 1:8

a. Passionately communicate the fear of the Lord – vs. 11-14; Prov. 2:1-9

b. Practically contrast the righteous from the wicked – vs. 15-22; Prov. 2:10-22