In this first stanza of the Psalm, the word “Blessed” occurs in the first two verses with reference to obedience to the Word of God. The word “Blessed” speaks of a joy and peace that is of Divine origin and independent of the circumstances of life. The word “Blessed” is indicative of spiritual prosperity or the abundant life. OBEDIENCE TO GOD’S WORD IS THE PATHWAY TO SUCH BLESSEDNESS!

1. THIS OBEDIENCE IS DESCRIBED AS BEING UNDEFILED:
“Blessed are the undefiled in the way” [verse 1]. The word “undefiled” has reference to being unsoiled or unspotted and speaks of purity. It implies a great carefulness as to following, and acting in accord to the pattern of life marked out by God’s Word! This speaks of the individual who seeks to be precise in pursuing conformity to the pattern laid out in God’s Word. There is a joy a peace and a spiritual prosperity to be had in seeking God’s precise pattern as laid out in His Word!

2. THIS OBEDIENCE IS DESCRIBED AS A WALK:
The “undefiled” are described as those “who walk in the law (direction and instruction) of the LORD” [verse 1], and “they walk in His ways” [verse 3]. The word “walk” has reference to a consistent and habitual way of life. The word “walk” implies steady progress in the ways of God There is a joy a peace and spiritual prosperity to be had in seeking and living a lifestyle in accordance with the direction, and the instruction of the Word of God, and in accord with the pattern laid out in His Word!

3. THIS OBEDIENCE IS DESCRIBED AS KEEPING:
“Blessed are they that keep his testimonies” [verse 2]. “Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently” [verse 4]. The Psalmist expressed a desire, an aspiration to “keep thy statutes” [verse 5], and a determination to do so “I will keep thy statutes” [verse 8]. The word “keep” has reference to observing, to abiding by, to adhering to, giving heed to, to regard, and to be careful concerning” Closely connected with this, is a seeking of, and a striving after the Lord [verse 2]. There is a joy, a peace and a spiritual prosperity to be had in careful observance of what God has confirmed and inscribed in His Word! Like the Psalmist our prayer ought to be that our conduct, our practices, and habits be under the direction of God’s Word [verse 5]. Like the Psalmist it ought to be our determination, our intent, our commitment, our resolve, and our purpose to be fully obedient to the Word of God [verse 8].
4. THIS OBEDIENCE IS DESCRIBED AS A RESPECT:
The Psalmist spoke of having “respect unto all thy commandments” [verse 6]. The word “respect” conveys the idea of regard, of esteem, of reverence, and admiration. This “respect” is to be shown to the entirety of God’s Word “all thy commandments” and is a result of reverence for God. ONE WILL HAVE NO MORE REVERENCE FOR GOD’S WORD THAN THEY DO FOR GOD! This “respect” is the foundation of obedience. This “respect” for God’s Word results in confidence and assurance as seen in the words “Then shall I not be ashamed, when (at what time) I have respect unto all thy commandments” There is a joy, a peace, and a spiritual prosperity as a result of “respect” for the authority of God’s Word.

5. THIS OBEDIENCE IS DESCRIBED AS LEARNING:
The Psalmist spoke of learning God’s “righteous judgments” [verse 7]. The “judgments” refer to God’s regulations, orders, and verdicts, the legal sanctions of God. In order to be obedient these need to be learned, and it needs to be learned that all the regulations and orders of God are “righteous” The learning of this leads to praise (joyful obedience) “I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when (at what time) I shall have learned thy righteous judgments” There is a joy, a peace, and a spiritual prosperity in learning both God’s Word and the virtues of God’s Word.

God’s Word is the expression of the authority of God. In it are the best laws and the best instruction for our compliance. It is given for us to submit to, to bow to, to carry out, to perform and to follow. AND IN SUCH THERE IS A LIFE OF BLESSEDNESS!