

## How to Get the Chinese Five Blessings

The Chinese began wishing for 5 Blessings from Song Dynasty (960-1279 AD) and later also longed by the people all over Asia. The 5 blessings are called Ng Folk in Chinese, Go Fuku in Japanese, and Lum Folk Lac in Vietnamese. They are: Wealth, Longevity, Health, Virtue, and Good Ending/death. Do we as Christians want these blessings? Of course we do. The word blessing occurs more than 400 times in the Bible. These 5 Blessings can be found in the Bible too. The question is: how can we get them?

1. **Wealth** - To accumulate wealth we have to earn what we can and save what we can. Nonetheless, it is very important for us to do our best at our job. Whether we like our job or not (I hope you do), have passion on what we do. We will be successful and be rewarded with wealth eventually.

2. **Longevity** - Studies show that happy people lives longer. How? Be a blessing to others. Jacob was a happy man when he blessed his descendants with inheritance. "Giving is better than receiving." Be kind to others. We will live longer.

3. **Health** - We have to eat less and exercise more, however, health and longevity ultimately come from God. The scientists call it the DNA factor. What can we do? Praise God and worship God. Studies show that people who worship regularly have a healthier life style and live longer.

4. **Virtue** - If we love virtues, we will better understand the beatitude. Jesus gave us eight guidelines to live a virtuous life. What a blessing it is if we follow them faithfully.

5. **Good ending** - There is no such thing as good death if you don't believe in God. Only Jesus can say, "Fear not...I died and behold I am alive forever more." "For God so loved the world that He gave His only son that whoever *believes* in Him, may not die but have eternal life." If we believe in Jesus, **death is only a transition not an end. Death is the beginning of a new life - the eternal life.** Therefore only a Christian death is a good death.

There are things we can do to improve our odds but we really need God to ensure our blessings. That's why we have to believe in Jesus. Trust and obey: Blessings your way.

**Let us pray: Jesus our Lord and Savior: We love you and we trust you. Lead our lives and help us to obey your commands. May the 5 blessings be bestowed upon us and those who seek your grace. Amen.**

## 信耶穌五福臨門

中國人自宋朝(公元960-1279)已開始祈求五福臨門,後來連東南亞各國都渴求五福:富貴、長壽、健康、德行、善終。基督徒也可祈求五福,聖經裏都有論到這五種福氣。

(一) 富貴 - 大富由天,小富從儉,我們首先要盡心盡力做好工作,財富必從天而降。所羅門求智慧以做好皇帝,神說:"因你不求自己的富貴榮華與長壽,我除智慧外,其他的都賜給你。"

(二) 長壽 - 長壽的法門是快樂,為別人謀幸福是快樂的泉源。耶穌說:"施比受更為有福,"能多施捨助人便可得長壽。

(三) 健康 - 少吃多運動是健康要訣,但人憑神力,健康不能完全自我控制,但科學證明常到教會崇拜的人比較健康。

(四) 德行 - 愛德的人無論在什麼環境中都快樂,耶穌所說的八福就是八種德行,有德行的人是快樂的。

(五) 善終 - 死怎能有善呢?唯獨信耶穌得永生才能怕死亡。耶穌已為我們預備好地方,在天堂永遠享福。死亡在信主的人來說是新生命的開始。

總而言之:信主耶穌,五福臨門;信靠順服,永享天福。

請祈禱:主耶穌,我願尊祢為我的救主,求祢帶領我的日程,光照我的道路。阿們。

