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you and your children.” - Psalm 115:14

YOU *Shall* INCREASE

Taking Your Place to Bless All the
Families of the Earth

JOSEPH B. KACK

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FOREWORD

We are destined for success. We are predestined for increase. Big doors are opening for the Body of Christ—things that we have been created for and things that we have been preparing for. If you think that what you have experienced so far is all that God has for you, you are mistaken.

The Lord has been preparing us, is preparing us, and will continue to prepare us for GREAT BIG DOORS of opportunity to go forth and to be a GREAT BLESSING—a bigger blessing than we have ever been before! It is within...it is born within every one of us to be a blessing!

The call to increase—to be fruitful and to multiply, to be blessed and be a blessing—is in us. Because of the call—as a son of God and as the seed of Abraham—to go and empower to prosper all the families of the earth, increase is no longer optional for us. We not only have a right to be wealthy; we also have a responsibility to prosper.

There are good things that God has predestined for us to enjoy! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ has built a pathway for us. It is a path of prosperity, and it begins with the Word of God. The entrance of His Word gives us light, and so we follow that light. As we continue to walk in it, our path shall grow brighter and brighter until the coming of the Lord.

And so I declare this day that we shall go forth! We shall seize our God-given opportunities. We shall recognize the open doors that He has set before us. We shall go through them with boldness! WE SHALL BE BLESSED, and WE SHALL BE A BLESSING!

Joseph B. Kack

The First Step

The first step to successfully follow God's plan of increase and prosperity for your life is to receive Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior. Jesus is the Son of God, who died on the cross and shed His blood to pay the price for the sins of the whole world.

The Bible tells us, *"whoever calls on the name of the Lord (Jesus) shall be saved."* (Romans 10:13)

The Scripture also tells us, *"that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."* (Romans 10:9)

When you call on the name of Jesus and receive Him as your Lord, you receive eternal life, and you become God's child. This is not joining a church or a religion. Accepting the gift of Jesus into your heart gives you relationship with the Living God! Only then are you in a position to follow God's plan of increase for your life.

If you have never taken this FIRST STEP, then pray this simple prayer in sincerity from your heart:

"Dear God,

I believe that Jesus is Your Son, and that He died on the cross to pay the penalty for my sins. I believe that Jesus has been raised from the dead and that He is alive! Right now I call on the name of Jesus.

Jesus, come into my heart. I receive You as my personal Lord Savior. Forgive me of my sins and cleanse me by the power of Your blood. Thank You for saving me and giving me eternal life! Help me now to follow Your plan for my life. Amen."

Congratulations! You are now a child of God!

LESSON 1

YOU SHALL INCREASE!

*May the Lord give you increase more and more,
You and your children.
May you be blessed by the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.
The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's;
But the earth He has given to the children of men.*

 **Psalm 115:14-16**

You shall increase! That's the truth about it! Increase is the will of God for you and me. It is our call and our destiny! God is a God of increase, and because we have been created in His image and likeness, increase is our destination!

God set His purpose for man forever from the very beginning. Increase was His plan, and God has never changed His mind. Anything He starts or initiates, He intends that it goes on forever!

The Lord has been mindful of us. He will bless us. He will increase us more and more! Why? Because we have a job to do! And the job is getting bigger and bigger!

There is always more of God! There is always more we can do! There is always more we can reach. When we find out God's original plan and step over to line up with Him, then get ready for more! Increase is where we are headed! Increase is where He's bringing us!

I GOD IS INCREASE-MINDED

A. The Lord Is Mindful of Us.

*The Lord has been mindful of us...He will bless those who fear the Lord,
both small and great. — Psalm 115:12-13*

B. The Lord Is Mindful to Give Us Increase.

*May the Lord give you increase more and more, you and your children.
— Psalm 115:14*

1. We must increase because we have a job to do, and it is getting BIGGER and BIGGER!
 2. This Blessing of increase is not only to us, but also to OUR CHILDREN.
- ❖ God is a giver. He gave the whole planet to man, so that man could bring increase on the planet.

*The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's; But the earth He has given to
the children of men. — Psalm 115:16*

He Wants to Bless Both Small and Great

*You may think you are small.
Others may think you are small.
It does not matter.
What God thinks is what matters.
He said, "I'll bless you, both small and great."*

*Actually, in Jesus, no one is small.
There are just small thinkers.*

*When you came into Christ, the score was settled.
All God's children have received the same spiritual inheritance.
That's the truth from the Word of God!*

*The problem is wrong thinking.
How can you think you are small
when God has made you an OVERCOMER?*

Our Children Will Have a Good Life

*Some of us have spent years and even decades in darkness,
but our children are not going to be there.
We are going to lay hold of this WORD OF INCREASE
not just for us, but also for our kids and our descendants.
Why? Because this Blessing is to us and to our descendants.*

*Our children are going to have a good life.
They are going to know God, and they are going to live in abundance
as they pursue the plan and purpose of God for their lives.*

II GOD'S ORIGINAL PLAN FOR MAN IS INCREASE

A. To Know the Will of God, We Need to Go Back to His Original Plan or Blueprint.

*Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;
let them have dominion..." Then God blessed them, and God said to them,
"Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion..."*
— **Genesis 1:26, 28**

B. What God Starts or Initiates, He Intends that It Goes on Forever.

"For I am the Lord, I do not change..." — Malachi 3:6

***God said, "Let there be light..."; and light is still expanding! Why?
Because God is a God of increase!***

God Is not a Quitter!

- There is always MORE OF HIM.
- There is always MORE INCREASE.
- There is always MORE WE CAN DO.
- There is always MORE WE CAN REACH.

C. Increase is God's Idea—Not Man's!

- ❖ The very first words man ever heard—the very first word God ever spoke to man—was increase: “*Be fruitful and multiply...*” — (**Genesis 1:28**).
- 1. God still has increase on His mind for us today.
- 2. You must increase for the sake of the plan of God.

God's First Words to Man

*Imagine a white board with nothing written on it.
That was what man was like in the beginning.
He was not programmed with anything
because God had not said anything yet.*

*What was the first thing God did? He blessed man and said to him,
“Be fruitful! Multiply! Fill the earth!
Subdue it! Take dominion!”*

This is God's original plan. He is the Lord, and He changes not.

What Does God Want?

*You shall increase!
That's the truth about it, and I am not just talking about a
bigger house, or a better car, or having more money.
I'm talking about increase for the sake of the plan of God!*

*A lot of people think, “Well, I don't need all that increase.
We're happy. We're blessed. We have this and that.”*

The issue is not what you have or don't have.

I am talking about God's plan!

***YOU MIGHT BE SATISFIED WITH YOUR INCREASE,
BUT IS THE LORD SATISFIED?***

*You see, there is more to increase than getting your bills paid,
or having a new TV set, or not having to worry
about money anymore.*

INCREASE IS THE LORD'S IDEA!

*Your bills will be paid. Your needs will be met, but the purpose of
increase goes beyond your own needs to include the needs of others.*

You Shall Increase!

*You shall increase in your sphere.
 You shall increase in your influence.
 You shall increase in your finances.
 You shall increase in your peace.
 You shall increase in your well-being.
 You shall increase in strength.
 You shall increase in your anointing.
 IT IS GOD'S WILL THAT YOU INCREASE!*

*YOU ARE BORN AGAIN TO TAKE OVER THE PLANET!
 "Go into all the world..." What is that? That's increase!*

III GOD'S PLAN OF INCREASE STANDS!

A. The Counsel (Plan, Purpose) of the Lord Stands Forever to All Generations.

*The counsel of the Lord stands forever,
 The plans of His heart to all generations. — Psalm 33:11*

B. Adam's Sin Did Not Change the Plan of God.

- ❖ Before Adam got into trouble, God saw it and He already made a way out
 ➔ JESUS, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world
 (Revelation 13:8).

***What the devil has done in your life does not change
 God's original plan for you.***

C. God Declares the End from the Beginning.

*Declaring the end from the beginning,
 And from ancient times things that are not yet done,
 Saying, "My counsel shall stand,
 And I will do all My pleasure." — Isaiah 46:10*

❖ What is the Lord's pleasure? That you be fruitful! That you multiply!
That you increase—you and your children!

❖ God's will at the end is the same as His will in the beginning—INCREASE!

D. Adam's Unbelief Did Not Affect God's Faithfulness to His Plan of Increase.

For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar... — Romans 3:3-4

IV GOD REINTRODUCES HIS PLAN

A. God Says the Same Thing to Noah.

*"...Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth...
Bring forth abundantly in the earth and multiply in it."*

— Genesis 9:1, 7

God Will Have His Way

*Will the unbelief of preachers, ministers, and people who
don't believe in increase and prosperity make the promise
of God of no effect? No! Let God be true and every man a liar!*

*God will have His way!
It is just a matter of who will hook up with Him.
If we hook up, cooperate, and agree with God,
and let Him teach us, then He will take us for a ride—
and that ride is increase!*

When God Says It, It is Done!

Will the unbelief of man make the faithfulness of God of no effect?

No way!

*When God says a thing, it is done!
It might take Him generations to get it done.
It might take Him years to find somebody who will believe Him.
But He's going to get the job done!*

- ❖ Now we are called to go forth and multiply new births. Being born-again is called the new birth.
- ❖ This is our call—the multiplication of the Word of God being preached and going out.

B. God Says the Same Thing to Abraham.

“And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly...I will make you exceedingly fruitful...And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.” — Genesis 17:2, 6-7

C. God is Saying the Same Thing to Us Today—Increase!

What Kind of a Covenant Did God Make with Abraham?

- It is an **EVERLASTING** covenant (v. 7).
- It is a covenant of **MULTIPLICATION** (v.2).
- It is a covenant of **INCREASE** (v. 6).
- It **EXTENDS TO OUR DESCENDANTS** in their generations (v. 7).

V MAN’S APPROPRIATE RESPONSE— AGREE WITH GOD

Can two walk together, unless they are agreed? — Amos 3:3

◆ The Lord Needs Our Agreement.

- ❖ It is not enough to sit by and say, “If the Lord wants, He will bless me.”
- ❖ We need to agree with God and **POSSESS** our inheritance by faith.
- ❖ You can only walk together to the degree that you are in agreement with one another.

VI GOD'S PLAN OF MULTIPLICATION WAS TO ABRAHAM AND HIS DESCENDANTS

A. God's Everlasting Covenant Was to Abraham and His Descendants (or Seed) in Their Generation.

"And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant..."

— **Genesis 17:7**

B. We Are Abraham's Seed in Our Generation.

And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. — Galatians 3:29

God Has Qualified You!

You are Abraham's seed, not based on your education.

*If the Lord leads you to get educated,
education is good in the plan of God.*

*But things such as education, age, social status, or intelligence,
do not qualify you for The Blessing of Abraham.*

Being IN CHRIST qualifies you for this Blessing.

VII GOD IS A GOD OF INCREASE

A. God Gives the Increase.

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. — 1 Corinthians 3:6-7

B. The Word of God Brings Increase.

"But other seed fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased and produced: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred." — Mark 4:8

C. Renew Your Mind to God's Increase.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God. — Romans 12:2

❖ The GOOD, ACCEPTABLE, and PERFECT will of God for you is increase.

D. To Desire to Increase is God-given.

1. The desire to increase is not evil.
2. The desire to increase is something God has put inside man.
3. The world's way of increase is twisted and perverted.

*The world's way of increase is:
"I want to see how much I can GET."
God's way of increase is: "I want to see how much I can GIVE."*

Dream with God

*When your goal is, "How big a blessing can I be in this life?"
then the Lord says to you, "Now you have My attention.
Now you are thinking like Me.
Let's begin to dream..."*

*Why? Because now you are on the same page with God.
You are not only confessing God's Word concerning your needs,
"My God shall supply all my needs...
I will pay my electric bill"—that's a low level of thinking!
But now your needs begin to include the needs
of those around you.*

*Of course, if you need to pay your bills, confess the Word.
But there is a HIGHER CALL and a HIGHER PLACE available for us,
where we start dreaming with God concerning His plans for increase.*

*Yes, you will pay your electric bill, take care of your kids,
and do all the other things you want to do.
But...your CALL and your DESTINY is to increase
for the sake of others.*

VIII TWO BIG LIES CONCERNING INCREASE

A. Lie #1: “If You Follow and Serve God, You Cannot Increase; You Cannot Prosper.”

- ❖ *“If I serve God...if I become a pastor...if I go into the ministry...if I follow the plan of God, I will give myself to a life of poverty or a life of mediocrity. I cannot expect to have the good things in life.” — THAT’S A LIE!*
- 1. When you believe this lie, you exalt your opinion above the Word of God and His original plan and intention for you.
- 2. God’s will for you is increase, whether you are a pastor, a church worker, or whatever else God has called you to do.

***Get in your place! Run your race! Believe the Bible!
Start agreeing with the word of God, and you shall increase!***

B. Lie #2: “It Is Wrong to Increase.” People say, “Well...moderation, brother, moderation.”

- ❖ The Bible says we shall increase more and more. There is no moderation in that!

***God wants you MAJORLY, RADICALLY BLESSED,
so that you can be a blessing!***

- ❖ God’s plan for your life is a plan of increase.
- ❖ You shall increase! You shall go forth! You shall be a blessing! You shall help more people!

You Can Only Give What You Have

When we get to heaven, what really matters is what we did to help somebody. And to help somebody, we have to increase. We must get stronger in our anointing, in our knowledge of the Word, in our finances, and in all areas of our life, so that we can bless more!

IX THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS A KINGDOM OF INCREASE!

*Of the increase of His government and peace
There will be no end... — Isaiah 9:7*

■ **DEFINITION:** “Government”

➤ Another word for government is KINGDOM.

PRAYER

*Father, I thank You, that Your plan stands forever. Thank You, Lord, that
Your plan for my life is increase!*

*I stir up my desire to increase. I bring myself in alignment with Your will
and Your Word—with Your plan and Your purpose. Teach me what I need
to know about increase.*

*I submit to Your Word and I say, “I shall increase!” In the name of Jesus,
I pray. Amen.*

LESSON 2

“IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD...”

*In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

 **John 1:1**

*Riches and honor are with me,
Enduring riches and righteousness.*

 **Proverbs 8:18**

“**I**n the beginning was the Word...” Everything begins with the Word. Everything—including increase and true prosperity—begins with the Word of God.

You see, there is no real prosperity apart from God’s Word. Prosperity does not begin with a good idea, a good education, having the right connections, or social reform.

Prosperity begins with the Word. But while it is true that prosperity is God’s will for us, it does not come automatically. Prosperity comes as we hang out with God and spend time in His Word until we begin to see and understand His will for our lives. As we pursue the pathways of truth that the Lord reveals, we will prosper!

So we start with the Word and continue in it until the Word brings us to the fulfillment of what God has promised. In fact, His Word is our transportation to our prosperity because TRUE, LASTING, and ENDURING prosperity comes only from the Word of God.

I PROSPERITY IS GOD’S IDEA

*Who is the man that fears the Lord?
Him shall He teach in the way He chooses.
He himself shall dwell in prosperity.
And his descendants shall inherit the earth.
The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him,
And He will show them His covenant. — Psalm 25:12-14*

Find Yourself in the Bible

*IDENTIFY yourself with the Word. The Bible wants to know—
“Who is the man who fears the Lord?”
You need to say, “That’s me!”
You have to DECIDE to be the man who fears the Lord!*

◆ The Lord gives TOTAL PROSPERITY to those who fear Him:

1. Guidance from God (v. 12)

Where is the man who fears the Lord? God will teach him how to choose the best. — Psalm 25:12, TLB

❖ Life is full of choices, but the Lord will teach you to choose the best.

2. Prosperity: “He... shall dwell in prosperity...” (v. 13)

The Lord wants us to dwell in prosperity.

It is not a place to visit.

IT IS A PLACE WE REMAIN—not in and out; not up and down.

3. Family: Prosperity includes our family. “...his descendants shall inherit the earth.” (v. 13)
4. Revelation: “The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him...” (v. 14)
5. Manifestation of His power: “... He will show them His covenant.” (v. 14)
6. Deliverance and protection: “... He shall pluck my feet out of the net.” (v. 15)

II THE LORD TAKES PLEASURE IN OUR PROSPERITY

Let them shout for joy and be glad, who favor my righteous cause; And let them say continually, "Let the Lord be magnified, who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant." — Psalm 35:27

A. Whether We Feel Good or Bad, We Are to SAY CONTINUALLY, "Lord, be magnified. You take pleasure in my prosperity!"

B. God Gets Glory When We Prosper.

- ❖ The Word does not say prosperity is "okay". It says the Lord "takes pleasure" in our prosperity!
- ❖ "Let the Lord be magnified..." God is MAGNIFIED when we PROSPER.
- ❖ God does not get glory when His children are broke or sick or defeated. He gets glory when we are strong and well, protected, blessed and increasing!

Stop Wondering! Start Declaring!

*The world's report will make you sad. Listening to the news
and unbelief will make you sad. You will begin to wonder,
"I wonder if God will do it for me?
I wonder if I will ever get out of debt?"*

*Wondering is not of God. God's Word causes you TO KNOW.
Quit wondering! Declare, "I SHALL INCREASE!"
When you declare the Word, it begins to take root in you.*

III GOD BRINGS THOSE WHO ARE BOUND INTO PROSPERITY

*A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows,
Is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families;
He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; — Psalm 68:5-6*

◆ **You are in the FAMILY OF GOD!**

*For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named...*

— Ephesians 3:14-15

1. You will never be alone again. “God sets the solitary in families...” (Psalm 68:6).
 2. He has accepted you in the Beloved (Ephesians 1:6).
- ❖ Don’t wonder where the Lord is bringing you. He is bringing you into prosperity!
 - ❖ God is no respecter of persons. If you get with His program, He will bring you out of bondage and into prosperity.

***Don’t settle for mere church attendance or being part of a group.
Keep following God. Don’t quit! Stay on the Word!
If you do these things, He will bring you into prosperity!***

IV WHAT IS PROSPERITY?

A. Prosperity Is a Bible Word.

- ❖ Prosperity originated with God and is not just a preacher’s idea.

It’s All about What God Said

Before we ever had a need or a desire for increase, God already took pleasure in our prosperity. This is not so much about us. It is about what God said in His Word.

B. Prosperity Is from the Hebrew Word “Shalom”.

■ DEFINITION: “Shalom”

➤ “Shalom”

- can be translated PEACE, HEALTH, PROSPERITY, or WELFARE
- It refers to SOUNDNESS or WHOLENESS. This includes soundness of body. God wants our body strong!
- It is COMPLETENESS or wholeness—NOTHING MISSING, NOTHING BROKEN.
- It means peace in our relationships.
- It also means peace from war.

- ❖ “Shalom” is COMPLETENESS IN NUMBER. A carton of eggs that is supposed to contain a dozen eggs, but has only eleven pieces, is not complete in number. It is lacking. It is not “shalom”.
- ❖ Our “shalom” is paid for!

***We need to be aggressive about what is ours in Christ!
We have to rebel against lack and poverty!***

C. Biblical Definition of the Word “Prosper”

■ DEFINITION: “Prosper”

➤ Prosper in the Old Testament (Psalm 1:3):

- to PUSH FORWARD
- to ADVANCE
- to MAKE PROGRESS
- to SUCCEED
- to BE PROFITABLE

➤ Prosper in the New Testament (3 John 2):

- to SUCCEED in reaching a DESIRED DESTINATION

- ❖ It is not the will of God that you desire and come up short. We now have a new desired destination—INCREASE!

V WHERE DOES TRUE PROSPERITY BEGIN?

“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud...So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”

— Isaiah 55:10-11

A. Prosperity Begins with the Word of God.

***It is important that you don’t miss the beginning.
You have to find out where everything begins.***

B. The Word of God Will Accomplish Its Purpose.

1. Just as the rain and the snow will accomplish the purpose of watering the earth to BRING FORTH, PRODUCE, and BUD, so too, the Word will PROSPER in its intended purpose (vv. 10-11).
2. God does not like things to be barren. In the Bible, barrenness is a curse because it stops increase. It is contrary to God’s will of increase.

***Do not underestimate the power of the anointed Word.
When the Word comes, it brings forth PRODUCTION,
INCREASE, and PROSPERITY.***

C. The Purpose of God’s Word: Production and Increase!

“But other seed fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased and produced: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.” — Mark 4:8

D. God’s Instructions to Joshua

“Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” — Joshua 1:7-8

■ DEFINITION:

➤ “This Book of the Law” is the Word of God.

Do You Want Victory? Keep the Word in Your Mouth!

*“Man of God, don’t leave your Bible at home.
It is not enough to go to all the meetings and carry your Bible under your arm; be a good little Christian; and show up every Sunday at church.*

*No, man of God... If you want victory,
this Book of the Law has to be in your mouth! You have to be
RADICAL, CRAZY, ON FIRE, and IN LOVE with Scripture!”*

Too Busy for God’s Word?

Imagine for a moment the life of Joshua...

The leadership role that Joshua had been left with after Moses’ death might have seemed overwhelming. The Lord commissioned him to lead the children of Israel into the land He had sworn to give them, and to possess it (Deuteronomy 31: 23).

As a military leader, Joshua had an enormous responsibility of raising an army for battle against a formidable foe—one whose stronghold seemed difficult to destroy. He had to come up with military tactics and strategies to overcome Israel’s enemies and conquer their land.

*But with all of his responsibilities, what was the Lord’s instruction to him?
“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth!
Meditate in it day and night!”*

*You might say, “But I’m a businessman. I don’t have time for all that!
I have a business to run. I let my wife do the praying.”*

Well, consider Joshua... God was fully aware that Joshua had a big task ahead of him which is precisely why the Lord commanded him to meditate on the Word daily.

God knew whatever success Joshua was going to achieve would come only from the Word of God.

You Have a Land to Possess!

Just like Joshua, you have a land to possess!

You better believe in increase!

You will not possess your promised land by being double-minded. Don’t say, “Well...if the Lord wants...” That’s being double-minded!

The will of God is that you prosper wherever you go!

Don’t let go of the Word for the sake of being a part of the group. Your group cannot save you. The Word of God is your salvation.

*The Word of God is your deliverance!
The Word of God will bring you into your promised land.*

☞ Why meditate day and night?

1. No Word = no light.
 - The Word of God is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path (**Psalm 119:105**).
 - The entrance of His Word gives us light and understanding (**Psalm 119:130**).
2. You can only go so long on the Word of yesterday.
 - You need the Word to have a RENEWED and FRESH entrance into your life DAILY (**Matthew 6:11**).
3. Prosperity and good success only come AFTER the Word.

"...but you shall meditate in it day and night...FOR THEN you will make your way prosperous, and THEN you will have good success."

— **Joshua 1:8**

- ❖ Only after giving ATTENTION to, MEDITATING in, and giving DILIGENCE to the Word will we discover the prosperity and success that God has planned for us.

We Live by Every Word of God

We love the Word not because we are trying to be in good standing with God. The blood of Jesus has already made us acceptable, holy, blameless, and above reproach in His sight.

*We get in the Word because it is LIGHT and STRENGTH for us.
We live by every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.*

*Go back to the beginning, and stay there.
If you stay with the way you started, you will get to your end.*

E. In the Beginning Was the Word.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

— **John 1:1, 3**

- ❖ All things were made through the Word.
- ❖ Anything LASTING or ENDURING comes from the Word.

***If you can't get it through the Word and faith in God,
you don't want it! It will only bring you sorrow.***

*The blessing of the Lord makes one rich,
And He adds no sorrow with it. — Proverbs 10:22*

VI THE LINK BETWEEN THE WORD AND LIGHT

In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. — John 1: 4-5

A. God's Word Brings “Light”.

■ DEFINITION: “Light”

- Light — REVELATION or the ABILITY TO SEE something.

*The entrance of Your words gives light;
It gives understanding... — Psalm 119:130*

- ❖ You are sitting in a “HIGH LIGHT ZONE” when you sit under the anointed teaching and preaching of the Word of God.
- ❖ As you hear God's Word, you get revelation and understanding.
- ❖ The purpose of revelation is so you can WALK IN IT.

The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law. — Deuteronomy 29:29

- ❖ Once light or revelation comes and you walk in that light, darkness must flee! Light always overcomes the darkness.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. — John 1:5, NLT

Poverty: A Result of Darkness

Poverty is a result of darkness.

*If a person is down in life, he is not down because of bad luck.
He is down in life because of a lack of light, or not walking
in the light he has.*

Let Go and Let God!

*If we are going to walk in God’s enduring prosperity,
there are some things we have to let go of—some things that we have
trusted in—like our ability to do it ourselves and make it happen.
It might work for a while, but not for long.*

B. Light Will Cause You to Rise!

Arise, shine; For your light has come!

And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. — Isaiah 60:1

■ **DEFINITION:** “Arise”

- Arise – to change one’s posture or one’s position; to COME UP from.
- ❖ In order to arise, light from God’s Word must come first.
- ❖ The Word coming into your heart causes the light to shine. As you walk in that light, you will come up and change your posture in life.

Above the Enemy’s Radar

*When you start walking in the light that you have,
you are moving “above the enemy’s radar”.*

*The devil will be left in a tailspin, trying to figure out what just happened.
As you arise supernaturally, the darkness
won’t be able to figure you out.*

VII PROSPERITY COMES TO THE MAN WHO DELIGHTS GREATLY IN GOD’S WORD

*Blessed is the man who fears the Lord,
Who delights greatly in His commandments.
His descendants will be mighty on earth;
The generation of the upright will be blessed.
Wealth and riches will be in his house.
And his righteousness endures forever.
Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness... — Psalm 112:1-4*

A. The Benefits of the Man Who Delights in the Word of God (Psalm 112:1-4):

1. His descendants will be MIGHTY on earth, and his generation will be BLESSED (v. 2).
2. WEALTH and RICHES will be in his house (v. 3).
3. His righteousness ENDURES forever (v. 3).
4. In darkness, there is LIGHT for the upright (v. 4).

God Will Always Bring You Back to His Word

*Enduring prosperity is not a result of great desire
or fleshly ambition.*

*It is good to be passionate. It is good to be on fire. But when you
get done with all that fleshly gusto, you are going to hear the still,
small voice that says, “In the beginning was the Word...”,
and you are going to have to go back to God’s Word.
Then the Lord will begin to talk to you again through His Word.*

B. The Man Who Delights in the Word Is Blessed!

*Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the
ungodly ... But his delight is in the law of the Lord.
And in His law he meditates day and night...
He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water,
That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither;
And whatever he does shall prosper. — Psalm 1:1-3*

Question: What is the key to this man’s success?

Answer: Delighting in the Word. Whatever he does will prosper!

■ **DEFINITION:** “law”

➤ “law” – Hebrew word “TORAH” which literally means,
THAT WHICH SHOWS THE WAY.

❖ God’s Word will give you light and show you THE WAY to go.

❖ THE WAY brings prosperity!

Which Way Shall I Go?

*The entrance of His Word gives light and understanding,
and it will show you the way.*

*There are many different ways you can go...a lot of choices... a lot
of decisions. People out there have all kinds of plans for you,
but many of them are not of God.*

*Just spend time in the Word until you discern,
“This is the way, walk in it...” (Isaiah 30:21).*

❖ Never underestimate the preaching of the Word. You always need to make time to sit under the anointed preaching of God’s Word.

C. The Preaching of the Word Will Bring a Poor Man Out of Poverty.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me.

Because He has anointed Me

To preach the gospel to the poor...” — Luke 4:18

❖ The poor do not need the right connections or contacts only. They need the gospel preached to them (**Luke 4:18; Matthew 11:5**).

Pastors and Ministers: Proclaim the Word!

***You are called to preach the Word,
and not just to build a church or a ministry.***

VIII OUR OUTWARD PROSPERITY IS LINKED TO OUR INWARD PROSPERITY

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health just as your soul prospers. — 3 John 2

A. You Will Prosper Outwardly Only as Your Soul Begins to Prosper.

B. The Word of God Causes Your Soul to Prosper.

- ❖ When the Word of God finds entrance in your heart and in your life, you begin to have light, and it causes you to rise up.
- ❖ As you WALK IN THE LIGHT that you have, you begin to experience true, lasting, and enduring outward prosperity.

If You Can't Get It from the Word, You Don't Want It!

*It is not about what YOU can do or what YOU can produce.
It's about HANGING OUT WITH GOD, and meditating
on His Word until you begin to see some things.
For in the Word of God you will find the wisdom of God.*

*You are not called to run out and WEAR OUT in the name of the Lord.
This is not the will of God for you.*

*His will for you is prosperity—wholeness in your body, in your spirit,
and in your mind—your total well-being!*

Sometimes we are wearing out because we are doing it wrong.

We need to humble ourselves and say, "Teach me, Lord."

Come back to the Word, and make the Word of God your priority.

*If you can't get it from the Word, you don't want it!
Because then YOU have to maintain it. YOU have to keep it.
YOU have to prop it up. That's hard!*

*That which is of the Lord, the Lord will sustain.
Your part is to obey the Lord.*

PRAYER

Thank You, Lord, for Your Word. Thank You that Your Word has entrance in my heart. I come back to Your Word. I give it first place in my life.

I thank You, Lord, for lasting, enduring, and true prosperity. It is Your will for my life, in Jesus' name. Amen.

LESSON 3

REDEEMED FROM THE CURSE OF THE LAW

*Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law,
having become a curse for us
(for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”),
that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles
in Christ Jesus...*

 **Galatians 3:13-14**

In creation, God blessed Adam and said to him, “*Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.*” From the beginning, God established His purpose for man forever. His will for man is that we prosper in all things—spiritually and materially. God’s will from the beginning is the same as His will for the end. He is the Lord, and He changes not.

This is the story: Adam sold the entire human race into Satan’s captivity through his trespass in the garden. The result was “the curse”.

The good news is that Jesus Christ, the last Adam, redeemed us—set us free—from the penalty of Adam’s sin! Now, through faith in Jesus Christ and His work on the cross, we can live free from the curse!

We have been bought back from Satan’s captivity...from a world of darkness into God’s marvelous light! Praise God, through Christ, we are redeemed and eternally free to fulfill God’s original purpose and intent for man as established from the very beginning!

I FREEDOM FROM THE CURSE BY THE PAYMENT OF A PRICE

knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold...but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. — 1 Peter 1:18-19

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us... — Galatians 3:13

A. Christ Has Redeemed Us from the Curse of the Law.

■ **DEFINITION:** “Redeem”

➤ Redeem – to buy back; to set free by the payment of a price.

- ❖ We have been “bought back” from Satan’s captivity and the kingdom of darkness.

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love... — Colossians 1:13

But you are a chosen generation...that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light...

— 1 Peter 2:9

- ❖ We were redeemed—set free—when Jesus hung on the cross for us (Deuteronomy 21:23).
- ❖ The blood of Jesus was the payment price for our redemption.

Redeemed!

Adam sold the entire human race into Satan’s captivity through his trespass in the garden. The result was “the curse”.

Jesus Christ, the last Adam, redeemed us from the penalty of Adam’s trespass. Now, through faith in Jesus Christ and His work on the cross, we can live free from the curse.

B. What is the “Curse of the Law”? (Deuteronomy 28:15-68)

1. Galatians 3:13 and Deuteronomy 28 go together.

2. Blessings and curses are listed in Deuteronomy 28.
 - Blessings (vv. 1-14)
 - Curses (vv. 15-68)
 3. Poverty, lack, and decrease are included in the curse (vv. 29, 31, 38-44, 51).
 4. What are some of these curses?
 - You shall not prosper in your ways (v. 29).
 - Investment of time and labor with no return (v. 30)
 - Loss and decrease (vv. 31, 38-40)
 - You do all the work, and the unbeliever gets all the profit (vv. 33, 43).
 - Every sickness and every plague (v. 61)
- ❖ The “Curse of the Law” includes sickness, poverty, bondage, and defeat. We are redeemed!
- ❖ What we are redeemed from, we don’t have to tolerate anymore!

The Lord Giveth and the Devil Taketh Away

*The devil is the taker; he is the thief.
 When Job said, “...The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away...”
 (Job 1:21), Job had no revelation of the devil.
 If Job could have read what Jesus said in John 10:10, he would have said,
 “The Lord gave and the devil has taken away.”*

II RESIST THE DEVIL! RESIST THE CURSE!

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

— John 10:10

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

— James 4:7

- ❖ TRUTH EMPOWERS US TO RESIST.

*Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil...Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth.— **Ephesians 6:11, 14***

- ❖ What is the TRUTH? Poverty is a curse! Christ has redeemed me from the curse of poverty!
- ❖ What is the TRUTH? Sickness is a curse! Christ has redeemed me from the curse of sickness!

III THERE IS DELIVERANCE IN THE WORD OF GOD

*He sent His word and healed them,
And delivered them from their destructions. — Psalm 107:20*

- ❖ There is eternal freedom and liberty in the Word of God.
- ❖ The Word of God was sent to produce and to prosper (**Mark 4:8; Isaiah 55:11**).

◆ Receive God's Word! Receive Your Deliverance!

- ❖ The Word works, but you need to:
 1. AGREE with it.
 2. OPEN YOUR MOUTH and SAY, "I'll never be broke or sick another day of my life!" "Christ has redeemed me from the curse of the law."
 3. KEEP it going in your EARS (**Proverbs 4:20**).
 4. KEEP it in front of your EYES (**Proverbs 4:21**).
 5. GUARD your heart (**Proverbs 4:23**).
 6. SPEAK it all the time.

The Word Works!

Receiving God's Word does not mean that you will "instantly" have no more sick days. However, as you grow in these revelations, your sick days should become fewer and fewer over the years. You learn how to fight the good fight of faith (1Timothy 6:12). You learn to stand and resist the devil.

*Just because you lost a battle does not mean you have lost the war.
No, get back on your faith again!
Get back on the Word of God again!*

*DON'T QUIT ON THE WORD!
Don't say the Word did not work.
Let God be true and every man a liar.
The Word of God works, and it will produce!*

Catch the Spirit of Faith

*We have to catch the spirit of faith! We have the same spirit of faith.
We believe; therefore, we speak (2 Corinthians 4:13).*

*Use the spirit of faith and begin to say, "We are increasing everywhere!
We are breaking out on every side!
Our businesses are prospering!*

*We have divine wisdom! We have supernatural information from
the Spirit of God. We are walking in the light of God's Word,
and we're increasing on every side!*

*Our ministries are increasing! We're increasing in our callings,
and in the preaching and teaching of the Word of God! "*

- ❖ All the revelations you receive are building blocks that fit together to give you a total picture of the will of God.

IV SATAN WANTS TO STEAL THE WORD

A. Beware the Thief!

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy..."
— **John 10:10**

*The sower sows the word...When they hear, Satan comes immediately
and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.*
— **Mark 4:14, 15**

1. The devil is the thief, and he is trying to steal the Word.
2. The devil knows the Word of God is the source of your increase, your healing, and your prosperity.

***The devil is not so much concerned about you as he is about
the Word you have from God.***

B. God Is Not Your Problem.

...If God is for us, who can be against us? — Romans 8:31

- ❖ God is not your source of trouble. He is for you and not against you.
- ❖ Trouble comes from the devil, from your own flesh, and an unrenewed mind.

C. Resist the Devil with the Word.

- When Jesus was tempted, He said, *“It is written...”* He used the Word to resist the devil (**Matthew 4:4, 7, 10**).

***You take the Word that the devil is trying to steal from you,
and use that SAME WORD to resist him.***

D. The Devil Uses Tribulation and Persecution to STEAL the Word.

*“and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word’s sake, immediately they stumble.” — **Mark 4:17***

■ DEFINITION: “Tribulation” and “Persecution”

- Tribulation – pressure from the five (5) physical senses. For example: Seeing unpaid bills, hearing bad reports, unchanging circumstances.
- Persecution – trouble from people around us because of what we believe.

Question: Who is behind the tribulation and persecution?

Answer: Satan, of course! He is the enemy of the Word!

Question: Why did tribulation and persecution come?

Answer: “For the Word’s sake.” The devil wants you to “back off” and let go of the Word.

- ❖ The devil knows that if you hold on to the Word, the Word will bring you into prosperity.
- ❖ God is not trying to “teach you a lesson” through tribulations or persecutions.
- ❖ God is trying to bring you into increase through His Word.

Don’t Become a Professional Christian

Some people don’t prosper because they quit the Word and become “professional Christians”. Don’t replace the Word with man-made formulas, ideas, and programs to become a “professional church builder”.

*Never do that! No! Hold on to the Word!
Your prosperity is in the Word of God!*

The Word Brings Revelation

Always remember this:

Men's religion complicates, but REVELATION SIMPLIFIES.

When you get a revelation through the Word, it causes things to become CRYSTAL CLEAR. Oftentimes, listening to so many opinions, theories, and arguments only brings confusion.

- *STAY AWAY* from places that confuse your spirit.
- *AVOID PEOPLE* that cause you to doubt God's Word.
- *BE AWARE* of things and places that cause you to be troubled or unsettled.

*Instead, go to places that bring the light and the life of God's Word.
Why? Your prosperity depends upon it!*

Your prosperity is not in a group or a clan. It's in the Word of God!

E. Don't Get Offended!

"And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or tribulation ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended." — Mark 4:17, KJV

1. Satan uses offense to steal the Word.
2. Don't get offended with the Word or the preacher.
3. Don't become touchy when God's Word adjusts your thinking and "steps on your toes".
4. Your battle is not against man.

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. — Ephesians 6:12

F. ROOTED and GROUNDED in the Love of God

*...and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time.
— Mark 4:17*

...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love... — Ephesians 3:17

It's Not Working!

*When it "looks" like God's Word is not working,
that is not the time to get offended with the Word and quit. NO!
It's time to dig your spiritual heels into the ground and say,
"I know God loves me! He would never lie to me.
I'm not moved by what I see.
God's will for me is Increase, and I am increasing in Jesus' name!"*

*Some people don't know the character and nature of God.
So when persecution and tribulation come for the Word's sake,
they give up and say, "Lord, Your will be done."
But we know His will: WE SHALL INCREASE!*

V THE TRUTH ABOUT THE DEVIL

A. Jesus Disarmed and Defeated the Devil!

Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. — Colossians 2:15

...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. — 1 John 3:8

The Real Battle: Truth versus Lies

*What causes people to remain trapped and not rise up in life?
What empowers Satan—a defeated foe?*

When people believe his lies!

*People are often defeated in life because of WRONG THINKING...
which leads to WRONG BELIEVING...which leads to WRONG SPEAKING.*

1. Renew your mind, and think God's thoughts.

*"For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. — Isaiah 55:8*

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. — Romans 12:2

2. You will have in this life what you BELIEVE and SAY.

“For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.”

— Mark 11:23

B. Redeemed from Generational Curses

What about Generational Curses?

Did you know that you have been redeemed from generational or ancestral curses? Once you are born again, your problem is not with generational curses, but rather GENERATIONAL THINKING. Wrong mindsets (Lies!) have been passed down from one generation to the next, many times by well-meaning people or family. You must now renew your mind to God’s Word.

*The blood of the Lamb...the power of the new birth
...the power of the new creation in you...these are greater than any
generational or ancestral curse.*

VI ONLY ONE WILL FOR BOTH HEAVEN AND EARTH

“In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

— Matthew 6:9-10

A. Poverty Is a Curse! It Is NEVER God’s Will!

- ❖ God loves poor people, but He hates poverty.
- ❖ If poverty were a blessing at all, there would be poverty in heaven. But there is no poverty in heaven!
- ❖ God does not have one will for heaven and another will for earth. He is the God of heaven and earth!

B. The Will of God is that You Prosper in All Things.

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. — 3 John 2

C. Jesus Christ Became Poor, so that You Could Become Rich.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. — 2 Corinthians 8:9

PRAYER

Father, I thank You that Christ has redeemed me from the curse of the law. Thank You that I am redeemed from the curse of poverty.

Poverty is not Your will for my life. I am resisting it. I am rising up! I am increasing, in Jesus' name! Amen.

LESSON 4

THE BLESSING OF ABRAHAM

*Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law,
having become a curse for us...
that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles
in Christ Jesus...*

 **Galatians 3:13-14**

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law. He became a curse for us, so that we could be free! Isn't it good to know that because of this great truth, our days of poverty and sickness are over forever?

Yes, it is important to know that we have been redeemed from the curse of the law, but equally important to know is what our redemption has BROUGHT US INTO!

Not only are our days of lack over forever! Not only has the Lord brought us out of poverty! But our redemption through Jesus Christ has also brought us into ABUNDANCE! He brought us out of the curse, so that He can bring us into THE BLESSING of Abraham!

THE BLESSING is upon you and me to increase, so that we can be a blessing everywhere we go! God has a place—a purpose and a calling—for us. He is sending us out to take THE BLESSING that is on us and to bless everyone with it!

I GOD MAKES A COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM

*When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared
...and said to him, “I am Almighty God...and I will make My
covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.”*

— Genesis 17:1-2

A. God Reinforces His Will on the Earth by Making a Covenant with Abraham.

- ❖ God’s Covenant with Abraham was a Covenant of multiplication.
- ❖ God’s Covenant with Abraham was consistent with His original plan for man... “*Be fruitful and multiply...*” (Genesis 1:28).

B. God’s Covenant was to Abraham and His Descendants in Their Generations.

“And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.”

— Genesis 17:7

What Does Abraham Have to Do with Me?

You might say, “But that’s Abraham. He’s Old Testament!”

Galatians 3:13 says,

“Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law...”

*Why? “...that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles
in Christ Jesus...” (v. 14).*

Through Jesus Christ, Abraham’s Blessing is now yours!

C. We Are Abraham’s Descendants in Our Generation.

If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants.

— Galatians 3:29, NASB

Follow the Faith of Abraham

The Bible instructs us to “walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had” (Romans 4:12). Oftentimes you hear people bring up different questions and arguments: “Well...what about ‘Pastor So and So’? He loved God. He was a man of faith, and yet he died of cancer.”

*I don’t doubt that this pastor was a wonderful man who loved God with all his heart, but obviously he did not receive.
I say let’s not follow his example in that area.*

I want to follow in the steps of someone who received from God. Abraham is an example of someone who received what God had promised.

*So let’s move beyond all such “faith-crippling” conversation, and keep our eyes on the Bible example set before us.
Abraham is called the Father of our faith.*

D. God’s Promises to Abraham Belong to Us.

And now that we are Christ’s, we are true descendants of Abraham and all of God’s promises to him belong to us. — Galatians 3:29, TLB

E. Being “in Christ” Qualifies Us for Abraham’s Blessing.

❖ God broke down all barriers:

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

— Galatians 3:28

- Nationality (neither Jew nor Greek)
- Social status (neither slave nor free)
- Gender (neither male nor female)

Stay with the Word

*God is calling us to RISE UP and GO FORWARD
with the word of increase in our mouth.*

*There is authority in what the Bible says.
Stay away from petty arguments and idle chatter.
Stay with the Word, and move on.*

IF YOU ARE ON THE BIBLE, YOU ARE ON GOOD GROUND.

God Is Doing Something Great in Our Day!

*God is doing something this day that is greater than a man...
greater than a denomination...
greater than a group.*

It is called THE EXPANSION OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD!

*Within that expansion, He puts groups, people, and churches together.
He puts vision in people,
but it is all for the greater expansion of His Kingdom.
We should not be so focused on the smaller that we forget the greater.*

For the Love of God's Honor

*God will put His honor on man.
If you want to be honored and walk in God's honor today,
then honor what He honors.
We do what we do now for the love of His honor—not for the love of our
name or the protection of our group.
God has something bigger and better for us.*

II AN IRREVOCABLE COVENANT

“And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.” — Genesis 17:2

■ DEFINITION: “Covenant”

➤ Covenant – an irrevocable and unbreakable pledge or agreement.

A. God Cannot Lie.

*“God is not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent.
Has He said, and will He not do?
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?” — Numbers 23:19*

“As for Me... My covenant is with you...” — Genesis 17:4

God Always Does His Part

God says, "AS FOR ME...My covenant is with you..."

He is always faithful to do HIS PART.

*Now it's up to us to agree with God, study and investigate our Covenant,
and to ask God to help us walk in it. Then we can say with confidence,
"AS FOR ME, God's Covenant of increase is with me!"*

B. God Will Not Break His Covenant.

*"My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of
My lips." — Psalm 89:34*

C. God Remembers His Covenant Forever.

*He remembers His covenant forever, the word which He commanded for
a thousand generations... — Psalm 105:8*

III GOD PERFORMS THE COVENANT OF BLESSING

◆ God Is FAITHFUL to Every Generation. He Kept His Covenant with:

1. Isaac in his generation (Genesis 26:2-4; 12-13)

Then Isaac sowed in that land...and the Lord blessed him.

*The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became
very prosperous. — Genesis 26:12-13*

2. Jacob in his generation (Genesis 28:3-4; 13-15)

"May God Almighty bless you.

And make you fruitful and multiply you...

And give you the blessing of Abraham.

To you and your descendants with you." — Genesis 28:3-4

Thus the man became exceedingly prosperous... — Genesis 30:43

3. Joseph in his generation (Genesis 39-48)

*The Lord was with Joseph, and he was a successful man...and his master
saw that the Lord was with him...the Lord made all he did to prosper in
his hand. — Genesis 39:2-3*

Lessons from the Life of Joseph

- THE BLESSING of Abraham and its effects CAN BE SEEN by those around you. “And his master saw that the Lord was with him...” (**Genesis 39:3**)
- PUT YOUR HAND to something, so that the Lord can BLESS it. “...and that the Lord made all he did to prosper in his hand.” (**Genesis 39:3**)
- THE BLESSING will bring you FAVOR with others. “So Joseph found favor in his sight...” (**Genesis 39:4**)
- THE BLESSING will PROMOTE you! “Then he made him overseer of his house, and all that he had put under his authority.” (**Genesis 39:4**)

A Prosperity Key: Prosper Everyone You Come in Contact with

*Develop and cultivate a mindset to be a blessing to everyone you meet.
It takes a conscious decision and mind renewal to do it,
but you have what it takes! Give a smile, a good word, an act of kindness,
some money, or a good tip.*

*Ask yourself,
“Is somebody’s life better because they came in contact with me today?”
Anytime we exit a place,
we should leave it better off than when we first arrived.*

Prosper Your Employer

*Don’t curse your job.
Is where you are working the place God sent you to work?
Then get in there, and prosper the business!
Prosper those around you!
THE BLESSING is on you to be a blessing!
Everywhere you go, things ought to get
BETTER, STRONGER, and BRIGHTER!*

God Has an Assignment for You

*Your job is not your source. God is your source!
 You need to be assignment-minded.
 Gentile thinking goes like this: “I need to get a job.” “Is the pay good?”*

*God has something greater for you than a job—
 He has an assignment!
 He has a place, a purpose, a calling for you.
 God is sending you out to a place to be FRUITFUL and to multiply.
 You are to take THE BLESSING that is on you,
 and to bless everyone around you!*

- ❖ Joseph was blessed because the Lord was PERFORMING the Covenant He swore to Abraham, not because he was God’s “golden boy”.

IV JOSEPH DIES...BUT THE BLESSING CONTINUES

And Joseph died...and all that generation. But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty...

— Exodus 1:6-7

A. THE BLESSING is Greater than a Connection from Man.

Now there arose a new king...who did not know Joseph. — Exodus 1:8

Oh, No! Joseph Is Dead!

*After Joseph died, it looked like a sad day for the children of Israel.
 Joseph, who was closely connected with Pharaoh, was dead!
 The new king did not know Joseph or recognize his role in
 the prosperity of Egypt.*

What would Israel do now?

*Depend upon THE BLESSING of Abraham!
 Joseph may have died, but THE BLESSING was as strong as ever!*

*What do you do when someone you depended upon or looked to passes off the scene? What do you do when your special “connection” is gone?
 Look to God and THE BLESSING! He is your source of success!*

B. THE BLESSING Is Greater Than Satanic Affliction and Oppressive Leaders.

And he said to his people, "Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we; come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land." Therefore, they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses. But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in dread of the children of Israel. — Exodus 1:9-12

1. Pharaoh is a type of the devil.
 2. The more Pharaoh afflicted God's people, the more they multiplied and grew.
- ❖ The enemy is afraid of you multiplying. He gets frantic when he sees you increasing by the power of the Word of God!
 - ❖ Corrupt leadership and authorities in our lives like Pharaoh won't stop THE BLESSING of God.
 - ❖ The unbelief of a few greedy, naughty politicians and leaders is not greater than THE BLESSING of Abraham on the body of Christ in your nation.

The Will of God Is Our Promised Land

*Stop cursing your nation! You CAN get ahead in your nation.
Those who complain about the authorities in their nation
are ignorant of their Covenant...
ignorant of THE BLESSING of Abraham...
ignorant of its power.*

*No nation is the Promised Land.
The WILL OF GOD is our PROMISED LAND.
Dare to stay right where the Lord has called you.
Plant your feet, and prosper in Jesus' name!*

Get Serious About Your Covenant

*Get into the Covenant, study it, and get serious about prospering!
If you get serious with what God said about your Covenant RIGHT and
RESPONSIBILITY to prosper, then He'll start talking to you.*

*God is looking for people to come up.
He's calling people to COME UP and OUT of where they have been into
NEW PLACES and NEW TERRITORIES.*

C. THE BLESSING Will Deliver You...Wealthy and Healthy!

1. God raised a DELIVERER, Moses, to go in and bring His people out (Exodus 3).

*He also brought them out with silver and gold,
And there was none feeble among His tribes. — Psalm 105:37*

2. God REMEMBERED His Covenant with Abraham.

*For He remembered His holy promise,
And Abraham His servant.
He brought out His people with joy,
His chosen ones with gladness. — Psalm 105:42-43*

- ❖ Everything the Lord did for the children of Israel in Psalm 105 was a result of God's promise to Abraham.

***The days of the Church being a small, quiet entity are coming to
an end. We, the Church, are an UNSTOPPABLE FORCE
in the earth!***

V POWER TO GET WEALTH

"And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day." — Deuteronomy 8:18

A. God Gives Us Power to Get Wealth because He Swore to Abraham.

- ❖ You are not qualified to get wealth based on what you have or don't have. THE BLESSING of Abraham overrides this.

B. The Blood of Jesus QUALIFIES You to Get Wealth!

And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. — Galatians 3:29

Stay on the Word!

The Word did not change.

Get up! Stay on the Word! Keep moving forward!

We are going upstream! We are going against the world's system!

It takes STRENGTH! It takes COURAGE!

It takes FAITH! IT TAKES GOD!

VI GOD IS EVER MINDFUL OF HIS COVENANT

...He will ever be mindful of His covenant. — Psalm 111:5

A. God Has Commanded His Covenant Forever.

B. His Truth and His Plans Stand, and They Endure to All Generations.

PRAYER

Thank You, Lord, for the everlasting Covenant. I believe Your Word. I am who the Bible says I am. I am the seed of Abraham, and I am redeemed from the curse of poverty. I am redeemed from financial lack, and have been brought into THE BLESSING of Abraham. I receive and embrace this Word.

Thank You, Lord, that You have given me the power to get wealth to establish Your Covenant. As the seed of Abraham, what You promised Abraham belongs to me.

Therefore, I thank You that I am blessed! I am increasing! I am breaking out! I am pushing forward! Whatever I do shall prosper!

Thank You, Lord, it's working for me, in Jesus' name. Amen.

LESSON 5

PROSPERITY: THE COST...THE COVENANT...THE CALL

...The chastisement for our peace was upon Him...

 Isaiah 53:5

Because of the shed blood of Jesus, prosperity is no longer a side issue. Prosperity is part of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ. His blood not only redeemed our souls, but it also paid the price for our prosperity and wholeness.

The prosperity that was provided for us by Jesus Christ through redemption has been COSTLY. God paid the price through His Son, so that we could walk in The Blessing of Abraham. Now we have a COVENANT of prosperity, and we need to answer the CALL to walk and operate in that Covenant.

Yes, the redemption of our souls is costly. We have been redeemed and brought into a Covenant with God. The good news is...this Covenant is for “whosoever”! It is not based on whether you have money or not. The invitation is for anyone who will come and listen to what God has to say in His Word! This is a call to prosperity and it is available to all who will come!

I THE COST OF PROSPERITY

No More “Poor Me”

*“Poor” should be eliminated from our vocabulary.
There is no such thing as a poor Christian, only ignorant Christians
who still think they are poor. We are not poor!*

We are the seed of Abraham!

We are not beggars, looking for handouts.

WE ARE BELIEVERS!

Believers are not beggars.

We are not making fun of the poor, BUT WE ARE NOT THE POOR!

We are those who pity the poor, because we are blessed.

*It is not a matter of your background; not a matter of where you were born;
not a matter of your citizenship.*

It is a matter of being born into the family of God!

None of them can by any means redeem his brother,

Nor give to God a ransom for him—

For the redemption of their souls is costly... — Psalm 49:7-8

A. The Redemption of Our Souls Is COSTLY.

*knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible
things, like silver or gold...but with the precious blood
of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

— 1 Peter 1:18-19

1. A man with all his riches cannot redeem his own soul (**Psalm 49:6-7**).
2. A great price was paid to redeem our souls. It was not cheap!

❖ We were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ.

B. The Lord Is Not Imputing Our Trespasses against Us

*that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not
imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of
reconciliation. — 2 Corinthians 5:19*

1. The sins of ALL humanity have already been paid for.
 2. Jesus was the PROPITIATION for our sins.
- ❖ Jesus SATISFIED the wrath of God for our sins (**Romans 3:25; Hebrews 2:17; 1 John 2:2; 1 John 4:10**).

God Is Not Mad at Anyone

*What a waste for any man to go to hell
when the price has already been paid for his soul.
That is why we need to preach the good news to people that God is not
mad at them; that God is not holding their sins against them.*

*They do not have to join our church, our group, or our club.
No. They just need to believe in Jesus Christ and confess His Lordship in
their lives (Romans 10:9-10).*

C. Jesus Died as Our Substitute.

*Surely He has borne our sicknesses *
And carried our pains *;
Yet we esteemed Him stricken,
Smitten by God, and afflicted.
But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed. — Isaiah 53:4-5*

- * **Griefs...sorrows:** Literally, sicknesses and pains, respectively. These nouns have reference to sicknesses, both spiritual and physical. See also **Matthew 8:17**.

1. Anything Jesus suffered on the cross, we need not suffer with.
 - Jesus BORE our sicknesses. He CARRIED our pains and diseases. By His stripes WE ARE HEALED (vv. 4-5).
 - He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities (v. 5).
- ❖ What Jesus bore, I need not bear!
2. Jesus was CHASTISED for our PROSPERITY.

The chastisement for our peace was upon Him... — Isaiah 53:5

■ **DEFINITION:** “Peace”

- The word “peace” here is the same Hebrew word “*shalom*”, often translated, “PROSPERITY”. Jesus was chastised for OUR TOTAL WELL-BEING.
3. When Jesus hung on the cross, the price was paid for us to walk in THE BLESSING of Abraham. (Read **Galatians 3:13** again!)

Prosperity—Not a “Side Issue”

*Prosperity is not a “side issue”!
It is part of the redemptive work of Jesus.
Jesus’ shed blood not only redeemed our souls, but also paid the price for
our prosperity and wholeness—
“nothing missing, nothing broken” in our lives.*

- ❖ Jesus died so you could be wealthy...so you could have material blessings.
- ❖ We do not worship the blessings. We are not to be covetous or greedy, but the blessings belong to us!

Material Wealth and Possessions Are Ministry Tools

If you don’t have material blessings, it is hard to be a blessing to somebody else. How can you give to somebody if you do not have any extra? It is good to have extra to give—extra money, extra clothes, an extra air conditioned room in your house—so you can bless somebody.

*Material wealth is a blessing.
You can bless and help a lot of people with material possessions.
So, don’t shrink back. Never apologize for them.
Never hide your material blessings.
Will you be persecuted? Of course you will be!
But don’t shrink back! Keep going forward!
Keep being a blessing!*

*We are not here to accumulate wealth, but we can use
material possessions and wealth to minister to others.*

D. BELIEVE the REPORT of the LORD: The Key to Seeing God's Performance in Your Life.

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? — Isaiah 53:1

■ **DEFINITION:** “arm of the Lord”

➤ “The arm of the Lord” – the muscle of God. It is the PERFORMANCE of GOD in your life.

1. This performance of God begins by believing the report.
2. Believe the report that God is ABLE to PERFORM increase in your life.
- ❖ The “arm of the Lord” is revealed to those who BELIEVE the report of the Lord!
3. What is the report we believe?
 - He was chastised (punished) for our SHALOM.
 - He was chastised for our PEACE.
 - He was chastised for our HEALTH.
 - He was chastised for our PROSPERITY.
 - He was chastised for our WELFARE.

You don't have to live BROKEN. You don't have to live BUSTED and DISGUSTED. You have a GOD! You have a COVENANT!

E. Jesus Became POOR that We Might Become RICH.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. — 2 Corinthians 8:9

1. Jesus was rich, but He became poor for our sake.
2. Jesus was not poor when He was on the earth:
 - He had a treasurer – Judas Iscariot (**John 12:4-6; 13:29**).
 - He had wealthy partners in His ministry (**Luke 8:1-3**).
 - The soldiers cast lots for His garment (**Luke 23:34**).
 - He walked in THE BLESSING of Abraham.
 - He paid His taxes (**Matthew 17:24-27**).
 - He had the anointing of multiplication in His life (**Matthew 14:13-21; 15:32-38; Mark 6:30-44; 8:1-9; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-13**).

- ❖ Jesus became poor when He hung on the cross, and God turned His back on Him.
- ❖ Included in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is the grace to prosper and to increase materially.
- ❖ We must accept the grace to prosper and be rich. Don't reject God's free gift!

Jesus Became Poor So We Can Be Rich

When did Jesus become poor?

*He became poor when God turned His back on Him, and Jesus cried,
"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"*

Jesus had always walked in Covenant with God.

While on earth, God was His total Source and Provider.

*But at that moment on the cross when He took our poverty
and was chastised for our shalom,*

*He was separated for the first time from God—His Source.
He experienced that separation, so that we could walk in shalom.*

This is the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ!

*Just like we accept the saving grace of God,
this grace of prosperity must also be accepted and received.
We must be careful that we don't resist the Lord's prospering grace.*

It's Not the Size of Your House that Counts!

*You may say, "Well, I'm not really interested in more material wealth.
It doesn't matter to me if I have a bigger house, live in the most expensive
subdivision, or drive a fancy car."*

*Fine, no problem! We are not talking about where you live and what kind
of car you drive. You can live in a tent if you want or stay in a mansion.
That's up to you! What we are talking about here is increasing all the
more for the gospel's sake!*

*Sleep under a bridge if you want to, but have bank accounts on the side so
that you can be a Kingdom wealth distributor!*

II THE COVENANT OF PROSPERITY

“For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but My kindness shall not depart from you, nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,” says the Lord, who has mercy on you. — Isaiah 54:10

A. God Swore to Keep His Covenant (Isaiah 54:9-10).

“...For as I have sworn that the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, so have I sworn that I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you...” — Isaiah 54:9

❖ The word, “swore” is COVENANT TALK. He is talking about an oath.

1. God’s kindness will not depart from us because of the Covenant!
2. God is on the lookout to SHOW KINDNESS to us because of His Covenant.

B. We Have a Covenant of Prosperity.

“...Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed...” — Isaiah 54: 10

■ DEFINITION: “Peace”

➤ The word “peace” here is the same Hebrew word, “*shalom*”, often translated “Prosperity”.

❖ Isaiah 54 reveals our COVENANT as a result of the Lord’s sacrificial death in Isaiah 53.

C. Blessings of the Covenant (Isaiah 54)

1. We SING because we have a Covenant. “*Sing, O barren...*” (v. 1)
 - We don’t sing because it is what we do every Sunday at church.

❖ The barren should sing! Why? You shall be barren no more!

2. EXPANSION or enlargement is part of our Covenant. “*Enlarge the place of your tent...*” (vv. 2-3)
3. A FEARLESS LIFE – “*Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed...*” (v. 4)

***REFUSE to FEAR anything—sickness, disease, the devil, terrorism,
ANYTHING!***

We are redeemed from the curse of fear!

4. EVERLASTING KINDNESS from God (v. 8)
5. A TUTOR for our children – *“All your children shall be taught by the Lord...”* (v. 13)
6. There is RIGHTEOUSNESS in our Covenant – *“In righteousness you shall be established...”* (v. 14).
 - We are the righteousness of God in Christ (**2 Corinthians 5:21**).

You Have a Tutor for Your Child

That’s the absolute truth!

You have the Holy Spirit and unseen ANGELIC HELP for your children.

Do your duty as a parent to discipline your children.

Do all the natural things to protect and guide them, but don’t put your faith in that alone. Put your FAITH in the COVENANT.

Great is the shalom of our children.

Why? They are taught by the Lord!

Your children can go to school with angels all around them.

They can be spared from wrong friends and ungodly influences.

All the “mother henning” over your kids will not keep the devil off their lives.

Yes, guard and protect them, but there is more to it than this...

YOU HAVE A COVENANT!

Learn to release your children into the Lord’s care by claiming the promise of His Covenant over their lives.

7. There is VICTORY in our Covenant – *“Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake.”* (v. 15).
- ❖ Those who come against a Covenant man shall fall. *“No weapon formed against you shall prosper...”* (v. 17)
 - ❖ The schemes, plans, tactics, and strategies of the devil might be formed; but they won’t prosper!

Where you are weak, THE COVENANT IS STRONG!

III THE CALL TO PROSPERITY

“Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come...” — Isaiah 55:1

A. The Call Is to EVERYONE.

1. Educated or uneducated
2. Businessman or housewife
3. Those who don't have money

B. The Call to Prosperity Is Not Based on Whether We Have Money or Not.

*“...And you who have no money,
Come, buy and eat.
Yes, come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without price.” — Isaiah 55:1*

Question: How do you buy without money and without price?

Answer: Come and listen to what God has to say. *“Listen carefully to Me...”* (v. 2)

Question: What happens when you listen to what the Lord has to say?

Answer:
1. You will eat what is good (**Isaiah 55:2**).
2. Your soul will delight itself in abundance (v. 2).

The Invitation Is for All...

*The redemption of our souls is **COSTLY**.*

The blood of Jesus has been shed.

*It brought us into the **COVENANT**.*

*Then Jesus makes the invitation and the **CALL** to all:*

*“Whoever is thirsty...” You don't even have to have money.
Just answer the call and begin to operate in the Covenant!*

PRAYER

Father, I thank You for the blood of the Lamb. Thank You for my redemption. I am redeemed from the curse of poverty because Jesus was chastised for my prosperity.

Thank You, Lord, the grace of Jesus has made me rich. Thank You for the Covenant of “shalom”.

Lord, I answer the call. I listen to You, and I operate in my Covenant.

I am the seed of Abraham. I am increasing! My days of poverty are over forever! Thank You, Lord! Hallelujah!

LESSON 6

THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT

*Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law...
that the blessing of Abraham
might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus,
that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*

 **Galatians 3:13-14**

We saw in previous lessons the faithfulness of God to His Covenant. We saw His faithfulness to the seed of Abraham in their successive generations—from Abraham to Isaac...to Jacob...to Joseph...and then to the nation of Israel.

Now the mandate to increase is upon us! The Bible says if we are Christ's, then we are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise. All the promises God made to Abraham now belong to us. But it does not end there. There is more to our inheritance!

Yes, The Blessing has come upon us, but the Scripture also says, “...
that we might receive the promise of the Spirit...”

The promise of the Holy Spirit has been given to teach us to profit... to guide us in the way we should go...to lead us into all truth...to show us things to come...to give us supernatural insight into the things of God.

The promise of the Spirit has been given to empower us to walk in The Blessing of Abraham!

I THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT—A VITAL LINK TO OUR INCREASE AND PROSPERITY

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law...that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. — Galatians 3:13-14

- A. The Promise of the Holy Spirit Is Linked to Our Redemption from the Curse of Poverty.
- B. The Promise of the Spirit Is Connected with Our Walking in THE BLESSING of Abraham.

In order to practically “walk out” your prosperity and The Blessing of Abraham on your life, you must learn to be led by and follow the leadings of the Holy Spirit.

II WE HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO PROSPER

“...I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry... until you are endued with power from on high.” — Luke 24:49

- A. We are CLOTHED with ABILITY from ON HIGH!

- **DEFINITION:** “power” and “endued”
 - “power” – STRENGTH or ABILITY
 - “endued” – CLOTHED

- ❖ The “Promise of My Father” Jesus was referring to was the mighty Holy Spirit.

- B. We Have the CAPACITY and ABILITY to GET WEALTH.

“And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth...” — Deuteronomy 8:18

- **DEFINITION:** “power”
 - The word “power” here means CAPACITY or ABILITY, whether physical, mental, or spiritual.

- ❖ Having wealth must not be evil because it is God who gives us the ability to get it.

- ❖ Whether in a physical, mental, or spiritual capacity, you have what it takes to prosper!

You Have What It Takes to Prosper!

*As the seed of Abraham, born-again and filled with the Holy Spirit,
YOU HAVE WITHIN YOU THE CAPACITY AND ABILITY
TO GET WEALTH.*

It doesn't matter if you're entrepreneurial or not; if you have business savvy or not. Neither should you be preoccupied with your education or the lack of it. If you do, you will disqualify yourself when the Bible has already qualified you.

*You have been endued with capacity from on high!
This is not a second-class ability.*

It is ability from on high to get wealth...to establish the Covenant.

The Holy Spirit—an Untapped Resource

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is one of the most underutilized blessings and resources in a believer's life. We have relied so heavily upon our own minds and reasoning, that much of the Holy Spirit's ability within us remains yet untapped.

There is a definite connection between the Holy Spirit and walking in our prosperity. But we must learn to believe in Him, yield to Him, and be willing to do things that don't always make sense to the carnal mind.

*Abraham, for example, left his family and went out...
not knowing where he was going (Hebrews 11:8).*

Noah worked on a boat project his whole life...and had never seen rain before! (Hebrews 11:7)

God Has a Company of Believers Waiting for You

As you move with the plan and the purpose of God, you may find yourself doing something others would consider unusual.

But we must be FREE FROM THE FEAR OF MAN.

We are the seed of Abraham, and WE ARE ON A MISSION!

Do not be disheartened by the response of others as you move on with the plan of God. Your priority must be to follow the Lord.

He will have people waiting for you—a COMPANY of BELIEVERS!

You might feel like you are all alone as you step out to follow God's plan, but as you continue to follow Him, you will find out He has a lot of others just like you!

God has not called you to live alone and walk alone, but there are times YOU HAVE TO BE WILLING TO STAND ALONE.

As you stand alone and you say, "No matter what, I am going to do things the Lord's way. I am going to follow the Lord's plan."

Then you will find the Lord bringing you into the company of others with like heart and purpose.

These are not co-dependent relationships.

They are not soulish tie-ups or link-ups.

They are glorious connections made by the Spirit of God.

Individually, as we each press into God, then we get pressed together. The Lord joins and knits us together for His eternal plans and purposes, and we become a real blessing to one another. As the Scripture says, "Every joint supplies" (Ephesians 4:16).

III THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A. The Holy Spirit is THE HELPER.

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever..." — John 14:16

- ❖ The Holy Spirit will help you with whatever you need help with.
- ❖ The Lord will not take the Holy Spirit away. He has been sent to abide with you FOREVER!

You may be thinking, “What if I sin? Will the Lord remove the Holy Spirit from me?” No! The Holy Spirit is the Helper. If you sin, He will tell you to REPENT, CONFESS your sin, and GET UP! He has been sent to abide with you FOREVER!

B. The Holy Spirit is THE TEACHER.

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things...” — John 14:26

1. He will teach you ALL THINGS—whatever you need to be taught. He will teach you HOW to:
 - raise and discipline your kids
 - use your faith
 - be a blessing (how to tithe, how to sow, where to give, where not to give)
 - organize your home life
 - be a good husband, or a good wife, or a good parent
2. He will teach you to profit.

*Thus says the Lord... “I am the Lord your God,
Who teaches you to profit, who leads you by the way you should go.”
 — Isaiah 48:17*

❖ Godliness has the promise of “profit” both now and the life to come.

...godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. — 1 Timothy 4:8

Inside Information

*With the Holy Spirit, we have supernatural help and inside information!
 If you will listen to Him, He will teach you which business opportunities are right or wrong. He will show you where and where not to invest your money.
 He will teach you which people to get involved with,
 and who to stay away from.*

The Holy Spirit is ever-present to help, and He has been sent to teach you to profit. In fact, the Holy Spirit never led a person into failure or a financial disaster. If we fail financially or make bad decisions, it is because we did not take time to PRAY, LISTEN, and WAIT on the Holy Spirit’s leading.

C. The Holy Spirit REVEALS THE FUTURE.

“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth...and He will tell you things to come.” — John 16:13

“He will honor and glorify Me, because He will take of (receive, draw upon) what is Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you.” — John 16:14, AMP

1. The Holy Spirit will tell you things to come.
2. He will give you INSIGHT into the future.
 - He will give you insight into the value of certain investments and assets.
 - In the beginning, God told man where the gold was (**Genesis 2:11-12**).
 - Jesus told His disciples where to cast their net to catch fish (**John 21:6**)

***We have a SUPERNATURAL ADVANTAGE to get ahead in life.
We are not in the dark. We are children of the light!***

We Have Been Given the Ability to See and Know

One of the greatest blessings of having the Holy Spirit and His ministry in your life is THE ABILITY TO SEE what you could not see otherwise.

When the Holy Spirit is FLOWING and WORKING in your life, you will have supernatural ability to see things, dreams, and visions (Joel 2:28), or simply to KNOW something you may not know otherwise.

- ❖ If we LISTEN to the Holy Spirit, we will be saved from all kinds of unnecessary trouble, heartache, and pain.
3. The Holy Spirit will give you SUPERNATURAL INSIGHT on exactly what to do to prosper.
 4. The Holy Spirit will take from Jesus, the Head of the Church, and He will DECLARE, DISCLOSE, and TRANSMIT things to you (**John 16:14, AMP**).
 5. The Holy Spirit will show you what kind of business to open.

*If you open a business, what kind of business should you put up?
These things need to be **PRAYED OVER** thoroughly before you
begin. More prayers have to go forth.*

D. THE Holy Spirit REVEALS OUR INHERITANCE.

*Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is
from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to
us by God. — 1 Corinthians 2:12*

A Word for the Pastors

*Don't put yourself in a box saying, "Well, I'm just a pastor."
No, no, no! God has called you to wealth!
He has called you to be a blessed pastor!*

*You're not supposed to be mere preachers of the Word.
You're supposed to be examples to the flock!
As priests, you're supposed to be out there leading the way.*

*Don't shrink back from prosperity.
Don't shrink back from being blessed!
Just be blessed!*

*People are not your source.
The congregation is not your source.*

*You might say, "But no one gives to me."
You have your eyes in the wrong place!
Your needs are not met by people's giving.*

*Your needs are met by **THE BLESSING** of Abraham on your life,
and by you being a giver.*

***The Priority of Ministers and Preachers:
GET THE WORD OUT and GIVE!***

These two things will keep you busy!

*Your priority and business is not to get the money in.
Your giving will cause it to be “given unto you good measure, pressed down,
shaken together, running over will men give unto your bosom.”*

*You’re not giving to get.
You’re giving because you are the seed of Abraham!*

*This is a different mindset.
Jerk your mind like a steering wheel, and hold it there when you are
tempted to think of where the money will come from.*

*You need to take some of the first which comes through your church or
ministry, and put it aside in a giving account.*

*Your giving comes first.
Your giving drives your income.
Your giving drives your life.
Giving is not a side issue.*

GIVING IS WHAT PROPELS YOUR LIFE FORWARD!

1. THE BLESSING of Abraham or prosperity is one of the things that has been freely given to us!
2. The Holy Spirit will work with us, causing us to know how to practically walk in THE BLESSING.

***For many, the Holy Spirit has been a silent partner, because we
have not had faith in His ability in us and upon us
to bring us into wealth.***

E. The Holy Spirit Has Been Given, so that We Are Not Trapped in Our Own Limited Understanding.

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. — 1 Corinthians 2:14

- ❖ There are things God has prepared for us that we will only know by the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ We are not to be like unbelievers, who are ignorant, blind, and limited to the futility of their own minds.

This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart... — Ephesians 4:17-18

We need not make any bad financial decisions again. We are not rolling the dice. We are not gambling. We have a SURE GUIDE—the Holy Spirit—and He has been sent to teach us to profit.

IV GOD WANTS US FILLED, ENDUED, AND CLOTHED

“Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry...until you are endued with power from on high.” — Luke 24:49

It is not good to leave the house with no clothes on, but we do it quite often when it comes to our spiritual life.

A. Tongues Is a Blessing for Every Believer.

Now when the Day of Pentecost had fully come...Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues... — Acts 2:1-4

- Question: How would you know if you are filled with the Holy Spirit?
- Question: How would you know if the fullness of the Spirit is operating in your life?
- Answer: There is evidence! The evidence is that you will speak in tongues.

B. Tongues Is a Greatly Underutilized TOOL.

1. There is a whole other DIMENSION available to believers, mostly untapped.
2. For many Christians, speaking in tongues has been limited to:
 - Something only done in church services
 - Something only for “intercessors” or the spiritually elite
 - A one-time experience

❖ Tongues gives us the ability to speak mysteries (divine secrets and hidden truths).

For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.

— 1 Corinthians 14:2

Supernatural Download

- *When you receive the Holy Spirit, you receive the supernatural language of praying in other tongues.*
- *You now have within you the supernatural capacity to communicate with God in a supernatural way — spirit to Spirit.*
- *As you speak to Him, He downloads things to you.*
- *The Holy Spirit downloads wisdom, instruction, and supernatural insight.*

C. Tongues Like a River (John 7:37-39)

...“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” — John 7:37-38

❖ Out of every believer’s heart will flow RIVERS of LIVING WATER.

Question: What was this river of living water Jesus was referring to?

Answer: Jesus was speaking about the Holy Spirit. *“But this He spoke concerning the Spirit...” (John 7:39)*

Question: From where will this river of the Holy Spirit flow?

Answer: From your heart...your inner man...your inner most being.

***Out of our hearts will flow rivers...not a trickle...
not a little bit...but a river!***

D. How to Trust the Lord with ALL Your Heart

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding; — Proverbs 3:5*

Put Your Mind in the Backseat

*Do you want to learn to trust the Lord with ALL your heart,
and lean less and less on the futility of your own understanding?
Then spend more time allowing the river of the Holy Spirit to flow freely from
your heart by speaking in tongues to God.*

*As you speak in tongues, your mind must take a “backseat” to your heart
because the words you are speaking are not coming
from your mind, but from the Holy Spirit within you.*

The Untapped Power of Praying in Tongues

*A vital link to our true spiritual prosperity is the Holy Spirit,
and the supernatural ability to speak mysteries to God.*

Pray in this way:

*“Lord, I lift up my finances to you. I lift up my ministry...my calling...this
project...all these different things to you right now...” and then LET THE
RIVER OF THE SPIRIT FLOW OUT OF YOU by praying in tongues.*

Every believer should pray in tongues.

*First Corinthians 14:2 says, “He who speaks in a tongue does not speak to
men, but to God...”*

Enough of this chitchat between men!

*Enough of getting on the phone and calling all your friends to ask them
what to do. You are missing out, my friend!*

*The Amplified version says, “...he utters secret truths and hidden things
[not obvious to the understanding].”*

*God has wealth reserved for us,
but we have been operating way below what He has for us.*

GOD IS CALLING US TO COME UP MUCH HIGHER!

Got a Problem? Roll the Care of It Over on the Lord!

*Do you have situations with your kids, your family, your finances?
Say to the Lord, "You know what, Lord? I roll the care of this over on You.
I don't know what to do, and I am going to quit trying to figure it out.
You know what I am going to do? I am going to practice trusting
You with all my heart by allowing rivers of living water
to flow from my heart."*

And then pray for 30 minutes in tongues.

*You might say, "But I have no time!"
That's not true. It's a matter of where your trust is.*

*If you trust in your own understanding, the futility of your mind,
your flesh, and your ability to make it happen,
then that's where you will spend all your time.*

PRAYER

*Father, I thank You in the name of Jesus, for the promise of the Holy Spirit.
Thank You that I am delivered from the futility of my own mind. I am not
helpless because I have the Great Helper living on the inside of me. I am not
in the dark. I am not confused. I have supernatural ability to know Your will
and plan for my life.*

*I roll all my cares over on You, Lord. I trust You with all my heart, and I
refuse to lean on my own understanding. I acknowledge You in all my ways
by giving much time to praying in other tongues, so that I can have the mind
of Christ for every situation I am facing.*

*Thank You, Lord, that You are calling me into a supernatural lifestyle, a
supernatural ministry, supernatural increase, into supernatural prosperity;
and it is not by might nor power, but by Your Spirit. Amen.*

LESSON 7

THE MIND OF CHRIST

...But we have the mind of Christ.



1 Corinthians 2:16

Like treasure hunters, we dig more and more into God's Word and discover—to our delight—great treasures of wisdom and knowledge...health...welfare...soundness...prosperity...increase...total well-being!

Do you know that these God-given treasures—both spiritual and material—are hidden for us in Christ? They are hidden because they are RESERVED EXCLUSIVELY for us—God's children—and not for the world! All we need to do is tap into them!

This is where we need the mind of Christ! We need to be able to see like He sees—to have the eyes of our understanding opened to behold what's on His mind.

And what is on His mind? The Covenant! What is on His mind? Increase! *"May the Lord increase you more and more..."* THIS IS the mind of Christ!

The good news is...we are equipped to tap into this great and awesome privilege! The answers we are looking for are on the inside of us! Through the Word of God and the Person and ability of the Holy Spirit within and upon us, we are able to access the mind of Christ!

I ETERNAL LIFE BEGINS NOW

A. Eternal Life Is Knowing God.

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. — John 17:3

B. When You Accepted Jesus as Lord, EVERYTHING CHANGED!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

— 2 Corinthians 5:17

❖ You did not just get a religion, a church, or a new social group. You became A NEW CREATION in Christ!

1. The old way of doing things...the old systems of belief have passed away.
2. All things were made NEW. You received:
 - a NEW KINGDOM
 - the WORD OF GOD
 - the PLAN of GOD
 - the NAME of JESUS
 - the BLOOD of the LAMB
 - the WILL of GOD
 - the HOLY SPIRIT

❖ We have received GOD HIMSELF!

C. God Created Us because He Wanted Someone that He Could SHOW HIS KINDNESS to throughout the Ages to Come!

...that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

— Ephesians 2:7

*We will forever be an “elite” group of people called the “ecclesia”
—the picked out ones—
the Church...the sons of God...His favored ones!*

D. We Are Living in Eternity NOW.

- ❖ We don't have to wait for heaven because "the ages to come" has come.
- ❖ When you were born again, God's Kingdom came on the inside of you (**Luke 17:21**).
- ❖ Let the **EXPRESSION** of eternal life begin now!

II WE HAVE THE SAME SPIRIT OF FAITH

And since we have the same spirit of faith...we also believe and therefore speak... — 2 Corinthians 4:13

A. Catch the Spirit of Faith!

- ❖ We begin to catch the spirit of faith when it takes over our thinking and our speech.

B. The Spirit of Faith BELIEVES and SPEAKS.

- Wake up every day and say, "I'm increasing today!"
- It does not matter if the bills are the same as they always have been.
- Something greater is working! It is called **THE BLESSING** of Abraham.

Put Pressure on THE BLESSING

When faced with circumstances or situations that seem bigger than you, begin to magnify and put pressure on THE BLESSING.

The Blessing of Abraham is greater than any problem we are facing or any of our mistakes. It can handle the pressure. It won't break down like an old car.

Don't let the devil box you in and trap you with past mistakes, reasoning, and arguments.

Open your mouth and declare the Blood of Jesus. Say to the devil, "No, The Blessing is working for me!"

You will go forward and prosper, and you cannot be stopped!

God's will for you is longevity and that you continue onward by the power of His Blessing upon your life.

III THE GREATER PURPOSE

Never-Ending Seeds

As it is written:

*“He has dispersed abroad,
He has given to the poor;
His righteousness endures forever.” (2 Corinthians 9:9)*

*What we do to bless others goes on throughout eternity!
The seeds that we sow to bless others are expanding the Kingdom.*

*They are NEVER-ENDING SEEDS—
forever part of God’s eternal Kingdom!*

The Greater Purpose for Prosperity

*There is a greater purpose for prosperity than your needs being met.
You are the seed of Abraham,
and are called to bless all the families of the earth.*

*Shift over from trying to get your needs met
and over into your calling as the seed of Abraham.
Your “little needs” will get swallowed up by the greater purpose and the
greater vision of you blessing all the families of the earth.*

*It might not all happen by tomorrow or next week, but as you begin to
embrace these things and catch the spirit of prosperity, you know what? You
will be a happy person one year from today because you will be less concerned
about yourself.*

You will have KINGDOM EXPANSION on your mind!

Get It for Your Children

*Increase is not just for you. It is for you and your children.
If you say, “I don’t want it.”
Well, get it for your children! Don’t hand down that old poverty mentality to
your children: “Oh, you better find a job abroad.”
The old poverty mentality thinks you have to go somewhere else to be blessed.
That’s a lie!*

The will of God is the place of blessing!

IV THE WILL OF GOD IS THE PLACE OF BLESSING!

Are You AWOL?

AWOL (Absent Without Official Leave) is a term used in the military to mean having deserted one's post or station without leave.

*There are too many AWOL Christians
—those who have left their places of assignment—
but the Lord never released them.*

They have left the will of God for the pursuit of money and things.

The Lord might send you to another place, but it's not all about making money. It's about seeking first His Kingdom. If you seek His Kingdom first, all these things [you need] will be added to you.

God's Change Agents

*Have the attitude that your nation is going to come up
because you are there.*

Why?

You have something greater than all the darkness in the entire nation.

It is called THE BLESSING of Abraham.

*If you are the only believer in a place, walk with God, obey Him,
and do what He tells you to do.*

THE BLESSING of Abraham that is on you is greater than any devil.

*It might not change overnight,
but start to put faith in THE BLESSING,
and everything around you will begin to change.*

You see, we're not looking for the most comfortable place to go.

*No, WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE WILL OF GOD,
and sometimes the will of God might appear
to be an undesirable place.*

So why would He send you there? To make it desirable!

We are the change agents!

*We are God's CHANGE AGENTS on the earth,
and we are not afraid of wickedness and darkness.*

Yes, God Can Use You!

My pastor used to say, “I’d rather light a candle than curse the darkness.” That’s powerful! In other words, anybody can go out there and say, “It’s so dark out here...so wicked...so corrupt...so many strongholds...”

*But it takes a real man or woman of God to go into
a dark place and say,*

*“I’m going to light a candle here, even if it is the only one.
I’m going to pray even if I’m the only one praying. If I’m the only one
praying for the President, the mayors, the barangay captains, then I’m
going to do it!*

*I’m not going to curse this nation or its leaders.
I am going to light a candle!”*

*Greater is the love of God in you than all the hate
and fear in all the world!*

*God has accomplished many things through just one man—
because ONE MAN IS ENOUGH to start a move of God.*

*Many of you are going into different places where you might feel like you
are the minority; but with the Lord and in the plan of God, you are the
majority because you bring The Blessing in.*

NOW IS OUR TIME! NOW IS GOD’S TIME!

V THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES

A. A Review of the Holy Spirit’s Role in Our Lives:

1. He is the GREAT HELPER (**John 14:16, 26**).
 - The Holy Spirit will help you to live the abundant life that Jesus promised in **John 10:10**.
 - He will help you with everything!
 - He will help you: with your marriage; with your business; in making right decisions; in traffic; in your shopping; with your cooking and cleaning. He will help the preacher preach on Sunday!

***Don't limit the Holy Spirit.
He's not just for church service on Sunday. He's the GREAT
HELPER! He will help you in every area of life!***

2. He is the GREAT TEACHER.

- He will teach you ALL things (**John 14: 26**).
- He will teach you to PROFIT (**Isaiah 48:17**).
- He will teach you to WIN (**2 Corinthians 2:14**).

The Holy Spirit Will Teach You to Win!

A lot of Christians have the mentality that God will teach them to lose graciously. They think it's okay— "It doesn't matter what happens in life as long as you keep a good attitude." WRONG!

***IT MATTERS what happens in life! Your prosperity matters!
Your increase matters!***

Attitude is important to winning, but there is more to winning than just learning to be happy in the storm. Jesus taught us something called, "REBUKING the storm", "SPEAKING to the storm", and "OVERCOMING the storm" (Mark 4:39-40) .

GOD DESIGNED US FOR WINNING!

3. He is our GUIDE INTO ALL TRUTH (**John 16:13**).

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. — 3 John 2-4

Question: What is the truth?

Answer: God wants us to prosper and be in health.

Question: What will the Holy Spirit guide us into?

Answer: The truth! The Holy Spirit will guide us into prosperity and health.

- ❖ If you will allow Him, the Holy Spirit will personally ESCORT you into wealth.
- ❖ The Holy Spirit will flow out of your heart like a river, causing you to know the things that have been freely given to you (**John 7:37; 1 Corinthians 2:12**).
- ❖ As you pray in tongues, He will inspire your thinking and cause His mind to rise up within you.

*For “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?”
But we have the mind of Christ. — 1 Corinthians 2:16*

He'll Give You the Answer

*You should be the best employee in the company,
because when nobody else can figure out the answer,
you can go away for a moment and pray in other tongues.*

*You can ACCESS the wisdom of God.
You can speak mysteries to your Father, believing that He will give you
a solution. You can come back with an answer that
nobody else could figure out.*

*It is not just about being smart. It is not all about education.
You are hooked up with the Creator of the universe!
It is because of the Word of God, and the Person and ability of the Holy
Spirit within and upon you.*

B. The Holy Spirit Helps in Our Weaknesses.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses.

For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought...

— Romans 8:26

Question: What is man's great infirmity or weakness?

Answer: HE DOES NOT KNOW!

- ❖ Without the Holy Spirit's help, we are “infirm” in life and limited to the futility of our own minds and reasoning.

- ❖ Christians must get this revelation! They assume they already know what to do and so they make their own plans, without accessing the One who knows all things.

Smarter Than God?

We live our lives as if we are smarter than God.

The little time we spend letting the river of living water flow out of our innermost being by praying in other tongues is evidence that we think we have everything figured out already.

There is more to life and ministry in the plan of God than just going abroad, hanging a banner, starting a ministry, or gathering a group of people together.

Man's plans will not endure!

The Bible says, "The grass withers, and its flower falls away. But the Word of the Lord endures forever" (1 Peter 1:24-25).

Only what the Lord has ordained will endure and remain!

C. The Holy Spirit Makes Intercession for Us According to the Will of God.

Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercessions for the saints according to the will of God. — Romans 8:27

Question: What is the will of God?

Answer: That we prosper in all things.

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. — 3 John 2

***When we allow the Holy Spirit to pray through us,
He is going to pray in line with our prosperity.***

VI PRAY IN TONGUES ON PURPOSE

A. Paul's Shocking Statement!

I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all...

— **1 Corinthians 14:18**

1. Most Christians have limited speaking in tongues to:
 - prayer meetings
 - church services
 - rare “mountaintop” experiences
2. These are all valid uses and expressions of speaking in tongues. Yet these are not what the Apostle Paul was referring to when he made this radical statement.

B. Praying in Tongues Is for Private Devotion and Not Just for Church Services.

Yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

— **1 Corinthians 14:19**

1. Based upon this verse, when Paul said he spoke in tongues more than the others, he obviously wasn't referring to church. He must have been referring to his personal devotional life.
2. Evidently Paul had a revelation of the power of speaking in tongues often. Why did the Apostle Paul pray so excessively in tongues?

C. Why Tongues?

The Bible says when you pray in tongues, you...

1. give thanks WELL (**1 Cor. 14: 17**).
2. magnify God (**Acts 10:46**).
3. speak directly to God (**1 Cor. 14:2**).
4. edify yourself (**1 Cor. 14:4**).
5. speak mysteries [divine secrets or hidden truths] (**1 Cor. 14:2**).
6. pray according to God's perfect will (**Romans 8:26-27**).

Hidden Treasures

There are some things that are HIDDEN FOR US. They are not obvious to our understanding. They're on RESERVE for the Church to TAP INTO. If they were obvious to the understanding, everybody would be walking in them!

VII ACCESSING THE TREASURES OF WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE

For I want you to know... the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. — Colossians 2:1-3

A. You are “in Christ”!

- ❖ Anytime you read “in whom” or “in Christ” in the Bible, it is a reference to something that belongs to you because you are now “in Christ” through the new birth.

B. Hidden Treasures—Both Spiritual and Natural

Question: What are the treasures of wisdom and knowledge?
Answer: These treasures certainly include spiritual treasures (Ephesians 1:3), but also natural treasures.

1. The treasures of wisdom include riches, wealth, and full treasures.

Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gains understanding...Length of days is in her right hand, in her left hand riches and honor. — Proverbs 3:13, 16

“I, wisdom, dwell with prudence...That I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth, that I may fill their treasures.” — Proverbs 8:12, 21

2. Thank God for spiritual treasures, but He also wants to MANIFEST material wealth in your life.

“I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that I, the Lord, who call you by your name, am the God of Israel.” — Isaiah 45:3

C. Material Wealth Is Part of Our Covenant. It Belongs to Us!

1. God is not playing “hide and seek”. He does not want these treasures hidden from us, so that we can never find them.
2. These treasures are hidden because they are reserved for God’s children only and not for the world.

Equipped for Mining Hidden Treasures

*When mining for precious gems and treasure,
you must have special equipment, and you must dig for them!*

*The real treasures are not found lying on the surface. Likewise,
God-given wealth opportunities are not always obvious to the natural man.*

*They are hidden for us in Christ,
and the Lord has anointed us and equipped us with special mining
EQUIPMENT to GO DEEP, and get these precious gems.*

*We have been clothed with ability from on high,
and the Holy Spirit has been sent to escort us into real wealth.*

“Do Not Disturb”

*Everyone—especially pastors and businessmen—ought to have
a “DO-NOT-DISTURB ZONE” (a prayer room)!*

*Have a pathway—a worn-out pathway—
where you walk back and forth just praying in other tongues,
speaking out mysteries of the plan of God for your life.*

*Along that pathway,
you will encounter the Holy Spirit who will teach you to profit!*

D. The Holy Spirit Is Not Optional (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5).

- ❖ Jesus commanded His disciples not to go anywhere; but to WAIT, so that they could be clothed with ability from on high.
- ❖ The mandate “GO into all the world, PREACH the gospel, and BLESS all the families of the earth” can only be carried out by the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE HOLY SPIRIT—don’t leave home without Him!

E. They ALL Spoke in Tongues.

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. — Acts 2:4

Supernatural Utterance

In Acts 2,
the Holy Spirit came upon EACH ONE of the disciples in the upper room.
They all SPOKE IN TONGUES as the Spirit gave them UTTERANCE.

At that moment, they received the ability to communicate with their
Creator without interference from the carnal mind.

It was HEART to HEART,
bypassing the futility and limits of their own minds.

They were speaking mysteries, divine secrets,
and hidden truths to their Creator.
He then could DECLARE, DISCLOSE, and TRANSMIT His plans to them.

***These are days when God is calling us to walk
in the power of the Covenant and in the power of the Holy Spirit.***

VIII COUNSEL AND WISDOM FROM GOD

A. Counsel from God

Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water... — Proverbs 20:5

Question: Where is the counsel, wisdom, and guidance you are
 looking for in life?

Answer: It is in your heart, like deep water.

“He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” But this He spoke concerning the Spirit

— John 7: 38-39

Where is counsel? It is deep in the heart of man. The answers we are looking for are on the inside of us by the Holy Spirit.

- ❖ A man of understanding will DRAW OUT the counsel. He will draw out the answer.

*Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water,
But a man of understanding will draw it out. — Proverbs 20:5*

Bucket, Please!

How do we draw out the counsel and wisdom of God deep within us?

In the natural, if you want to draw water from a deep well you need some long rope and a bucket. The Bible says that the Holy Spirit “searches all things, yes, the deep things of God” (1 Corinthians 2:10).

In the spiritual realm, we are equipped with a bucket!

We can open our mouth, speak in tongues, and allow the Holy Spirit within us to draw from the living water and counsel of God in our hearts.

B. Tapping into Hidden Wisdom

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. — 1 Corinthians 2:7-8

Question: How do we access hidden wisdom from God?

Answer: The Bible says we “*speak the wisdom of God in a mystery*”. It must be spoken!

Question: How do we do this?

Answer: **1 Corinthians 14:2** tells us “*He who speaks in a tongue... speaks mysteries...*” We tap into hidden wisdom by speaking in tongues!

- ❖ Jesus’ work on the cross was according to a higher wisdom, which is why the devil’s plan against Him backfired! (**1 Corinthians 2:8**)

Just like Jesus, God has also called us to walk and live “ABOVE the RADAR” —above the devil’s plans and schemes.

Access the Mind of Christ by Praying in Tongues

*But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God,
for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them,
because they are spiritually discerned.
(1 Corinthians 2:14)*

*The “natural man” is someone who is limited to his senses—
what he sees, what he feels, what he can touch or sense.*

*And what is his great infirmity?
He cannot know spiritual things!*

*The same principle applies to a Christian who does not utilize
the benefit of praying in tongues.*

*Praying in tongues gives you access to the realm of the Spirit—
God’s realm—so that you can easily discern His leadings
and access information that might not be obvious to your five senses.
A Christian who doesn’t pray in tongues
will be unnecessarily limited and handicapped.*

Verse 15 continues with “But he who is spiritual...”

*Who is spiritual?
That’s us! We are the spiritual man! We are the ones equipped
with the bucket... the ones equipped for the mining!
We have access to the mind of Christ (v. 16).*

Praying in tongues is part of our equipment. It is our bucket!

*How do we get the mind of Christ?
Do we get it by merely confessing we have it?
It is certainly good to confess God’s Word,
but there’s more to accessing the mind of Christ than just confessing it.*

We have to SPEAK the mysteries... the divine secrets...the hidden truths.

As we pray regularly in tongues, we ACCESS the MIND of CHRIST!

IX A LIFESTYLE OF TONGUES

- ❖ Praying in tongues is now part of our LIFESTYLE. It is something we do regularly as a vital part of our spiritual lives.

A. God's Will Is for All Believers to Speak in Tongues.

I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied...
— **1 Corinthians 14:5**

And they were ALL filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. — **Acts 2:4**

And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues... — **Mark 16:17**

B. When We Speak in Tongues, We EDIFY Ourselves.

He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself... — **1 Corinthians 14:4**

C. When We Speak in Tongues, We BUILD Ourselves UP.

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit... — **Jude 20**

- ❖ God does not want you WORN DOWN, He wants you BUILT UP!
- ❖ As you pray in tongues, a revelation of the knowledge of God's will gets BUILT UP on the inside of you.
- ❖ As you pray in tongues you build your inner man, making it easier to discern what the Holy Spirit inside you is transmitting to your spirit.

Built Up to Stand!

*When you edify yourself through speaking in tongues, you become
IMMOVABLE and UNSHAKEABLE!*

*You won't bow and you won't bend for anything because you have
BUILT a REVELATION of His plan and His purpose
on the inside of you!*

PRAYER

Father, I love You. I thank You that I can pray in tongues and access the mind of Christ to know Your will and plan for my life. Thank You that I can tap into Your wisdom and counsel, so that I can walk above the devil's plans and schemes.

I yield myself fully to You, Lord—to Your Word, to Your Spirit, to Your will, and to Your plan. Thank You, that as I allow You to work in my life, I receive wisdom and understanding to know what to do concerning Your plan for my life.

I have the mind of Christ. I have the wisdom of God. I have what it takes to prosper! In Jesus' name. Amen.

LESSON 8

THE GRACE TO BE RICH

*For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
that though He was rich,
yet for your sakes He became poor;
that you through His poverty might become rich.*

 **2 Corinthians 8:9**

Wealth is God's will for all Christians for all time everywhere! His will is that we always have all sufficiency in all things, and have abundance for every good work.

How is that possible? Because of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ! Although He was rich, yet for our sakes Jesus became poor, so that we can become rich! The Lord paid a dear price—His own blood—so that we can receive His riches, both spiritual and material.

Do you realize that a man without Jesus is a poor man, and a man who has Jesus is the TRULY rich man? The good news is—we have Jesus! We are connected with our Heavenly Father, and all that the Father has is ours!

Once we come into the family of God, we are made rich! Rich is not what you and I have! Rich is what we have been made!

This is the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. — 2 Corinthians 8:9

A. There Are Different Graces:

1. SAVING grace – being saved from our sins; saved from hell; delivered from the dominion of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of His dear Son (**Colossians 1:13; Ephesians 2:8**).
2. HEALING grace – Jesus took stripes on His back so we could be healed (**1 Peter 2:24**).
3. Grace to PROSPER – Jesus was rich, but He became poor, so that we might become rich (**2 Corinthians 8:9**).

B. What Is Grace?

■ DEFINITION: “Grace”

- Grace is unmerited favor. It is not something you work for; it is a FREE GIFT of God.
- It is God’s riches at Christ’s expense. Jesus paid a dear price—His blood. And because His blood was shed, God’s riches have now come to us.

G – God’s
 R – Riches
 A – At
 C – Christ’s
 E – Expense

❖ Grace to be rich is for ALL believers.

When Did Jesus Become Poor?

Being the seed of Abraham, Jesus was not poor when He walked on earth.

He became poor when He hung on the cross, and became separated from the God of His prosperity.

*He became a curse for us (Galatians 3:13)
 that we, through His poverty, might become rich.*

C. Spiritually Rich...or Materially?

1. **2 Corinthians 8:9** is not talking about spiritual riches only. Of course, we have been made rich spiritually (**Ephesians 1:3**), but the context of this verse is MONEY.
2. **Verse seven (7)** talks about excelling in the grace of giving, and the chapter following it (**chapter 9**) refers to having an abundance to give to others.

***Wealth Is God's Will for ALL Christians for ALL TIME,
EVERYWHERE!***

*There are no poor Christians,
only Christians who believe in poverty and THINK they are poor.
You might say, "But I'm just a poor pastor."*

*No, the grace of God is on your life!
God will prosper you, and He will bring you up!*

- ❖ God's will is that we ALWAYS HAVE ALL SUFFICIENCY in all things, and have ABUNDANCE FOR EVERY GOOD WORK (**2 Corinthians 9:8**).

D. Grace Must Be RECEIVED.

We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. — 2 Corinthians 6:1

1. Grace to be rich must be received in the same way we receive the saving grace of God.
2. Walk IN AGREEMENT with God's grace (**Amos 3:3**).

One Thing We Can't Afford...

*Never say, "I can't afford it."
You may not have the money now, but with God, you can get what you want...one day you can have it.
The Lord can make a way for you!*

*But there is one thing we can't afford—we can't afford to SAY,
"I don't know what to do." "No money...no job." "I'm just a poor pastor."*

*Instead, we need to say,
"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ has made me rich!"*

When the Pressure Is On...

“I am rich!” is not something you just say in church or when you are around Christian friends.

*You need to say it when you are alone looking at your bills.
You need to say it when you are thinking about your financial future.*

*When the pressure is on, that is when you need to open your mouth
and say, “In Christ, I am rich!”*

God’s Grace: A Moving Train

*The grace of God is like a train moving through the earth.
You have to HOOK ON to God’s grace, and let it PULL you.
You can’t just sit around and hope that one day you’ll get a ride on it.
You have to RUN after it, PURSUE it, HOOK ON to it,
and STAY with it.*

3. With our FAITH, we pursue and possess our inheritance.

❖ In the Old Testament, the Promised Land had been freely given to the children of Israel, but they still had to go POSSESS IT BY FAITH.

*“...the kingdom of heaven suffers violence,
and the violent take it by force.” — Matthew 11:12*

II RICH IS A BIBLE WORD

Who Is Rich and Who Is Poor?

*We often see somebody with money, and immediately say, “He’s rich.”
But that is a totally wrong mentality!*

A man WITHOUT JESUS is poor. A man WITH JESUS is rich.

A. Riches and Honor Come from God.

“Both riches and honor come from You... In Your hand is power and might...to give strength to all.” — 1 Chronicles 29:12

1. God gives strength to all.
 2. Part of our strength in the natural, physical realm is material increase—the ability to use resources to accomplish a task.
- ❖ If you have money, you can do things on the earth that those without money cannot do.
 - ❖ Money is not evil. It is neither good nor bad. It depends on whose hands it is in.
 - ❖ The LOVE OF MONEY is the root of all kinds of evil (1 Timothy 6:10).
 - ❖ God does not want all the money in the hands of unbelievers.

B. Salvation Is an All-Inclusive, All-Encompassing Word.

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. — Romans 10:10

■ DEFINITION: “salvation”

➤ Salvation – the Greek word soteria, which means:

- forgiveness
- healing
- prosperity
- deliverance
- safety
- restoration
- wholeness
- rescue
- liberation

- ❖ All of these are included in Jesus.
- ❖ When you receive Jesus, you receive a “SALVATION PACKAGE”.

We BELIEVE with our heart, and we CONFESS unto salvation.

C. God Is RICH to All Who Call upon Him.

For there is no distinction...for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. — Romans 10:12

1. “Rich” in **Romans 10:12** is talking about the entire “SALVATION PACKAGE”.
2. The Apostle Paul is talking about TOTAL PROSPERITY.

D. God Gives Us RICHLY All Things to Enjoy.

Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. — 1Timothy 6:17

Material Wealth Is Part of Our Covenant!

*Tradition tells us that we should not expect much from God,
and that we do not need worldly goods.*

*No! Material wealth is part of our Covenant!
How can you bless anybody if you don't have anything to give?*

We have an abundant God who gives us RICHLY ALL THINGS to ENJOY!

God is not a stingy God.

*God doesn't want you concerned about trying to accumulate things
for yourself. God wants you interested in your Kingdom assignment.*

*Then along the way, you'll get to enjoy the benefits. Why?
Because God gives us richly all things to enjoy!*

- ❖ God will give you THINGS—cars, homes, clothes, toys, appliances—things that you enjoy!
- ❖ Never use people to get things. Use things to love people.
- ❖ Possessions and “things” can be a powerful ministry tool to show someone the Love of God in a tangible way.

You Don't Have to Give It All Away

*Just because God blesses you materially and financially
does not mean you should feel guilty as if you need to give it all away.*

*God will give you some “things” for no other reason than that
He wants you to simply enjoy!*

E. Rich Is Not What You Have. Rich Is Who You Are. Rich Is What You Have Been Made.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. — 2 Corinthians 8:9

- ❖ As you begin to believe this, confess it, and operate in the laws of God's Kingdom, then you will begin to manifest wealth more and more.

You are VALUABLE and PRECIOUS to God. He wants His children to wear the best, to have the best, and to enjoy the best!

The Joy of Giving

It is a joy to give things to somebody.

Next time you buy a new shirt, why not buy two shirts and give one to somebody else?

*Material wealth and prosperity are part of your Covenant!
God gives you richly all things to enjoy—not just to enjoy for yourself,
but also to enjoy giving them to others.*

Start Where You Are

*We are the type of people that whenever we buy something new,
we buy an extra one to give to someone else. We're the type of people
that when we buy lunch, we don't just buy it for ourselves,
but we look around to see if there is someone else we can buy lunch for.
This is the type of people we are!*

The truth that we are rich is something we have to renew our minds to.

*One thing we have to watch out for is always looking to the rich people
to do it all, as if we are not the rich. No, we are the rich people!*

*Buy somebody a gift, even if it is small, and bless them.
Don't apologize for the gift. Don't cancel out your prosperity.
Before you give the gift, thank God you have something to give and say,
"I'm rich, and I'm increasing!"*

III THE PROFILE OF A PROSPEROUS BELIEVER (Psalm 112)

*Blessed is the man who fears the Lord,
Who delights greatly in His commandments. — Psalm 112:1*

◆ To the Man Who Fears the Lord and Delights Greatly in His Word...

1. His descendants (both natural and spiritual) will be MIGHTY on the earth—*“His descendants will be mighty on earth...”* (v. 2).
2. His generation is BLESSED—*“...The generation of the upright will be blessed”* (v. 2).
3. WEALTH and RICHES are in his house—*“Wealth and riches will be in his house...”* (v. 3).
4. He has LIGHT when others don’t know what to do—*“Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness...”* (v. 4).
5. He is a LENDER—*“A good man deals graciously and lends...”* (v. 5).
6. He guides his affairs with discretion and good judgment—*“...He will guide his affairs with discretion.”* (v. 5).
7. He is not afraid of bad news—*“He will not be afraid of evil tidings; His heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.”* (vv. 7).
8. He is a giver, and he gives to the poor—*“He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor...”* (v. 9).

*Psalm 112 is a portrait of a man who walks with God.
Psalm 112 is a picture of you!*

IV OUR COVENANT IS A COVENANT OF MATERIAL WEALTH

◆ THE BLESSING Produces Physical, Material Increase.

- Abraham was rich in livestock, in silver and in gold, and he had servants (**Genesis 13:2; 24:34-35**).
- Isaac began to PROSPER, continued PROSPERING, and became VERY PROSPEROUS for he had possessions (**Genesis 26:12-14**).
- God brought His people out of Egypt with silver and gold (**Psalm 105:37**).

V “BLESS” MEANS TO EMPOWER TO PROSPER

◆ As the Seed of Abraham, You Have Empowerment from God to Prosper.

- List of blessings (**Deuteronomy 28:1-13**).

What is THE BLESSING?

THE BLESSING is not a car, not a new house, not a full bank account.

These are manifestations or FRUIT of THE BLESSING of Abraham working in your life. These are blessings that will come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the Lord as a result of THE BLESSING.

What is on your life is greater and more powerful than a new car. You have been blessed with the ROOT—THE BLESSING of Abraham!

*THE BLESSING is an EMPOWERMENT TO PROSPER—the ROOT, which ...produces FRUIT (blessings and material possessions)
— as we follow God’s plan for our lives.*

Don’t Confuse the “Root” with the “Fruit”

Because we have received THE BLESSING, there are now many blessings—cars, houses, things, money, full bank accounts, properties, and many more—in our lives.

These blessings come because of THE BLESSING or the EMPOWERMENT TO PROSPER from God.

THE BLESSING is the “Root” that produces the “Fruit” or the blessings. It is important that you know the difference between the “Root” and the “Fruit”. As you move forward in the plan of God, the thing that is going to put you over is realizing that THE BLESSING is upon you.

It does not matter even if you don’t have cars, money, or properties today—these things are not THE BLESSING. These things will show up in your life because of THE BLESSING.

- ❖ You will be empowered to prosper in your businesses, in your investments, in your commodity, in whatever trade you are engaged in (**Deuteronomy 28:4**).
- ❖ The Lord will command His blessings on your bank accounts and your investments (**Deuteronomy 28:8**).

Storehouses—bank accounts, investments—are a good idea. Having “storehouses” is godly.

- ❖ The Lord will grant you plenty of goods (**Deuteronomy 28:11**). You will be the lender, not the borrower (**Deuteronomy 28:12**).

VI IS IT GRACE OR WORKS?

Question: Now that we have been made “rich” in Christ, does that mean that prosperity, blessings, and material wealth will just show up at our doorstep?

Question: Do we have a part to play?

Question: The blessings—do they come automatically as a free gift, or because of our obedience?

These are good questions! Please allow me to explain.

- I believe that grace has built a ROAD for each one of us.

There is a PATHWAY marked out for every one of us to walk on. We can refer to that road and pathway as “the plan of God”... “the will of God”... “the purpose of God” for our lives.

- The ROAD and pathway that grace has built for us is a GOOD PATH!

Along that road are many blessings along the way. The Bible teaches us that God’s plan for our lives is a plan of prosperity (Jeremiah 29:11), and that our path is to grow brighter and brighter as we go! (Proverbs 4:18)

- As we move down the road that God has prepared, we will intersect, pick up, and enjoy the many blessings waiting on our pathway.

This is where OBEDIENCE comes in. Walking in the truth, obeying the Lord’s leadings, tithing, giving, etc. allow us to progress down this path. If we never grow and advance, many of the good things the Lord has planned for us cannot be realized or enjoyed.

- Consider Abraham. God entered into a covenant with him and blessed him!

The Bible says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him as righteousness.” (**Romans 4:3**), but he still had to leave his country, separate from his family, offer up Isaac, and move down the path of obedience in order to realize the full manifestation of what he had freely received.

- If it wasn’t for grace, there would be no road!

But thanks be to God, through the work of Jesus on the cross, there is a prosperous path available for each of God’s children. Grace built the road! Everybody has access to the road, but how far we progress down that road is up to us. Our obedience determines how far we can walk on it!

VII OUR CITIZENSHIP IN THE KINGDOM GIVES US ACCESS TO COMMONWEALTH

...that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. — Ephesians 2:12

A. Our Citizenship Is in Heaven (Philippians 3:20).

- When we become citizens of the Kingdom, we receive something that is COMMON to all covenant people—WEALTH!
– Another word for commonwealth is CITIZENSHIP.

B. We Are No Longer Gentiles; therefore, We Are No Longer Strangers to the Covenants of Promise.

VIII BIBLICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF A TRULY RICH MAN

A. Humility

By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches and honor and life. — Proverbs 22:4

True Humility and its By-products

*If a person is genuinely walking in humility,
the by-products of his humility are RICHES, HONOR, and LIFE.*

*Have you ever heard somebody say,
“He’s such a humble man, he’s so poor.”?
Well, we learn now from Scripture that it is a lie!*

*The Bible says that by humility and the fear of the Lord
come riches, honor, and life.
So the more truly humble you are, ultimately,
it is going to produce more riches.*

*The reason people don’t like that
is because they don’t know what humility is.
They think humility is putting yourself down,
hanging your head low, and wearing a sad countenance.*

*Humility IS “bringing yourself low”.
To humble yourself means “to bring yourself low”.
But how low must you go?*

***YOU MUST GO UNDERNEATH THE WORD,
by submitting your ideas, opinions and feelings
to what God says in His Word.***

■ What is True Humility?

1. TRUE HUMILITY is bringing oneself under the authority of God’s Word.
 - Submit your ideas, thoughts, mentalities, attitudes, and what you believe under the Word.
 - If God says, “I have made you the seed of Abraham. You are blessed, and you shall increase.”, then a truly humble man would agree with God and say, “I am blessed, and I am increasing!”
2. Humble yourself under the Word, and God will exalt you (**1 Peter 5:6**).
3. The Word will always PROMOTE you and bring you UP when you submit to it.

B. The Fear of the Lord

*By humility and the fear of the Lord
Are riches and honor and life. — Proverbs 22:4*

C. Wisdom

1. With wisdom are riches.

*Happy is the man who finds wisdom...in her left hand riches and honor.
— Proverbs 3:13-16*

2. Riches are a by-product of wisdom.

*"Riches and honor are with me, enduring riches and righteousness."
— Proverbs 8:18*

*"I traverse the way of righteousness...
That I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth,
that I may fill their treasuries." — Proverbs 8:20-21*

D. Diligence

...But the hand of the diligent makes one rich. — Proverbs 10:4

...But the soul of the diligent shall be made rich. — Proverbs 13:4

E. Generosity

The generous soul will be made rich... — Proverbs 11:25

F. Delighting in the Word

*Blessed is the man...who delights greatly in His commandments...wealth
and riches will be in his house... — Psalm 112:1-3*

There Is Going to Be a Manifestation...

*This is not to say that all rich people are humble, or that they walk in all or
any of the above-mentioned characteristics.*

*But according to the scriptures we have studied, a man who is truly
walking with God—walking in HUMILITY, in the FEAR OF THE LORD, in
WISDOM, in DILIGENCE, in GENEROSITY, and who DELIGHTS in the
WORD—will EVENTUALLY BE RICH!*

*As we pursue these areas and walk in them, it is going to bring a
manifestation that doesn't lie—a manifestation that includes wealth,
riches, and abundance.*

PRAYER

Father, in the name of Jesus, I thank You for the grace to be rich. Thank You that Your grace has built a pathway for me to walk on.

I humble myself under the authority of Your Word. I believe that as I follow the pathway you have prepared for me, I will experience the blessings that come with my obedience.

I declare that THE BLESSING of Abraham is upon me! My future is bright! I am blessed to be a blessing! Amen.

LESSON 9

PARTNERSHIP WITH GOD: OUR IDENTITY AND OUR CALL

*For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.
And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed,
and heirs according to the promise.*

 Galatians 3:26, 29

So now we are sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ. God is our Father, and everything He has is ours! As sons of God and heirs of His Kingdom, we must now think along the lines of our inheritance. We must now think along the lines of the Family Business!

We have now entered into a partnership with the Father in His Family operation called “Father & Sons”. Our whole life is now dedicated to the prosperity of the Family Business, which is the expansion of the Kingdom of God!

As shareholders and partners with God's Family Business, we become genuinely interested in its success. As sons, not only do we get to be a partner with our Father in His endeavors and pursuits on earth; but we also reap dividends and share in the rewards and profits as the Business expands and grows!

These are days to know what God is calling us to do! Our true Biblical IDENTITY as sons of God and the seed of Abraham enables us to fulfill our CALL to go into all the world and bless all the families of the earth!

Represent the Kingdom as sons of God and the seed of Abraham! God is sending us out with THE BLESSING on us that knows no limits!

I THE LORD REQUIRES INCREASE

A. God's Kingdom Is EVERLASTING and EVER-INCREASING.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations. — Psalm 145:13

*Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end...
— Isaiah 9:7*

B. We Have Received and Come into God's Kingdom.

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love. — Colossians 1:13

"Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." — Luke 12:32

"...The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you." — Luke 17: 20-21

C. We Will Give Account for Our Increase or Lack Thereof.

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug into the ground, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them." — Matthew 25: 14-19

1. In the Parable of the Talents, the servants who returned increase and gain to their master were called "good and faithful".
 2. The servant who returned his talent and maintained his status was called "wicked and lazy".
- ❖ The Kingdom within you and The Blessing upon you DEMAND AN INCREASE!

No Pressure Here!

The pressure is not on YOU to bring increase, to perform, or to make things happen. No! Put faith in your Covenant with God, and put faith in The Blessing.

As you obey the Bible, THE BLESSING will bring the increase. That is what it is designed to do—to bring increase—and it will do its job.

D. Increase ON THE EARTH

*May the Lord give you increase more and more,
you and your children....
The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's;
But the earth He has given to the children of men.*

— Psalm 115:14, 16

❖ The earth is our place of expression. We are called to increase on the earth!

If You Don't Have It, the Lord Does Not Have It!

Did you know that the earth is ours? It belongs to the Lord and His children. The earth does not belong to the devil and his bunch. The earth He has given to the children of men (Psalm 115:16).

You might say, "But I don't want any stuff on earth." You should want some of it because IT BELONGS TO YOU AND TO GOD!

*If you don't have it, the Lord does not have it.
If you don't have it in your hand, the Lord does not have it in His hand.
We are the Lord's body on the earth.*

Even though technically it is ALL His, the Lord only has what the CHURCH has POSSESSION of on the earth. He doesn't have free access to wealth and riches in the hands of the ungodly.

The Process of Wealth Transfer

It's time for the Church to rise up, declare The Blessing of Abraham, and walk in the power of that Blessing.

Putting pressure on The Blessing gives God the legal right to reach into the world's system, pull out its wealth, and transfer it to the Church.

II LEGAL TERMS

Although God is sovereign, He cannot do whatever He wants, because He has bound Himself to His Word. God works in the affairs of mankind on the earth according to legal terms. What is written in God's Word are the terms.

"My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips." — Psalm 89:34

Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it." — Jeremiah 1:12, NASB

A. God Moves when He Finds Faith on the Earth.

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. — Hebrews 11:6

Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you." — Matthew 9:29

And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction." — Mark 5:34

When God finds a man operating in His Covenant by faith, it gives Him a legal right to do things for that man which He can't do for just anyone.

B. Our Redemption from Poverty Is a Legal Spiritual Reality.

1. We have a STRONG LEGAL CASE...The Blood of Jesus was shed to purchase our redemption.

...in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. — Colossians 1:14

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.”

— **Revelation 12:11**

- ❖ When you declare, “I am redeemed from the curse of the law,” you are declaring a SPIRITUAL LEGALITY, which will cause the spirit of poverty to be removed from your life.

2. Poverty is spiritual.

- Poverty came as a result of Adam’s sin and disobedience.

...just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men... — Romans 5:12

To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life.” — Genesis 3:17, NIV

There is a REMEDY for sin, sickness, and poverty—

His name is JESUS!

He is the second and last Adam who came to bear the curse, which resulted from the disobedience of the first Adam.

C. Enforce Your Legal Rights...on the Earth.

“You will also declare a thing, and it will be established for you; so light will shine on your ways.” — Job 22:28

Declare Your Rights!

At the first sign of poverty, we must rise up and declare our legal rights...

“No way, devil! You’re not going to bring that poverty here.

I am redeemed by the blood of Jesus!”

1. Do not declare TO the Lord. Make your declaration into the earth where you have been given authority.
2. Declare your redemption in the hearing of principalities, powers, and the rulers of the darkness of this age (**Ephesians 6:12**).

***God has already spoken in heaven.
Now it's our job to declare on earth.***

3. Don't talk to the Lord about the devil. Address the thief (Satan) with the finished legal work of your redemption. Resist the devil, and give him no place! (**Ephesians 4:27; James 4:7**)

A Time to Pray... A Time to Execute

*Certainly there is a time to pray and make our petitions known to God.
Of course we must spend time in fellowship with our Father through the
Word and prayer, even putting Him in remembrance of His promises.*

*But as we do that, something powerful happens inside us.
We get FILLED with the knowledge of His will! We gain confidence!*

*Why? So that we can GO FORWARD and EXECUTE His will on the earth,
in the midst of the curse, poverty, and devils.*

- ❖ Poverty is spiritual, but legally, we have been RELEASED from it.
- ❖ The fact that you are the seed of Abraham is a SPIRITUAL REVELATION.

Give Me a Hard Place!

*When you get the revelation that you are the seed of Abraham,
you will not fear hard places of assignment because of THE BLESSING
that is ON you and IN you, knowing that...*

Greater is He who is IN you than he who is in the world.

*You have the Word in your HEART and in your MOUTH
to empower others to prosper.*

III EMPOWER OTHERS THROUGH PREACHING

A. Go into All the World and Preach the Whole Gospel.

- The gospel of SALVATION
- The gospel of HEALING
- The gospel of PROSPERITY
- The gospel of TOTAL WELL-BEING

B. Excel in Helping the Poor Materially, but They Also Need to Hear the Gospel.

“...Go and tell John...The blind receive their sight and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.” — Matthew 11:4-5

- ❖ The poor need the gospel preached to them.
- ❖ Man is not truly empowered to prosper until he receives the Word of God.
- ❖ Don't forget this revelation, *“In the beginning was the Word.”*

Poverty Is Spiritual

You can teach a poor man some skills. You can teach him a trade...and that's good. But a person can have skill; he can even work hard, but still never get ahead in life. Why? Because of the curse of poverty!

*Poverty is spiritual and is broken through the “New birth”.
Man is not truly empowered to prosper until he receives the Word of God!*

C. God's Word Will Work for Anyone! God Is No Respector of Persons. Anyone Can Come up in Life if He Will:

- RECEIVE and EMBRACE the revelation that he is the seed of Abraham.
- REALIZE THE BLESSING on his life.
- OPERATE in the principles of the Kingdom.
- SPEAK the Word.
- AGREE with the spirit of increase.
- TITHE and GIVE.
- BE A BLESSING to others.

☞ Stop and Review

1. What is The Blessing of Abraham? What is The Blessing?
 - The Blessing is an “empowerment to prosper”, which is upon your life through Jesus Christ.
 - The Blessing is NOT a new car, a house, new clothes, or a bank account. These are “blessings” that come as a result of The Blessing.
 - The Blessing will produce material blessings and “things”.
2. God’s plan is for wealth and riches to be in your house.

Wealth and riches will be in his house, and his righteousness endures forever. — Psalm 112:3

3. You have power from God to get wealth.

“And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.” — Deuteronomy 8:18

IV WISDOM PRODUCES RICHES

Happy is the man who finds wisdom...her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, and her gain than fine gold...in her left hand riches and honor. — Proverbs 3:13-16

Question: Why is the man who finds wisdom happy?
Answer: Because wisdom has proceeds...wisdom produces riches and honor.

- ❖ Wisdom belongs to every believer, which tells us that all believers can be wealthy.

WEALTH IS A COVENANT RIGHT. IT BELONGS TO YOU!

A. Wisdom Will PROMOTE You.

“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. Exalt her, and she will promote you; she will bring you honor when you embrace her.” — Proverbs 4:7-8

- ❖ Promotion is prosperity!
(**Prosperity**: to push forward, advance, to make progress, to succeed in reaching a desired destination)
- ❖ There is always more wisdom available from God, which tells us there are always new levels of prosperity.

B. With Wisdom Are Enduring Riches and Wealth.

“For wisdom is better than rubies, and all the things one may desire cannot be compared with her... I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently will find me. Riches and honor are with me, enduring riches and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold, and my revenue than choice silver. I traverse the way of righteousness, in the midst of the path of justice, that I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth, that I may fill their treasuries.”

— Proverbs 8:11, 17-21

Don't Chase the Rubies!

Quit chasing the rubies! GO AFTER WISDOM, and it will give you the rubies. The Blessing will make you rich, but will add no sorrow with it.

*If you go after the rubies (or riches), you may get them,
but without God, you will get sorrow along with them.*

*If you go after true wisdom, you will get riches.
Riches are “part and parcel” of wisdom.*

- ❖ Wisdom is not hiding from us. If you go after wisdom, you will find it.

V GOD'S WILL FOR ALL BELIEVERS EVERYWHERE— ABUNDANCE

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. — 2 Corinthians 9:8

A. God's Will for All Believers Everywhere

■ DEFINITION: "Financial Prosperity"

A good, New Testament definition of financial prosperity:

- Always having all sufficiency in all things
(Having enough to take care of our own needs)
- Having an abundance for every good work
(Having plenty of extra to give to others)

B. How You Can Make This Become a Reality in Your Life:

Step One: Embrace **2 Corinthians 8:9** and agree that the grace to be rich is on your life.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. — 2 Corinthians 8:9

Step Two: Begin to abound and excel in the grace of giving.

*But as you abound in everything...see that you abound in this grace also.
— 2 Corinthians 8:7*

Result: God's grace for abundance will abound toward you!

- ❖ The anointing to prosper is upon each and every one of us, but we must learn to cooperate with it.

VI OUR IDENTITY—SONS OF GOD

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. — Galatians 3:26

A. Servant vs. Sonship Mentality

Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. — Galatians 4:7, KJV

A Servant Mentality asks:

"How much do I have to give?"

"Do I have to tithe?"

A Sonship Mentality asks:

"Father, how much can we do?"

"Father, how far can we go?"

*Let's leave the slave mentality of "have to", and
step over into a sonship mentality of "get to".*

- ❖ Christians who ask, “Do I have to tithe?”
 - still think they are under the law
 - do not know their identity in Christ
 - have no idea of their CALL and PURPOSE on the earth
 - are blind to the OPPORTUNITY set before them

B. God’s Partners in the Earth

For we are God’s fellow workers... — 1 Corinthians 3:9

- ❖ It is our privilege as “sons” to have a part of the Father’s business on the earth.
 - ❖ When we obey God with our lives and invest financially into the gospel, we become partners with God.
 - ❖ We want to see ‘how big’ we can make our share of that partnership.
1. Let’s be “rich toward God”, rich toward something eternal.

“And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry. But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” — Luke 12:19-21

2. Giving to others and sowing financially into the gospel is a work of righteousness that will last forever!

As it is written: “He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.” — 2 Corinthians 9:9

A Divine Opportunity

As you begin to recognize the divine opportunity of partnership with God in the earth, you will no longer want to give only 10%.

You will desire to stretch your giving to 20%...30%...40%...and beyond.

*The good news is this—you can’t out-give God!
The more you give, the more it will be given to you!
Everything we do in obedience to the Lord is ultimately
for our own benefit.*

Are You a Distribution Channel for God?

*God is looking for CLEARING HOUSES.
He's looking for DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS.*

*He's looking for people who will step up and say,
"Father, what's on your heart? What's on your AGENDA?
What are the PROJECTS you want done?
What are the PRIORITIES of your Kingdom?"*

C. Sons who Serve

And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all." — Mark 9:35

"And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." — Matthew 20:27-28

- ❖ We are no longer servants. We are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.
- ❖ Now we serve as sons! We serve from a place of sonship.

Serve Supernaturally

*"Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son..."
(Galatians 4:7)*

*Does that mean we are done serving? Absolutely not!
But our true identity as sons is important if we are to serve supernaturally.*

*You see, a servant does not have the ability or resources to serve
supernaturally, but as sons of God and as heirs of God,
all that the Father has is ours!*

*We can serve humanity better from a place of sonship by tapping into
His resources...into THE BLESSING...into the Anointing of God.*

*The place of sonship is where we have ACCESS to ALL of
HEAVEN'S BOUNTY and put it to work for mankind.*

FATHER & SONS

As sons of God, we are now part of a “Father & Sons” operation on the earth. Our whole life is given for the success of the FAMILY BUSINESS. We are no longer living for ourselves or merely trying to “get by” in life.

*As we live for the Family Business, we REAP DIVIDENDS from it.
We share in the REWARDS and the PROFITS of the business.
The Family Business takes care of us!*

❖ Our IDENTITY AS SONS is important in fulfilling our call in the earth.

VII OUR CALL—TO EMPOWER OTHERS TO PROSPER

*“...I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you...
And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”*

— **Genesis 12:2-3**

■ **DEFINITION: “Bless”**

➤ To empower to prosper

Let’s insert this definition and read our verse again:

“...I will EMPOWER YOU TO PROSPER; and you shall EMPOWER OTHERS TO PROSPER. I will EMPOWER TO PROSPER those who EMPOWER YOU TO PROSPER...and in you all the families of the earth shall be EMPOWERED TO PROSPER.”

Question: How can we fulfill such a great calling?

Answer: ONLY when we understand and have a revelation of our TRUE IDENTITY in Christ

A. Our True Biblical Identity ENABLES US to Empower Others.

- We are sons of God (**Galatians 3:26**).
- We are the Seed of Abraham (**Galatians 3:29**).
- Our Citizenship is heavenly (**Philippians 3:20**).
- We are Ambassadors for Christ (**2 Corinthians 5:20**).

- ❖ We are not going to empower anyone on the basis of our nationality, race, skin color, or gender.
- ❖ In Christ as the Seed of Abraham, we can now empower others in spite of limitations as a result of our nationality, race, skin color, or gender.

Hamburgers...Apple Pie...and Chevrolet

*Thank God for our natural earthly citizenship.
Certainly it is the Lord who sets men in the nations (Acts 17:26) by His design. But there is no particular power in our nationality.
The real power lies in our heavenly citizenship.*

We empower others to prosper on the basis of the revelation that we are the sons of God and Abraham's Seed, not as an American, Filipino, Korean, or whatever our nationality is.

*What can I give someone merely as an American?
Hamburgers...Apple Pie...and Chevrolet!?
I like apple pie, but the point is we have to be able to give people something more than our culture and cuisine.*

*We are on earth to establish God's Kingdom
and not just the culture of an earthly nation.*

B. Our True Biblical Identity Will Destroy an INFERIORITY Complex.

Heaven Will Back You Up!

Thank God for strong local churches and mission organizations that do their part to help send gospel laborers all over the world. These are a great tool in the Lord's purposes.

*But as we GO, we must never lose sight of Who is really sending us.
We do not go in the name of our nation, our church, or our denomination.
We go in the NAME OF THE LORD to establish His eternal Kingdom!*

Even if certain people or groups do not recognize you, if you are moving in God's Kingdom purpose for your life, then heaven will back you up!

Don't Cower before Men

Stop identifying yourself merely by your nationality—whether Filipino, American, or any other, with all its advantages and/or disadvantages.

You represent the Kingdom of God now! You are a citizen of heaven!

Go as God's Kingdom Ambassador.

When you do, it will destroy any inferiority complex you may have as a result of your race, skin color, or nationality. The Lord is not sending you out to "huddle together" with your own people as Filipino or whatever your nationality may be.

He is sending you out as the seed of Abraham, blessed and equipped to empower whatever nationality stands before you!

Empower Others to Prosper

We need to quit fighting with one another in the Body of Christ.

Churches need to quit fighting with each other. Instead, we should take the position of further "empowering" one another. When we see a church, a ministry, or a minister that is doing God's work of empowering others, we should speak good words over them, sow to them, help them, and pray for them. By empowering those who are empowering others to prosper, we are further empowered ourselves. In the end, nobody loses!

And we, the Church, will all keep coming up higher and higher until we're breaking out, and we're bursting out all over the place! Then, we will truly be moving into the nations the way God has called us to—as the seed of Abraham with THE BLESSING on us!

If God's blessing is on something...on a ministry or a minister...and He's causing it to move in a certain direction—then it's no longer just the man, or the ministry, or the church moving. It is God and His BLESSING moving! You don't want to get in the way of that!

You see, THE BLESSING is like a bubble around you. Somebody can throw an arrow at you, but it will just come right back on them.

That is why it's a bad idea to speak against a man of God, against ministries, against churches, or against people of God.

Don't be in the business of criticizing. Make the rock as big as you want, but it's going to come back on you! Why? "I will empower those who empower you. I will curse him who curses you."

These are days to know what God is calling us to do, and to help others fulfill their place. Let's leave the realm of criticism, skepticism, standing back, and judging. It's hindering our prosperity! If you see GOD'S BLESSING on others, hook up with them. Pray for them. Believe God with them. And bless them!

- ❖ Wealth is not just a Covenant RIGHT; it is a Covenant RESPONSIBILITY!
- ❖ This is our call—one and all...as the Seed of Abraham—to empower to prosper all the families and nations of the earth!
- ❖ Increase is not optional. Our identity and calling demand that we increase.

Wealth Is a Covenant Responsibility

Because of the CALL—as a son of God and as the seed of Abraham—to go and empower to prosper all the families of the earth, INCREASE IS NO LONGER OPTIONAL. Increase becomes MANDATORY. We not only have a RIGHT to be wealthy. Now we have the RESPONSIBILITY to increase.

PRAYER

Father, in the name of Jesus, I take my place as a son of God. I answer Your call to go and empower to prosper all the families of the earth. I understand my Covenant right and responsibility to increase and to prosper, not only for my sake, but for the sake of the Family Business.

Father, I will not criticize or judge others. When I see Your blessing upon a ministry or a man who is going about empowering others to prosper, I commit to help by speaking well of them, sowing into their work, and praying for them.

I thank You, Lord, I know my place, and as I take my place, I will help others to know and take their place. Amen.

LESSON 10

PARTNERSHIP WITH GOD: EXCELLING IN GIVING

*And God is able to make all grace abound toward you,
that you, always having all sufficiency in all things,
have an abundance for every good work.*

 **2 Corinthians 9:8**

Our whole life—our whole being...our whole essence—is to empower others to prosper. We know our calling, and we are stepping into it more and more!

As sons of God and as the seed of Abraham, we no longer work for a living. We now GIVE for a living. Giving becomes our livelihood.

All of us are called to excel in our God-given place of destiny. As the seed of Abraham called to bless the nations, God has also called us to be excellent givers. We become MASTERS at giving just like our Father. We are now skilled investors of His Kingdom!

What a privilege for us to give! When we recognize the opportunity that is set before us, our giving takes on new meaning. Our giving takes on a greater purpose. We know that when we give into the Kingdom, we get to be a PARTNER WITH GOD, our Father, on the earth!

God is able to make His grace abound toward us, so that we can take care of the Family Business. Knowing this will set us free from the bondage of taking care of ourselves! As we fulfill our responsibility to take care of the Kingdom, the Father's responsibility is to take care of us and our needs!

I ABOUND IN THE GRACE OF GIVING

A. God's Will for All Believers in the New Testament Is Abundance.

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. — 2 Corinthians 9:8

Question: What causes God's grace for abundance to operate in our life?

- Answers:
1. Receiving the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
(2 Corinthians 8:9)
 2. Abounding in the grace of giving
(2 Corinthians 8:7)

B. God Wants Us to Abound in the Grace of Giving.

But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you abound in this grace [of giving] also. — 2 Corinthians 8:7

■ **DEFINITION:** “Abound”

➤ Abound – to SUPER ABOUND and to EXCEL.

❖ God has called us to be excellent givers!

Becoming a Masterful Giver

*An excellent giver is someone who excels in his giving.
As the seed of Abraham, our giving takes on new meaning and greater purpose. Our giving begins to bring forth greater fruit than ever before.*

*We have become masterful givers...skilled kingdom investors!
Giving is now our trade. We now give for a living.*

What Is a Gentile?

A “Gentile” is one who does not have a covenant with God. He is without Christ... alienated from the commonwealth of Israel...a stranger from the covenants of promise...having no hope...and without God in the world (Ephesians 2:12).

Because he does not have God as his Covenant Provider, he spends his life “working for a living” just to take care of himself and his family with no concept of a higher purpose or calling.

Kingdom People...Kingdom Pursuits

“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” (Matthew 6:33)

“Working for a living” is a snare and a “Gentile” way of thinking.

Many Christians pursue certain professions, vocations, or opportunities only because they are high paying with little or no consideration for what God’s Kingdom purpose is for their life.

*Am I saying that we should not work? Certainly not!
Everyone should be busy—working...putting their hand to something—
but we want to strive to be Kingdom people who live for Kingdom pursuits.*

*When we pursue a profession or job based solely on salary,
we are violating the very basics of Kingdom living.
As a son of God and the seed of Abraham, the whole essence of
our life is for the purpose of empowering others to prosper.*

*Our vocation is to be a place of service.
Serve as a doctor, lawyer, teacher, businessman, pastor,
or whatever the Lord has called you to do.
But your job is not to be a source of living.
It is to be a source of giving!*

*True prosperity begins by asking,
“Lord, what do you want me to do with my life?”
A “Gentile” mentality puts money first and only considers how much
money is involved.*

*As Kingdom people, we are free to put the advancement of God’s Kingdom
FIRST and then, allow the Holy Spirit to lead us into His plan for our lives.*

***Pastors and Ministers:
Remember, GET THE WORD OUT and GIVE!***

*This is a full-time job!
You empower others to prosper by putting the Word out.
Our job is to get the Word out, not to get the money in!
Don’t try to figure out how to get the people to give.*

*Prioritizing these things—getting the Word out and giving—
will keep you straight and “in line” in the ministry.*

II A MASTER KEY TO YOUR PROSPERITY: FIND WHAT GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO DO, AND GIVE YOURSELF ENTIRELY TO IT

Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. — 1 Timothy 4:15

- ❖ When you give yourself entirely to what God has called you to do, your progress will be evident to all.

*Do you see a man who excels in his work?
He will stand before kings;
He will not stand before unknown men. — Proverbs 22:29*

- ❖ A man who excels in his work or place of assignment will stand before leaders and prominent people.
- ❖ All of us are called to excel in our God-given place of destiny.
- ❖ We are to use the gift God has placed inside us to glorify God and to bless humanity.

III THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

The Book of Philippians is a letter the Apostle Paul wrote to his partners in Philippi.

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now... — Philippians 1:3-5

■ DEFINITION: “Fellowship”

➤ Fellowship can also be translated “partnership”.

- The church and believers in Philippi “partnered” with the Apostle Paul’s ministry through giving.
- They were consistent givers into Paul’s life and ministry... “you sent aid once and again.” (**Philippians 4:16**)
- These people had obviously been greatly impacted by the life and ministry of Paul and wanted to help him bring that same blessing to others.

Question: What were the blessings these partners received?

Answers:

- Paul said they were partakers with him of the same grace, anointing, and blessing that was upon his life.

Just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace.

— **Philippians 1:7**

- Fruit abounded to their heavenly account

Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.

— **Philippians 4:17**

- Their gifts pleased God.

...having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.

— **Philippians 4:18**

- A supply from God was released into their lives.

*And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. — **Philippians 4:19***

The Real Essence of Partnership

When you see THE BLESSING on somebody or have been personally impacted by a ministry, and it is in your heart to do so, hook up with that person financially, and help them go even further.

Partnership is not an obligation. Partnership is a great opportunity! Through partnership, you are joining together in order to go “farther and faster”. As you add your supply, the grace and anointing upon the one you are helping will spill over into your life.

As you further empower someone who is empowering others, that same empowerment begins to work for you!

- ❖ Excellent givers are on the “lookout” for good partnership opportunities.
- ❖ Prayerfully seek the Lord as to whom you should be a partner with.

IV THE CHURCH—A HOLY NATION—CALLED TO BLESS ALL NATIONS

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. — 1 Peter 2:9

◆ Our Call—to Bless All the Nations

*“...And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”
— Genesis 12:3*

*“...Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”
— Mark 16:15*

*“You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.”
— Deuteronomy 28:12*

*“And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land...”
— Malachi 3:12*

- ❖ We, the Church, are a “holy nation”—a set-apart nation—with a call to go and bless all other nations.

Heavenly Citizenship

“For our citizenship is in heaven...” (Philippians 3:20)

*We receive from God based upon our heavenly citizenship.
We, the Church...the Body of Christ, are a set apart nation—
called and empowered by God to bless all the nations of the earth.*

*We do not receive from God based upon our earthly citizenship—whether
Filipino, American, Chinese, or Australian.*

*We receive from God based upon the blood of the everlasting Covenant
and the Word of God’s Covenant.*

V A PROSPERITY SNARE—“SEEKING YOUR OWN”

*But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. — **Philippians 2:19-21***

❖ “Seeking your own” is the opposite of putting God’s Family Business first.

*“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” — **Matthew 6:31-33***

We Are Not Gentiles

“For after all these things the Gentiles seek...” (Matthew 6:32)

Because Gentiles don’t have a covenant with God, they have no choice but to anxiously seek food, clothing, and their own well-being.

Gentiles must seek the best education according to the world’s standards with hopes of landing the most lucrative job opportunities and highest salaries. Why? They don’t have a God to take care of them! They need to make lots of money and store it up for their uncertain future. You can’t blame them for operating this way.

Without the knowledge of a good God who will take care of them, they have no choice.

But we are no longer Gentiles! We are no longer without a covenant! All the things the Gentiles spend their lives seeking will be added to us as we put God’s Kingdom first.

We have a heavenly Father who knows we need all these things.

Now we have been born again into God’s eternal family, and our lives are to be consumed with the success of God’s “Family Business” and Kingdom operation.

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*As we prioritize the Father's Kingdom,
the Father and His Kingdom will take care of us!*

The Gentiles seek “things” and so often, the things they get have sorrow with them. We seek first the advancement of God's Kingdom, and our heavenly Father adds blessings to our lives—blessings without sorrow! (Proverbs 10:22)

VI BOTH HEAVENLY AND EARTHLY INVESTMENTS

Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.” — Mark 10:21

“The LORD will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.” — Deuteronomy 28:8

❖ Your faith in the Covenant and your heavenly investments provide a firm foundation for your earthly investments.

◆ Two Things Every Believer Should Have:

#1 A GOD Account

■ DEFINITION: “GOD Account”

➤ A GOD Account is a “giving account”. It is an account set aside exclusively for the Lord's money.

- As the Lord increases you, take 10%, 20%, 30%, or more off the top and transfer it to your GOD Account.
- Once the money is in your GOD Account, don't touch it! It is reserved for the Lord's purposes.
- If you don't have money to open a separate bank account, then you can have a GOD ENVELOPE—a special place designated to set aside money for giving.

- Everybody—churches, ministries, families, children—should have a GOD Account!
- Tithe and give offerings from your GOD Account. You will be ready to give when the Lord leads you.

#2 A Savings Account

- ❖ It is a revelation for many people to find out that they don't have to spend everything that passes through their hands!
- Begin to set aside something every month (for example, 5% or 10%). You will be amazed at how much money actually passes through your hands in a lifetime.
- Train your children to save from an early age. Open a savings account for them.
- Don't touch your savings! As it builds, use it to invest in something that will produce revenue and income; then, begin the process again.

Lesson #1 for Israel: "I Will Take Care of You!"

He also brought them out with silver and gold, and there was none feeble among His tribes... The people asked, and He brought quail, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven. He opened the rock, and water gushed out; it ran in the dry places like a river. For He remembered His holy promise, and Abraham His servant.
(Psalm 105:37, 40-42)

*When God delivered the Israelites from Egyptian bondage, the Bible says
"He brought them out with silver and gold,
and there was none feeble among His tribes."*

*The Lord then led them into the wilderness to teach them a few
basic lessons on their way to the Promised Land.*

*Israel's journey in the wilderness was never supposed to last 40 years!
Bible scholars teach us that it was only an 11-day trip!*

*Nonetheless, one of the main lessons they were to learn
was that God would be the one to take care of them.*

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Lesson #1 for Israel: "I Will Take Care of You!"

(Continued from previous page)

Think about it—

*Israel left Egypt with silver, gold, and the wealth of Egypt and yet,
all of that wealth would do them no good in the desert!*

They were totally dependent on God for their sustenance:

- * God fed them with manna from heaven.*
- * He satisfied their thirst with water from a rock.*
- * Their clothes never wore out!*

What was the Lord teaching them? Lesson #1 – "I TAKE CARE OF YOU!"

The Purpose of Wealth

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

*"Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering.
From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take
My offering. And this is the offering which you shall take from them:
gold, silver, and bronze...And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may
dwell among them." (Exodus 25:1-3, 8)*

*If God was to be the one to take care of Israel's basic necessities, then what
was the purpose for all the gold and silver they brought out of Egypt?*

He said, "Build Me a tabernacle." In short, "Put My Kingdom first."

*The real purpose of wealth is not to provide for us, so that we can live
comfortably ever after without any thought of God.*

Its main purpose is not to meet our needs.

The Covenant and the Kingdom will take care of that.

*God is bringing wealth into our hands, so that we can use it for
the building and expansion of His Kingdom purposes!*

Designed to Live for the Kingdom

“Take nothing for the journey...” (Luke 9:3)

Obviously the disciples had something to take with them on their journey; otherwise, Jesus wouldn’t have had to tell them not to take anything. Yet He specifically instructed them not to bring any of their basic necessities—staves, bag, food, extra clothing, and even money.

By saying this to His disciples, Jesus was not telling them to take a vow of poverty. He was trying to teach them a lesson.

What was the lesson He was teaching them?
Lesson #1 – “THE FATHER TAKES CARE OF YOU!”

We can roll the care of our lives on the Lord, and totally abandon ourselves to His will and the pursuit of His Kingdom. It takes FAITH. It takes COURAGE. But this is how we have been designed to live.

“When I sent you, did you lack anything?” Nothing!

*And He said to them, “When I sent you without money bag, knapsack, and sandals, did you lack anything?”
So they said, “Nothing.” (Luke 22:35)*

*After the disciples arrived from their journeys,
Jesus asked them if they lacked anything when He sent them out.
The disciples replied, “NOTHING.”*

*It is interesting to note that while the disciples didn’t bring any basic necessities on their travels, they didn’t lack any single thing they needed. This shows that God took care of their needs as they went on their way, preaching the Kingdom of God.
The same thing applies to all of us.*

This verse does not mean you must always go and expand God’s Kingdom “empty-handed” because in the following verse, Jesus told His disciples to bring money bag, knapsack, and sword (v. 36).

*You can GO WITH ABUNDANCE!
Just remember: You are not supposed to take care of yourself!
The point is, whether you go with nothing or with plenty,
God is your Source. The Father will take care of you!*

Our Heavenly Father Knows What We Need

You might say, "Somebody's got to put food on the table".

YES, HIS NAME IS GOD!

God is Covenant-obligated to put bread on our table.

That's the truth!

"Somebody's got to earn a living around here."

No! "Somebody needs to seek first the Kingdom around here!"

As you seek God's Kingdom FIRST,

He will give you wisdom, and show you what to do.

*If you need to pursue a certain job, then the Lord will show you,
and that job will be a blessing to you!*

But we don't seek our own needs.

We seek first His Kingdom, and the Father takes care of us!

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus, I thank You that I am free from the care of my life. What a joy to know that I need not take care of myself anymore!

Thank You that I am free to pursue Your will and Your plan for my life. I purpose to give myself entirely to what You have called me to do.

*I declare that the grace of God is abounding in my life...I have all sufficiency in all things, and I have an abundance for every good work.
Amen.*

LESSON 11

STEPPING UP INTO SONSHIP

*“You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant
which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham,
‘And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’
To you first, God having raised up
His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you,
in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.”*

 Acts 3:25-26

Because of God’s overflowing love for us, He sent Jesus Christ on earth not only to set us free from sin, but to also bless us! Through faith in Jesus Christ, we become the anointed ones on the earth called the SONS of GOD!

Now that we are sons of God, let us pursue what our Father has called us to do in His Kingdom. We are heirs of God who are not looking for a job anymore. We are now sons who seek our Kingdom assignment from the Father, knowing that He takes care of us—His very own...His beloved ones.

Many of us—most of us—have not even scratched the surface of our calling; therefore, many of us have not even scratched the surface of our enduring prosperity. Only as we step up into our place of sonship and seek His Kingdom purpose on earth, do we begin to enter into our place of prosperity.

So let us step up to a higher level as sons where we have the heart to honor God and the assignment He has called us to do. Then we will walk in the darkest part of the earth with UNSHAKEABLE CONFIDENCE and IMMOVABLE FAITH, bringing with us The Blessing of Abraham!

I JESUS CAME TO BLESS US

“You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’ To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.” — Acts 3: 25

A. Jesus Christ Is the Seed.

Question: Who is the Seed this verse refers to?
Answer: The Seed is Jesus Christ.

Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ. — Galatians 3:16

- ❖ Through Jesus Christ (the Seed) all the families of the earth shall be blessed (empowered).

B. We Are Also Abraham’s Seed.

And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise. — Galatians 3:29

- ❖ Because we belong to Christ, we are also Abraham’s seed.
- ❖ Through us (Abraham’s seed), all the families of the earth shall be blessed (empowered).

THE BLESSING Multiplied

The Blessing and the anointing are no longer on just one Person, Jesus Christ. There is now a multiplication of anointed ones on the earth called the Sons of God... called The Body of Christ...the body of anointed ones!

Now we go forward as sons of God doing what Jesus did while He was on the earth: teaching, preaching, healing, and empowering others to prosper with The Blessing of Abraham.

C. Jesus Came to Restore the Blessing

To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities. — Acts 3:26

Question: According to this verse, why did God send Jesus?

Answer: To bless you!

- ❖ God sent Jesus to restore His original BLESSING PLAN (empowerment plan) for man as found in the garden of Eden.

Question: What was God's original plan for man?

Answer: "Then GOD BLESSED THEM, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply...' " (**Genesis 1:28**).

- ❖ Adam messed up God's plan through his fall, sin, and disobedience (**Romans 5:12**).

- ❖ God sent Jesus, the last Adam, to restore THE BLESSING... "God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you."

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus... — Galatians 3:13-14

Question: According to this verse, why did Jesus "hang on a tree"?

Answer: So that Abraham's Blessing would come to all in Christ.

The Blessing is For All

Even the filthiest Gentile, the outcasts of society or the uneducated can come into the family of God, receive THE BLESSING and RISE UP, and be a blessing to all the families of the earth!

- ❖ The Blessing is not based upon your education. It is based upon your Covenant with God!

II OUR IDENTITY: ANOINTED SONS...ABRAHAM'S DESCENDANTS...A HOLY NATION

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

— Galatians 3:26-27

A. Anointed Sons

1. Put on Christ.

■ DEFINITION: “Christ”

➤ Christ is a Greek word referring to the Anointed One and His Anointing.

Put on the Anointed One

It is our job to “put on” the Anointed One and His Anointing.

We put on the anointing by agreeing with the Covenant.

Put God’s Word in your heart and speak it out of your mouth:

“I am the seed of Abraham! I am increasing more and more!

I am anointed to get wealth! This is my time on the earth!”

2. No more barriers

There is neither Jew nor Greek...slave nor free...male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. — Galatians 3:28

- ❖ All barriers—RACE, SOCIAL STATUS, and GENDER—have been taken out of the way!

Woman, Thou Art Loosed!

Woman, rise up!

The Lord will prosper you in spite of your unbelieving husband.

Keep believing. Keep standing.

Your household is sanctified by your believing. (1 Corinthians 7:14)

B. Abraham's True Descendants

And now that we are Christ's, we are the true descendants of Abraham, and all of God's promises to him belong to us. — Galatians 3:29, TLB

Doorways and Roadways of Revelation

*These verses are like “doorways” of revelation.
That is why you never want to allow yourself to think,
“I know that verse already. I’ve heard that verse before.”*

*No! You stay with these verses and continue to work with them
until revelation bursts forth.*

*God's Words never grow old!
They are full of light! They are full of life!*

*What is being laid out for you are Scriptural pathways of revelation.
They are roadways for you.*

*If you will learn to walk down these same roadways,
they will bring you to good places in God.*

C. A Holy Nation

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation. His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy. — 1 Peter 2:9-10

The Church...A Holy Nation

*We, the people of God, are a holy nation...a set apart nation
called the Church, the Body of Christ.*

*It is important that the Church universal begin to see herself as a Nation.
Not only do we have earthly nations such as the Philippines, USA, UK,
Australia, and others, but there also exists a greater spiritual nation—the
Church!*

The Church...God's Governing Arm in the Earth!

*We are God's ruling, reigning, and governing arm in the earth!
We must take our place spiritually as a holy nation, so that we can go
forward and supernaturally empower the nations of the earth!
We do this by proclaiming to them the new birth and the empowerment
that is available to them through Jesus Christ!*

A Great Inheritance

*We rule and reign on the earth as the Church, not as the Filipino or
as the American. Our citizenship is now in heaven!
We bless the families of the earth, not anymore as a Filipino.
We bless the nations of the earth, no longer as an American.
We bless the families of the earth as the sons of God!*

*Our nationality does not give us any spiritual inheritance.
But our NEW BIRTH into the Kingdom of God, and our being citizens
of that Kingdom, gives us all—each and everyone—a great inheritance!*

Proclaiming the Culture of the Kingdom

*We, as the nation of the Church...the set apart nation...the special nation...
the blessed nation—shall go forward to the other nations.
And we shall proclaim a culture —
not the culture of the Philippines, not the culture of the USA.
We shall proclaim the culture of the King and His Kingdom!
We shall proclaim The Blessing that has come to all through Jesus Christ!*

Proclaim the Word...Not Your Church

*God has called us to proclaim the Word of His Kingdom...not
church groups or denominations.
Proclaim the Word!
God will use your church group.
He will use your ministry, but don't proclaim your ministry.*

*Proclaim the Word! Proclaim the Word, and your church shall prosper!
Proclaim the Word and your ministry shall prosper!*

III THE CALL: EMPOWERING OTHERS TO PROSPER

Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” — Genesis 12:1-3

A. Step Beyond the Identity of Your Country.

- “Get out of your country...” (Genesis 12:1)

❖ God needed to bring Abram out of his country and out of the mentality of his family, so that He could establish a new identity in him, in order for Abram to fulfill his calling.

God Will Honor Those who Honor Him

If you want to see the Filipino honored, honor God.

Honor His Word. Honor Jesus, the King.

Walk in your sonship,

and then both you and your nationality will be honored.

Don’t get caught on the bandwagon of ‘Filipino Pride’ or ‘American Pride.’

When you promote the Kingdom, you will rise and people will take notice.

Don’t worry about your name or your reputation.

Your name will be great!

B. Empower Others to Prosper.

I will make you a great nation; I will bless you

And make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. — Genesis 12:2

■ DEFINITION:

- Bless means “to empower to prosper”.
- “A blessing” is someone who empowers others to prosper.

IV EMPOWERING OTHERS THROUGH THE PROPAGATION OF THE WORD

A. Paul Instructed Timothy to Preach the Word.

Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. — 2 Timothy 4:2

B. All Are Called to PREACH the Word of Reconciliation.

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.
— 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

The Word Is the Greatest Gift You Can Ever Give

*If you have a pulpit calling, use the pulpit God has given you to propagate the Word, and bless all the families of the earth;
and not just to build your church or propagate YOUR plan.
Change your mindset, and begin to empower the people to prosper.*

*You might say, "I'm not called to a pulpit ministry."
While it's true that not all have a pulpit gift, yet all Christians are called to preach the Word of reconciliation by sharing their own testimony.*

*Besides that, there are other ways to propagate the Word of God.
We can all get involved by looking for good investment opportunities to partner with ministries and local churches that propagate the Word.*

*The Word of God is the greatest gift you can ever give to anybody.
"I think Jesus is the greatest gift," you might say. That's correct!
And JESUS IS THE WORD!
"He sent His Word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." (Psalm 107:20).*

We are all to be involved in the Family Business of the propagation of God's Word. That is how we should begin to see ourselves in our churches, ministries, businesses, lives, and families.

*We are Word Senders!
The most powerful way to empower people is to give them God's Word!*

V THE OPPORTUNITY: SONS WORKING WITH THE FATHER

“So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” — Luke 12:21

- ❖ Look for opportunities to be rich toward God.
- ❖ Look for opportunities to invest into God’s everlasting Kingdom.

Sons of Our Father

If you will purpose your whole life to be rich toward God, God says, “I’ll take care of you.” Our business is the Kingdom; God’s business is our need. Our needs are no longer our business. The Kingdom is our business!

Having to live life merely to take care of oneself is a low, miserable way to live, when we have been created as sons of our Father—the Great Creator, the All-Sufficient One, and the Giver of every good gift!

*We are here to bless...to sow...and to give!
The entire Kingdom of God is about empowering others to prosper.
When we do so, we are partners with our Heavenly Father,
doing what He loves to do—to give!
It’s a taste of heaven on earth!*

- ❖ We as sons of God are partakers of the Father’s bounty!
- ❖ Learn to come boldly to the throne of grace to receive all your inheritance, so that you can distribute it and be just like your Father.

☞ **Remember: Don’t seek your own!**

“Seeking your own” is one of the biggest hindrances to The Blessing working in our lives.

VI COVENANT MENTALITIES

A. Covenant People are Free to Prefer Others.

Then one from the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” But He said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?” — Luke 12:13-14

■ **DEFINITION:** “Covenant”

➤ A covenant is an unbreakable agreement between two parties.

- ❖ We have entered into a Covenant relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ.
- 1. When you know God as your SOURCE, you don’t have to fight with people about money and possessions.
- 2. Consider Abraham and Lot. Abraham was free to prefer Lot because he knew he was blessed.

Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks and herds and tents. Now the land was not able to support them, that they might dwell together, for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together. And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram’s livestock and the herdsmen of Lot’s livestock... So Abram said to Lot, “Please let there be no strife between you and me, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen; for we are brethren. Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me. If you take the left, then I will go to the right; or, if you go to the right, then I will go to the left.” — Genesis 13:5-9

B. Covenant People Know There is More to Life than Possessions.

And He said to them, “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”

— Luke 12:15

Question: Is it okay to possess things?

Answer: Of course! God is the One who gives us richly all things to enjoy! (1 Timothy 6:17)

- ❖ The Lord doesn’t care what things you possess as long as the things you have don’t possess you!

C. Covenant People Don't Live for "Retirement".

Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

— **Luke 12:16-21**

Don't Retire...Refire!

For a believer, as long as you are on the earth and still breathing, there is no such thing as "retirement." If you are still alive, it means there is still something the Lord has for you to do!

Naturally, seasons of life change as we move from one assignment to the next in God's plan for our lives. But life's goal should not be to merely work and work just to have enough for retirement, so that "at last" you can relax.

*Is God opposed to you having a retirement account?
Of course not!*

The Bible says that the Lord will command His blessing upon your storehouse, and that a good man will have enough, so that he can leave an inheritance to his children and grandchildren (Deuteronomy 28:8; Proverbs 13:22).

*But the pursuit of retirement is not our goal!
The pursuit of a life that is "rich toward God" should be our goal.*

*As we pursue God's Kingdom plan and purpose for our lives,
all these things shall be added to us.
This is not to say that you should not have a retirement fund,
save, invest, and prepare for your family's future,
but our pursuit is to be God's Kingdom.*

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Don't Retire...Refire!

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As we follow God's plan for our lives, stuff will come through our hands— things...wealth...provisions —and then, we steward those things as the Lord directs us.

But don't put the pursuit of retirement or a big retirement account as your mission in life.

If you do, it will cause you to miss your whole Kingdom purpose.

*Instead of retiring, why not refire?
God still has something for you to do!*

D. Covenant People Don't Seek What They Should Eat.

And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

— **Luke 12:29-32**

*Then He said to His disciples, "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on." — **Luke 12:22***

Active...Not Idle

Certainly God has not called us to be idle and lazy.

His will is that we all be involved and active.

But our pursuit should be, "Lord, your will be done."

In that pursuit, you will find bread and provisions for your table.

Fear Not, Little Flock

*“And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink,
nor have an anxious mind.” (Luke 12:29)*

*Jesus isn’t telling us not to make plans and provisions for our future.
He is warning us against fearful, anxious thinking that begins to wonder,
“If I follow the Lord’s leading, how am I going to make it?”*

*This kind of thinking will cause you to soon exit the Lord’s Kingdom pathway
for your life in the pursuit of “self-preservation”. Fear comes to rip you away
from the path of enduring prosperity and rob you of your Kingdom purpose.
That is why Jesus said, “Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father’s good
pleasure to give you the Kingdom.” (Luke 12:32).*

*“Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures
to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the
Father has set His seal on Him.” — John 6:27*

- ❖ We are no longer living to merely fill our stomachs. We have a much higher Kingdom purpose!

Activated in Kingdom Assignments

*Jesus’ teaching in Luke 12 about not seeking your own goes beyond
a standard for “good Christian living”. You see, God wants His people
activated into their Kingdom assignments on the earth.
That is the issue at hand here.*

*He understands that the enemy of your Kingdom assignment
is you trying to take care of and provide for yourself!*

*God has something better for you!
The Kingdom will take care of you!*

*The Lord is not promoting idleness.
He is not advocating laziness.*

*He is promoting the pursuit of what God has ultimately called and
created you to do—your Kingdom purpose and assignment!*

The Father Takes Care of You

*“But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you.”
(Luke 12:31)*

*In the place of your Kingdom assignment there is abundance and no lack!
Jesus set the precedent for this when He sent out His disciples
and told them, “take nothing for the journey.”
When they came back, He asked them if they lacked anything.
What was their reply? “Nothing!”*

*He was establishing LESSON #1 in the lives of His disciples, which is—
“If you are going to walk in the Kingdom, you don’t take care of yourself
anymore. THE FATHER TAKES CARE OF YOU!”*

A New Prayer Focus

*Our whole prayer life and prayer focus begin to change.
We are no longer praying that God would help us go abroad,
or get such and such a job.*

*Our prayer life changes completely to where we begin to pray,
“Thank You, Lord! I have a Kingdom assignment!
Lord, what do you want me to do?
If you want me to stay here, I will stay.
If you want me to go help someone else, I will go help them.
Whatever you want me to do...I’ll do it!”*

*You see, as sons of God, we are no longer looking for a job. We are
seeking our Kingdom assignment. This is the place of our prosperity!*

PRAYER

*Father, I praise You and thank You that I have a Kingdom assignment. Here
am I, Lord. I will do what You want me to do. I will go where You want me
to go.*

*I refuse to worry. I refuse to fear. I refuse to take the care of my own needs.
Instead, I cast all my cares upon You. I pursue what You have called me to
do, and I will do it heartily as a son, doing my Father’s business.*

Thank You that as I seek Your Kingdom, You will take care of me.

LESSON 12

BEING ASSIGNMENT-MINDED

*“And do not seek what you should eat
or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind.
But seek the kingdom of God,
and all these things shall be added to you.”*

 **Luke 12:29, 31**

If we will be honest, most of us would admit that we were raised with this “Gentile” mindset, “I’ve got to go make some money!” or “I’ve got to find a job!” Even if we didn’t use these exact words, most likely this was the subconscious motivation for our pursuits.

The problem is, this type of thinking is contrary to God’s Kingdom way. Kingdom thinking says, “God has a plan for my life! God has something for me to do with my life which will expand His kingdom and bless humanity. I’ve got to seek the Lord! I’ve got to find out the purpose for which He has created me.”

There is so much creative ability lying dormant in God’s people, because we have been trapped in a Gentile mindset, thinking we all need to go out and “work for a living.” In an attempt to take care of ourselves and in effect “be our own God,” we have unknowingly forfeited our very Kingdom purposes.

There is so much unlocked expression and untapped potential in so many! It’s being “choked” by us going out and trying to take care of ourselves. Jesus said, “The cares of this world...choke the Word of God.” (**Mark 4:19**). It is possible to be so consumed with taking care of yourself that you can’t even hear God’s specific Word to you for your life. Oftentimes, it happens to good Christian people in the name of “being responsible.”

The only way you can truly release what God has put inside of you is when you become free from the care of your own life! Jesus said it this way, “He who loses his life for My sake will find it.” (**Matthew 10:39**).

What is Jesus asking you to give up? What is He asking you to lose? Only a low, beggarly life of trying to take care of yourself and be your own God! What do you have to gain? Everything! Including the discovery of the very purpose for which you have been created! You will only discover the true potential of your life when you release the care of your life into the hands of The Master!

The Lord has something greater for you than “a good job”. He has a KINGDOM ASSIGNMENT for you! He has a plan and a purpose for your life, prepared from before the foundation of the world! Built into His plan are provisions and blessings, which will not only take care of you, but also abound into the lives of the people around you. Gentiles look for a job... while sons of God seek their assignment!

I A KINGDOM LIFESTYLE

◆ These Four Things Will Help You Step into a Kingdom Lifestyle:

1. Take no thought for your life.

Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

— **Matthew 6:25**, KJV

*Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek.) For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. — **Matthew 6:31-32**, KJV*

God Cares for His Own

We have learned from previous lessons that God takes care of His own as we pursue His Kingdom purpose for our lives.

We have a heavenly Father who cares for us!

He is not an absentee Father.

He does not have early stages of Alzheimer's Disease, causing Him to occasionally forget a thing or two. He is ever mindful of His Covenant people! He watches over His Word to perform it!

Kingdom System “Slowdown”

The more you learn about the Kingdom of God, you will discover that it is a very highly regulated kingdom.

God's system works every time!

He never misses a “payday”.

There is never a computer “glitch” in heaven.

Our Father in heaven is never worried about how things are going to work out. He has never failed to plan properly!

With such an efficient kingdom system backing us up, how can we fail?

Well...we can't fail, unless we think and operate like Gentiles—as if we have no Covenant and no God.

When we do, it causes “kingdom system slowdown” in our lives.

*That's why Jesus spoke so strongly saying,
“take no thought for your life!”*

2. Release the care of your life to God.

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, “Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.” — Mark 8:34-35

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. — 1 Peter 5:6-7

3. Receive God’s good plan.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

— Jeremiah 29:11, NIV

Good Things Ahead

God has good plans for you! You are going to have to settle that in your own heart and then move forward by faith. Even if the plan you are walking in doesn’t look like what you pictured in your mind, it’s still a good plan. Even if family members misunderstand you, or if there is persecution...if you will continue...don’t stop, but continue and follow the plan of God, there are good things ahead for you!

4. Seek your part in the advancement of God’s Eternal Kingdom.

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. — Matthew 6:33

It’s Important to Ask

“Yet you do not have because you do not ask.” (James 4:2)

It’s important to stop and ask the Lord what your part is in His Kingdom plan. Don’t assume you already know, or that you are already doing it just because you are a church member. It’s good to ask sincerely, “Lord, what do you want me to do? What’s my Kingdom purpose and assignment?”

II A KINGDOM ASSIGNMENT

A. Before Time Began

Before time began...before the foundation of the world...before God formed us in our mother's womb, He prepared a wonderful plan and purpose for our lives. Let's consider the following verses:

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

— **Ephesians 2:10**

who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began. — **2 Timothy 1:9**

- ❖ God established a purpose for your life and gave you grace to carry out that purpose before time ever began!

Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.

And in Your book they all were written,

The days fashioned for me,

When as yet there were none of them. — **Psalms 139:16**

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;

Before you were born I sanctified you;

I ordained you a prophet to the nations." — **Jeremiah 1:5**

***God's Kingdom plan and assignment for our lives
is not something we choose.
It is something that has already been planned and chosen for us!
It is merely our discovery!***

B. God-Given Tasks

What profit has the worker from that in which he labors? I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied.

— **Ecclesiastes 3:9-10**

- ❖ Your life in the kingdom of God is made up of a series of assignments or God-given tasks — things that you have been created to do while you are alive on the earth.
- ❖ These assignments and tasks all fit together to make up your “purpose” or God’s plan for your life.
- ❖ Oftentimes we pass from one assignment and task to the next, as we faithfully complete what the Lord puts in front of us every step of the way.
- ❖ As we move from assignment to assignment, not only do we fulfill a greater Kingdom purpose, but we also continue to develop and discover all that God has created us to be!

1. Our assignment is “God-given.”

But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased — 1 Corinthians 12:18

- ❖ Our assignment is not man-given, mama-given, or relative-inspired. It comes from God!
- ❖ We *as the created* should seek the Creator to know and understand our current place of assignment.

2. Our assignment will “occupy” us.

- ❖ When we discover our place of assignment, it will fully occupy us. It will keep us busy and require our all — 100%!

3. We should give ourselves “entirely” to our Kingdom assignment.

Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. — 1 Timothy 4:15

A PROSPERITY KEY:

Get in your place of assignment, and give yourself entirely to it.

- ❖ Successful completion of any assignment from God is dependent upon you giving yourself entirely to it.
- ❖ When you give yourself entirely to your Kingdom assignment, your progress will become evident to all!

Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men. — Proverbs 22:29

The word “work” can be translated “service”. When you excel in your place of service, you will be promoted!

Should I Quit My Job?

Perhaps you are hearing about a Kingdom purpose and assignment for your life for the very first time.

Does that mean you should run out tomorrow and quit your current job in search of your God-given task?

Not exactly!

Instead, why not begin praying and seeking the Lord while you are occupied with your current place of employment?

As you seek the Lord, He will give you wisdom on what you should do, and how to successfully begin to transition into what He has really planned for you.

C. You Have a Gift.

1. Don't neglect your gift.

Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. — 1 Timothy 4:14

- ❖ Begin to develop and cultivate what the Lord has placed inside you.

Advanced Education and Training

Oftentimes the pursuit of education and advanced degrees has been inappropriately pursued and exalted as the thing that will bring success in life.

Thank God for education and good schools, but education doesn't guarantee success. In reality, it's the discovery of your God-given gifts, purpose, and Kingdom assignment which will bring real success and fulfillment in your life.

*So what's the role of education and training?
Education and training is something we can pursue to further develop our giftings, sharpen our skills, and receive knowledge and understanding which will equip us to fulfill our life's assignment.*

Advanced Education and Training

(continued from previous page)

*As we seek our Kingdom purpose and assignment,
then the Lord will direct us to whatever schooling and training
is best suited for us—
that which will prepare us for what He has already prepared for us!*

*And the good news is this—
when we pursue the Lord's education and developmental plan for our lives,
we can be sure that He will pay the bills!*

2. Use your gift to serve God and bless humanity.

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. — 1 Peter 4:10

■ **DEFINITION:** “minister”

➤ to serve

Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. — Ephesians 4:28

- ❖ Don't labor to live...labor to give!

Working for a Giving

*“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another...”
(1 Peter 4:10)*

*Instead of “working for a living,” why not begin “working for a giving?”
There are many different graces and many different gifts in all of
God's people.*

*What does the Bible say we should we do with our gift?
Go make a living with it? No. We are to “minister” it to one another.
We are to serve others with it!*

*Instead of pursuing professions on the basis of pay and salary,
we need to find out what God has called us to do.*

*What gifts has He placed within us?
We can then take those gifts and use them to empower others!*

3. Your gift will make room for you.

*A man's gift makes room for him,
And brings him before great men. — Proverbs 18:16*

- ❖ Your gift will open doors for you and promote you when used properly.

D. Benefits of Moving in Your Assignment

- There is abundant supply in the place of your assignment.
- God can take care of you beyond your salary.
- God can provide for you even if there is no official “salary”.

Removing the Limits

When you are moving in your Kingdom assignment and “working for a giving”, you are no longer limited to your salary.

The Father is your provider and His Kingdom is backing you up!

Why would you be limited when “God supplies all your need according to His riches in Glory by Christ Jesus”?

The Lord has ways to provide for His people far beyond a simple salary.

What Can You Believe?

God never intended that any of His children be limited to a “salary.”

In light of God's Word, we discover that we are really only limited by:

- Our faith—what we can believe (Mark 9:23)
- Our sowing (2 Corinthians 9:6; Luke 6:38)
- Our obedience (Isaiah 1:19)

We could potentially live in a place where 100% of our salary is “seed” because the Lord is providing for us in ways far beyond our salaries.

Our Salary Is Not Our Source

The Lord could lead you into a Kingdom assignment that appears undesirable because of a small wage or salary. But does that mean you have to do without?

Certainly not! The salary is not supposed to take care of you. The Father and His Kingdom take care of you! God has ways to provide for those who obey Him beyond a salary.

Let's dare believe God and move beyond the confines and limitations that come as a result of making decisions merely based upon wages and salaries.

As we take our eyes off of our salaries, and put them back on the Lord as our Source and Provider, I believe He will open and reveal channels of provision we have never known before!

E. OBEYING God for a Living

Rather than “working for a living”, why not change our mentality and begin to “obey God for a living” instead?

Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.” Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?” Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.”

— **John 6:27-29**

1. Labor to BELIEVE.

*Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.” — **John 6:29***

❖ A big part of our labor is TO BELIEVE what God has said.

What do we need to work on believing?

- I am the seed of Abraham.
- I can seek first the Kingdom, and the Father will take care of me.
- I don't fear lack, because the Lord is my Shepherd.
- My God SHALL supply all my need.

2. OBEY

- ❖ To believe only is incomplete. If you truly believe, you will do something! You will also OBEY.

A New Way to Live: Believe and Obey

*We labor to believe and then we obey. THIS IS OUR WORK—
TO BELIEVE and then TO OBEY. This is what Abraham did.
He believed the Word of God, and then he set out to obey and follow Him.*

*I'm finished working for a living! From now on, I believe the Word and
obey God for a living. That's a full-time job!*

*Am I proposing that everyone quit their jobs? No!!
But I am proposing that we begin to change our way of thinking, so we
can switch from a broken-down Gentile system and step into all that
our God has created for us.*

*If you know you are in a job that is not
God's Kingdom assignment for you,
I don't recommend that you quit your job immediately.
Continue faithfully in your place of employment, but as you go to work,
begin to say, "Thank you, Lord, that you have more for me than this job.
I shall not remain here forever!"*

*While you are working that job, you must also begin to give yourself
to praying about where God wants you to be.*

*Give time to meditating in the scriptures and praying in tongues
about God's plan for your life, your purpose, and the gift that
He has placed inside you.*

 In Summary

Here are two main ways to bless all the families of the earth as the seed of Abraham:

- #1 Be involved in the propagation of the Word of God.
- #2 Get in your place of assignment and give yourself entirely to it.

If you do these two things, you will be well on your way to being a blessing to all the families of the earth!

A Sure Foundation

We're coming out! We are leaving the old Gentile mentality and its system behind for the reality of Kingdom assignments and all the provision that goes with them.

*Of course, you will have to TAKE A STAND on the Word of God!
You have to be willing to STEP OUT when it looks like there is
no provision and there's no way.*

*Faith and courage are required!
But just stand on God's Word...and stay with God's Word.*

*With the Word of God in your heart and in your mouth, you are on
a sure foundation. You are on solid ground!*

PRAYER

Father, I thank You that I'm coming out! I'm moving in my God ordained destiny. No weapon formed against me shall prosper. I fear not! I have a God. I have a Covenant. You have a plan for my life, and I know it's good.

Father, I ask You to show me Your plan, Your will, and Your purpose for my life. Help me, Lord, to get up on the high road You have called me to. I forsake Gentile living, Gentile thinking, the low road, and the slave mentality.

Thank You, Father, I have a Kingdom purpose. It shall be fulfilled in my life through my family, my business, my church, and my ministry. I thank You that through me, all the families of the earth shall be blessed!

LESSON 13

THE PATHWAY OF PROSPERITY

*“But the path of the just is like the shining sun,
That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.”*

 **Proverbs 4:18**

There is a pathway of prosperity for everyone because of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. On this pathway are blessings that God has PREDESTINED for us to enjoy and partake of as we walk on it.

We learn that through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we have all been made rich. We are heirs of God, and all that the Father has is now ours! But that does not mean that our prosperity will come automatically. There is a PROCESS and a PROGRESSION.

As we obey the Lord...as we follow His plan for our lives...and as we do the things the Word tells us to do, we will increasingly continue down the pathway of life—the path, the plan, and the purpose of God for our lives.

On that pathway are good things from God! On that pathway are blessings without sorrow! On that pathway is abundant life!

LIVE TO GIVE

Giving: One of Our Greatest Joys in Life

The Blessing is an actual empowerment to prosper that produces many 'blessings' in our lives. We believe that God wants us to have "things" because the Scripture tells us that He gives us richly all "things" to enjoy. Now that we've received Christ as our Lord and have access to all that God has, one of the greatest joys we have is to give.

It's hard to give when our minds are not renewed. Giving doesn't seem so joyful to do when we're worried about our own needs, the bills we must pay, and our own families to take care of.

But when we recognize our call to bless all the families of the earth as sons of God and the seed of Abraham, we can get really stirred up and excited about giving!

Addicted Givers

We get stirred up about giving when we step over into our heavenly identity as a son of God and the seed of Abraham.

As sons of God, we are like our Father who LIVES TO GIVE.

Giving can become addictive where we are always looking for opportunities to give. We come to a place where giving becomes...

an ART...

our PASSION...

our LIFESTYLE...

our OCCUPATION and PREOCCUPATION.

Stand against Fear

"Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32, KJV)

The BIGGEST ENEMY to giving is FEAR. Some people are inspired to hold back from giving. The spirit of fear inspires them to be stingy.

Stand against fear when thoughts of lack...thoughts of dying early...of not making it in life...come to you. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

(Continued on next page)

Stand against Fear*(continued from previous page)*

Don't just sit there and wage a silent battle in your mind. If you do, you will sink lower and lower. OPEN YOUR MOUTH and SAY, "I'm not going to be afraid! God has not given me a spirit of fear! My family is well-provided for. God will take care of us as we pursue His plan for our lives!"

*You have to say this not just to the Lord;
say this to every devil that is listening.*

Give on Purpose

*Get INSPIRED to give!
Plan your giving the way you would during the holidays.
Start thinking of CREATIVE WAYS to bless people.*

*The Lord GETS INVOLVED
when you start doing something special for somebody.
He will show you how to give in a way which will truly bless the person.*

*Go for it! Be a big giver! Have fun in your giving!
Let the Lord help you. Let Him inspire you!*

I THE PATHWAY OF PROSPERITY

But the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. — Proverbs 4:18

Who Are the Just?

*Oftentimes when we read about "the just" in the Bible,
we immediately think that it refers to someone else!
Because we are aware of our own failures and shortcomings, we quickly
disqualify ourselves from any such promises.*

The truth is that through faith in Jesus Christ, we are the just!

*Romans 3:24 says that we have been "justified freely by His grace through
the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."*

*If we have been "justified," then we are "just!"
This promise belongs to us!*

- **There is a pathway of prosperity for all through Jesus Christ.**

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. — 2 Corinthians 8:9

- **The pathway is a path of prosperity.**

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

— Jeremiah 29:11, NIV

- **Abundance and good things are on the path!**

*Oh, how great is Your goodness,
Which You have laid up for those who fear You,
Which You have prepared for those who trust in You
In the presence of the sons of men! — Psalms 31:19*

You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip with abundance. — Psalms 65:11

- **Revelation of God’s Word and ways helps us to navigate down the pathway.**

*Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path. — Psalms 119:105*

The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple. — Psalm 119:130

- **The pathway grows brighter and brighter.**

*But the path of the just is like the shining sun,
That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. — Proverb 4:18*

- **The more light you have of God’s ways of doing things, the more you can arise and prosper!**

*Arise, shine;
For your light has come!
And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. — Isaiah 60:1*

- **The more light you walk in, the more you will be walking like God!**

This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. — 1 John 1:5

Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.

— Ephesians 5:1

- **We have the potential to walk in increasingly more light...even as God is in the light.**

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. — 1 John 1:7

- **The more you walk like God, the more you will prosper. God's ways are winning ways! His ways work!**

*So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.*

— Isaiah 55:11

Pursue the Pathway of Light

*God has a plan for everybody!
If you CALL OUT to God, He will answer. He will show you
His plan for your life. (Jeremiah 33:3)
When He does answer, oftentimes you have to make CHANGES.
You have to make ADJUSTMENTS.
Sometimes you have to LEAVE one pathway to walk
on a DIFFERENT pathway.*

*DON'T SETTLE for a mere religious pathway that looks
acceptable to everybody.*

PURSUE GOD'S HIGH CALL FOR YOUR LIFE!

*Pray for it. Go after it.
Seek God and pursue the pathway of light.*

II THE PROGRESSION OF PROSPERITY

Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord blessed Him. The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous. — Genesis 26:12-13

This verse of scripture is a good example of the progression of prosperity. How does this progression happen? It happens as we pursue the pathway of the plan and purpose of God for our lives.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we have all been made rich. We are heirs of God, and all that the Father has is now ours! But that does not mean that all our prosperity will manifest by tomorrow morning! There is a **process** and a **progression**.

We also have a part to play in this. There are some things that we must DO to cooperate with this progression. There are practical KEYS and PRINCIPLES that must be applied to our lives. There are certain things that must be WORKED OUT and WALKED OUT in order for us to experience all that Jesus has made available for each of us.

It is only as we CONTINUE down the pathway and high road of God's plan and purpose for our lives, continually learning and adjusting to HIS WAYS of doing things, that we will begin to prosper...continue prospering...until we become very prosperous!

A. The "Doers" of the Word Get Blessed.

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. — James 1:22, 25

- ❖ It is not enough to just hear and hear. At some point, we must make up our minds TO DO what we have heard.

B. "Work Out" Your Salvation.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling... — Philippians 2:12

- ❖ Salvation (including prosperity) is a finished work of grace on the inside of every Christian. But now we must “work out” the reality of it into our everyday lives through obedience to God’s Word and His leadings.

C. “Continue” in God’s Word.

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them...

— **2 Timothy 3:14**

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, “If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

— **John 8:31-32, KJV**

- ❖ It is not enough to just begin. You must also CONTINUE!

Strength to Do

It takes strength TO DO!

Any weak Christian can just sit around in the face of adversity and just sort of whimper, whine, and cry, hoping for something to change.

But it takes spiritual strength to rise up and actually DO the Word! If it were an easy, automatic thing to DO the Word, then everyone would be doing it! And we would all be farther along down the pathway of prosperity that has been prepared for each of us.

If we will be honest, we’ve probably all experienced times when we knew in our minds the right thing to do—we knew a promise from God’s Word belonged to us, but somehow we just lacked what was necessary within us to step up and just do it.

Even though this is common, it’s still a big problem, because it’s not until we actually follow through, apply ourselves, and DO, that we experience God’s blessings.

Take Care of Your Inner Man

It is so important that you TAKE CARE OF YOUR INNER MAN (2 Corinthians 4:16). Your “inner man” must be well-fed and nourished, so that you will have the inner strength to progress down the Lord’s pathway.

You can feed and nourish your inner man through:

- Listening to anointed preaching messages*
- Being in good services*
- Regular Bible reading and meditation*
- Edifying yourself by praying in tongues*

These things will help strengthen your inner man, so that you have the strength TO DO. When you are not strong in your inner man, you become more susceptible to any variety of thoughts, feelings, ideas, suggestions of others, and man’s opinions. But when you are strong inside, you can be DEFINITE about the road you want to take, and go there ON PURPOSE!

A Life of Impact

*Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established.
(Proverbs 4:26)*

*My personal paraphrase of this verse is,
“Think about and decide the path you will take,
and what you do will be solid and bring impact!”*

IMPACT!

*This is the kind of life that God has called us to,
and it takes faith, courage, and strength in the inner man!*

There is more to the Christian life than just putting on a smile and “loving the Lord.” It is good to love the Lord, but we must wake up to the reality that we are in a spiritual conflict!

Strength in the inner man is required if we are to POSSESS what belong to us by being DOERS of the Word of God.

What Matters Most

“Take care of my inner man?!”

You might say. “I’m just too busy for that!”

That may be exactly right! Perhaps you are too busy!

*Oftentimes, the reason people find themselves so busy is
because they have never fully consecrated themselves
to the will and plan of God for their lives.*

*The Lord doesn’t “overload” His people (Matthew 11:30).
It’s only when we ADD to what the Lord has for us that things
get unnecessarily “heavy.”*

*As you come before the Lord and ask for His will and plan, much
of the “unnecessary” that you have been so busy with gets eliminated.*

*That’s the beautiful thing about pursuing God’s plan for your life!
It will serve as an automatic “filter” for your many activities.
Oftentimes, even “good” things get in the way of God’s best.*

Some things just have to go!

*We need to be reminded that we have limited time and resources
at any given moment. We must make sure we are giving ourselves
to the things that really matter the most.*

*The strength and resources we have today should be used
for God-given assignments and priorities.
We must not casually and carelessly just sort of “sling out”
what we have as if there were a never ending supply.*

God has called us to be PEOPLE OF IMPACT!

*There is a pathway of prosperity for each of us,
but we must aggressively pursue THAT pathway and not squander
our precious resources on just any pathway.*

PRAYER

Father, I thank You for the pathway of prosperity you have prepared for me. I choose to follow that path, and to pursue the high calling You have for my life.

I acknowledge that You are my one and only Source. I thank You for the many channels You use to bless me, so that I can fulfill Your plan for my life.

I declare I have abundance and no lack. The Lord will provide for that which He has called me to do. I am blessed in Jesus' name. Amen.

LESSON 14

WALKING THE PATHWAY OF PROSPERITY

*But the path of the just is like the shining sun,
That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.*

 **Proverbs 4:18**

Grace built a roadway and pathway of prosperity for you! It is the path of the plan, will and purpose of God for your life. As you obey the Lord and His Word, follow His plan, and learn to do things His way, you will find yourself moving down that path: a path which grows increasingly brighter and brighter!

As you continue down that road, you will discover blessings—good things which the Lord has prepared for you to enjoy and partake of from before the foundation of the world; good things which can be used to bless others and build God’s Kingdom. Because of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, this pathway is available for all of God’s children. Each has their own road!

Grace built the road, but now we must learn HOW TO WALK ON THAT ROAD. The Spirit of God is calling us all to the HIGH ROAD of the will, plan and purpose of God for our lives. It is a call to come and learn God’s ways of doing things. It is a call to come and operate in the Covenant that belongs to us through Jesus Christ—a Covenant of prosperity and increase!

How do we navigate down the pathway of prosperity that the Lord has for each one of us? What are the things we must DO to cooperate with the progression of prosperity? In this lesson, we will discover important KEYS and STEPS to walking out our individual prosperity and increase including:

- Believing
- Tithing
- Giving
- Faithfulness
- Obedience
- Saying
- Diligence

I BELIEVING

This often comes as a shock to most people that “believing” is #1 on the list of things to DO in order to walk out the pathway of prosperity, but it cannot be emphasized strongly enough.

BELIEVING is the foundation that undergirds and empowers everything we do!

BELIEVING is something we DO. Bible-based believing is something that we must pursue.

A. Abraham Believed God.

For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” — Romans 4:3

❖ The first thing Abraham had to do and did—He believed God!

Dead Works and Religion

*Don't do things you don't believe in!
To do something you don't believe in just because someone told you
that you should, is nothing more than religion and dead works.*

*We don't just want to be busy “doing.” We want power to be released
in what we do. The thing that will cause power to be released in what
we do is when we BELIEVE in what we are doing!*

B. WORK on What You Believe.

Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?” Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God that you believe in Him whom He sent.” — John 6:28-29

❖ BELIEVING is part of our work. It is something we must DO.

1. How do we work on what we believe? For example, in the area of prosperity:
 - Work on prosperity scriptures.
 - Work to believe that you are the seed of Abraham.
 - Work to believe that there is a Blessing on you that knows no limits.

- ❖ Work on what you believe until what you believe begins to govern your thinking, speech, actions, and way of life!

A Full Persuasion

A big reason many people don't DO the Word of God is because they don't really believe it! They hear the Word of God and even know it in their minds, but they don't really have the strength to DO, because they are not "fully persuaded" in their hearts. Therefore, they don't have corresponding actions.

In reference to Abraham, the Bible says, "and being fully persuaded that what He had promised He was also able to perform." (Romans 4:21)

When God promised Abraham a son, he did not immediately believe. If he had really believed, then he would have never tried to pull off the stunt that resulted in Ishmael being born. Thank God, eventually Abraham became "fully persuaded" and the promised child manifested!

It is not enough to just "attend" meetings and seminars anymore. We must give diligence to the truths we hear, so that we also can become fully persuaded about what we have heard. When we really believe, not only will we have the strength to DO, but what we do will be backed by the power of God!

Noisy Footsteps

Once you believe a truth from God's Word and act accordingly, your actions become "noisy" in the realm of the spirit. You may not be trying to make "a big show" outwardly, but because you really believe in what you are doing, there will be tremendous impact!

C. Those Who Believe REST.

For we who have believed do enter that rest... — Hebrews 4:3

Question: How do you know when you really believe?
Answer: You will REST!

- ❖ When you believe, you don't worry anymore.
- ❖ When you believe, you stop trying to "figure out" how things are going to happen.

For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. — Hebrews 4:10

When you really believe and enter into rest, you can "cease from your own works" and allow the Lord to bring a performance of His promise. Once you believe, there is nothing left for you to DO except to OBEY whatever instructions He gives you.

D. LABOR to Rest.

Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. — Hebrews 4:11, KJV

Should I Labor or Should I Rest?

*It sounds like a contradiction, that we should "labor to enter into rest."
Should I labor? Or should I rest?*

But once you understand the "rest" the Bible is referring to, it all becomes so clear. This "rest" is that which results from truly believing.

So, in effect, the Bible is telling us to LABOR TO BELIEVE.

This is precisely what we have been outlining in the above points.

Believing is something we are to DO.

Believing is something we must actively pursue.

*Bible-based believing is really the end result of diligence
and labor in the Word of God.*

E. How to Strengthen What You Believe

There is more to "believing" than just clinching your fist with grit and determination, and saying, "I believe! I believe!" **Bible-based believing is really the end result of certain processes.**

The following will help strengthen what you believe in any given area:

1. Listen to certain preaching CD's and messages that pertain to what you want to believe.
2. Sit under anointed bible preaching and teaching.
3. Study and meditate on scriptures that reinforce what you want to believe.
4. Confess and declare God's promises with your mouth.
5. Associate with those who already believe the truths that you want to believe.

F. Faith for All Areas of Life

Many people fail to understand that we receive in this life, not just according to the will of God, but according to that portion of His will (Word) that we actually BELIEVE. That's why it is so important to develop what we believe in all areas of life (family, finances, health, etc.).

Faith Comes by Hearing

*"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
(Romans 10:17)*

Faith comes by hearing God's Word, NOT BY TESTS AND TRIALS. Many believe that God sends or allows tests and trials to build our faith and make us stronger, but that's unscriptural. FAITH COMES BY HEARING.

The devil is the one who brings tests and trials with one objective in mind—to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10; Mark 4:17).

The Lord is the one who gives you the Word to give you the victory! God and the devil are not teammates. They are not working together.

Your prosperity will be hindered if you somehow think God is involved in setting up tests and trials to make you a stronger Christian. This kind of thinking will cause you to "cave in" when you should be "standing strong."

No! God didn't have to set up any special trouble just for you.

There was already plenty of hell on earth as a result of:

- Adam's trespass and a fallen world.
- Satan and evil spirits at work.
- People with a free will, many of whom still yield themselves to evil spirits.
- Our own ignorance and wrong choices.

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Faith Comes by Hearing
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God wants you to be an overwhelming conqueror on the earth!
Faith is the victory that overcomes the world, and
FAITH COMES BY HEARING, and hearing by the Word of God!

II TITHING

■ **DEFINITION:** “Tithe”

- Tithe means ten percent (10%).
- Tithing is returning the first 10% of your income and increase to the Lord for His Kingdom purposes.

A. Tithing: BEFORE, DURING, and AFTER the Law

- Before the Law
 - Abraham was a tither (**Genesis 14:18-20**).
 - Jacob was a tither (**Genesis 28:20-22**).
- During the Law (**Leviticus 27:30,32; Malachi 3:10**)
- After the Law (**Hebrew 7:1-8**)

B. Where Should I Give My Tithe?

Question: To whom does the tithe belong?

Answer: To the Lord! The tithe is the Lord's...it is set apart for Him.

*“And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's. It is holy to the Lord.” — **Leviticus 27:30***

The Tithe Is the Lord's

*Who does the tithe belong to? Does the tithe belong to the church,
my pastor, or my denomination?*

*What does the Bible say? Does the Bible say, “The tithe is the church's.”?
Does the Bible say, “The tithe belongs to the pastor.”? No, the Bible says,
“The tithe belongs to the Lord.” It belongs to Him!*

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The Tithe Is the Lord's
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Herein lies the power of the tithe. Although we may give our tithe to our church, pastor, or wherever the Lord directs, we are not giving to man or an institution...we are giving to the Lord! (Hebrews 7:8)

Tithing is our opportunity to RETURN TO THE LORD that which is His, and honor Him as the Source of our increase and every good thing in our lives.

Malachi gives instructions as to where we should bring our tithe:

“Bring all the tithes in to the storehouse, that there may be food in My house...” — Malachi 3:10

Notice the Bible mentions THE STOREHOUSE and FOOD.

- There is an emphasis in the book of Malachi on the tithe being brought to a place where there is “food”. In other words—spiritual feeding!
- For most believers, it seems they would receive the majority of their feeding from **a local church or assembly** because that is where they are fed spiritually— *“THAT THERE MAY BE FOOD IN MY HOUSE”*.
- If you don’t agree with that, no problem! Wherever you bring your tithe, you should be fully persuaded about it.
- **The important thing is that you do tithe!** We may not all agree as to where the tithe should be given, but one thing we should all be able to agree on is this: you should tithe! Bring your tithe to Jesus, your High Priest, in prayer and ask Him where you should put it. As you obey the Lord, I believe you will be blessed!
- Remember, we don’t tithe for man or to try to please man or an institution anyway. Although the tithe we give is a blessing to the church or ministry we give to, **we are the main beneficiaries as we obey the Lord**. We are really the ones who benefit from the tithe.

- God's Church and Kingdom were here a long time before we showed up, and they will continue without our money! But WE may not do as well if we fail to honor the Lord by returning to Him that which the Bible says is His—the tithe.

C. The Tithe: Our Covenant Connector with God

God Is OUR SOURCE

I believe there is great power in the tithe that most have never tapped into yet. Something powerful is released when we tithe because tithing is our OPPORTUNITY to declare the Lord as OUR SOURCE—OUR ONE and ONLY SOURCE.

There are many different channels that the Lord may use to bring provision in our lives, such as:

- *our job and salary*
- *savings and investments*
- *retirement account*
- *relatives working abroad*

We thank God for any of the various channels He may use, BUT THEY ARE NOT THE SOURCE! GOD is the Source!

That's good news! Even if a certain channel runs dry or shuts down, we are not without remedy. We still have The Source! He will open new channels as we trust Him and connect with Him through the tithe.

Will the Real Source Please Stand Up

You can usually identify someone's real source by listening to them talk. If they are always complaining about the limits they experience because of:

- *their boss and low salary*
- *the economy*
- *corrupt leadership*
- *poor church membership*
- *no connections abroad*

they have just revealed who or what they think their real source is.

*When you know God as your true Source,
you know that you cannot be stopped, limited, or contained!
There's nothing left to complain about!*

God Is the Source of Your Church

Pastors: the people, your partners, your connections abroad, your charm, your ability to write a letter to ask somebody for money, and putting pressure on people are not your source.

God is the source of your church! That's why churches also need to tithe. You're missing a golden opportunity if you don't.

Pastors need to capture the tithe, bring it to the Lord, and say to Him, "Lord, these people are not the source of this church. You are our Source! People might come and go. People might give or they might not. Nevertheless, if YOU called me to this church, You're my Source. You'll provide for the vision You put in my heart."

Everyone Has the Tithe

The beautiful thing about the tithe is this—everybody has it!

The tithe is 10%.

So whether you only have P100 or P100,000, we all have 10%!

Tithing is not an issue of "have or have not".

Tithing is an issue of obedience and priority.

God's Gift to You

I like to look at the tithe as God's gift to me.

You might be thinking, "Does that mean I can keep it and spend it on myself?" No, that's not what I mean. Please let me explain.

The tithe is God's gift to us. Everyone has it!

God gave it to us, so that we can "capture it" before we do anything else with it and return it to Him—the rightful owner.

As we do, our heart begins to connect with Him as our Covenant Provider and Source. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21).

When the world is experiencing turbulent economic times is not the time to withhold the tithe. That's the time you definitely want your heart connected with the Lord as YOUR SOURCE!

1. Jacob proclaims God as his Source through the tithe.

Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me, and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, so that I come back to my father’s house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God. And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God’s house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You.” — Genesis 28:20-22

2. Abraham recognized God as his Source through the tithe.

Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. And he blessed him and said: “Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand.” And he gave him a tithe of all. — Genesis 14:18-20

Notice the role of Melchizedek, the high priest: He received Abraham’s tithe and blessed him (empowered him!).

“...but he whose genealogy is not derived from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.” — Hebrews 7:6

God Is Our Exceedingly Great Reward

The Lord had just brought Abraham and his trained servants through a military conquest and rescue mission of Abraham’s nephew, Lot, where they faced insurmountable odds and were greatly outnumbered!

It was at this point that Abraham seized the opportunity to recognize God as The Source of his victory through giving the tithe. Not only that, he also went so far as to turn down most of the war spoils in the event that a heathen king would get the credit of making him rich.

What was God’s response?

*“Do not be afraid Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.”
(Genesis 15:1)*

*In short, I believe the Lord was saying,
“If you stand with Me...proclaim Me as your Source...bring the tithe to Me;
then there is no reason to be afraid because indeed,
as you have proclaimed Me to be—
I AM YOUR SHIELD. I AM YOUR EXCEEDINGLY GREAT REWARD!”*

***God takes care of us! God takes care of His own!
And our tithe is our declaration of that!***

***When you understand the power of the tithe, you don't want anyone
else to get the credit for making you rich, except God!***

3. Jesus is our High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

He has become the chief priest forever in the way Melchizedek was a priest. — Hebrews 6:20, GOD'S WORD Translation

IN THE SAME WAY Melchizedek received Abraham's tithe and blessed him, even so Jesus, our great High Priest does the same for us—the seed of Abraham. He receives our tithe and empowers us to prosper!

❖ Tithing is part of ACTIVATING your Covenant of prosperity.

D. Benefits of the Tither

“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,” says the Lord of hosts; and all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land,” says the Lord of hosts. — Malachi 3: 10-12

- **God will open the windows of heaven for you and pour out His Blessing.** “...I will...open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.” (v. 10)
- **The devourer (Satan—the thief!) is rebuked when you tithe.** “And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field...” (v. 11)

- **Your life will be perpetually fruitful.** *“Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field.”* (v. 11)
 - **You will be a delightful land.** *“...And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land...”* (v. 11)
- ❖ As we tithe, the Lord will open for us jobs, opportunities, favorable situations—things that could come no other way but by the hand of God!

E. “Tithing” the Tithe

As we have mentioned previously, THE TITHE is the first 10% of all your increase. TITHING the tithe is the process and practice by which we release our tithe to the Lord.

Tithing the Tithe

*Don't just drop your money in an offering bucket
as if you are merely doing some religious duty.*

*You can give it that way if you desire,
and perhaps the pastor will still be happy to receive your money.
But you will be missing the real power of the tithe.*

*I believe that many just tithe “mechanically” and have yet to realize
the full benefit of what they are really partaking of.*

*The power of the tithe is something to be rehearsed before the Lord
as you bring it before Him in worship and praise (Deuteronomy 26).*

*It is your opportunity to SAY SOMETHING about what you believe.
It is your opportunity to proclaim God as your Source.*

*Tithing is the time to remind the Lord of His promises
and to also remind the devil that he is rebuked
and has no place in your life's affairs.*

*Tithing is a celebration of your Covenant Provider and
His faithfulness and perpetual victory in your life!*

Your Money...Your Mouth...and Your Heart

*If you want your tithe to become more effective for you,
three things must be involved:*

- *Your money and substance (bringing 10% of your increase)*
- *Your mouth (your declaration of what the tithe means to you)*
- *Your heart (what you believe)*

*It's one thing to do something.
It's an entirely different thing when you really believe in what you are
doing and release your faith with the words of your mouth.*

*I believe you will find new joy and power being released in your life
as you learn to incorporate these things into your tithing practice.*

III GIVING

A. Giving Will Cause You to Increase.

*There is one who scatters, yet increases more;
And there is one who withholds more than is right,
But it leads to poverty.
The generous soul will be made rich,
And he who waters will also be watered himself. — Proverbs 11:24-25*

The Power of Giving

*One way we can increase is by scattering different seeds.
Scatter seeds of the Word of God. Scatter financial and material seeds.
Be a generous soul!
As you continue to scatter seeds, you will become rich.
"The generous soul will be made rich and he who waters
will be watered himself." (v. 25)*

The Right Way and Wrong Way to Give

There is a right way and a wrong way to give. Your giving can be wrong if it's not in line with the Scripture.

In the Bible, a major emphasis of 2 Corinthians chapters 8 and 9 is the subject of GIVING. The Scripture teaches us how to “abound” in the grace of giving. Below are specific instructions from God’s Word on how to give:

- **Give with a WILLING HEART.**

For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

— 2 Corinthians 8:3-4

For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have.

— 2 Corinthians 8:12

Now concerning the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you; for I know your willingness...

— 2 Corinthians 9:1-2

❖ Your giving is not acceptable to the Lord without a willing heart and mind.

- **Give as YOU PURPOSE and decide.**

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

— 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV

❖ It is not someone else’s job to tell you what or how much to give in an offering. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you! (**Romans 8:14**)

- **Don’t give under pressure.**

“And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure.”

— 2 Corinthians 9:7, NLT

- **Give CHEERFULLY.**

...for God loves a cheerful giver. — 2 Corinthians 9:7

❖ A willing heart is a cheerful heart!

- **DEFINITION:** “Offering”

- An offering is something we “offer” to God.
- God does not have to accept our “offer”, but He gives us conditions in His Word which make our offerings acceptable (**2 Corinthians 9:6-9**).

If you are not a willing and a cheerful giver, you can become one!

***Spend time reading and meditating on the scriptures about giving.
Pray about what the Lord would have you to give.***

***Then, bring your offering with strength,
with faith, and with joy!***

Giving Is a Great Privilege

For your giving to work for you, you have to WORK OUT your unwillingness. Go to the Word, and go before God.

Stir yourself up until you get happy and excited about your giving!

Something that will make you happy about your giving is when you think about the OPPORTUNITY that is set before you.

By investing in a ministry that's preaching the Word or winning and reaching out to the lost, you become a PARTAKER OF THE FRUIT that comes in as a result of that ministry—eternal fruit! (Philippians 4:17).

It is an HONOR and to your BENEFIT to invest in the Kingdom.

*You want to go into eternity with an abundant entrance,
having lived a life rich toward God.*

B. Increasing through Seedtime and Harvest

*“While the earth remains,
Seedtime and harvest,
Cold and heat,
Winter and summer,
And day and night
Shall not cease.” — Genesis 8:22*

Good Seed...Good Ground

An important element in the principle of “seedtime and harvest” is making sure your seed is PROPERLY PLANTED.

It is important to sow into good ground!

The ATTITUDE OF YOUR heart largely determines if your seed is a good one.

Willingness and obedience are required!

Equally as important is WHERE you give—the ground you sow your seed into. It is possible to “waste” precious seed by just giving it carelessly or by simply yielding to every need set before you.

Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you in your sowing. He will show you the right time and opportunities for your giving.

Certainly, you don’t want to sow into something you don’t believe in. Put your seed into something that is actively producing and being a blessing to others.

When you sow good seed into good ground, there shall be an increase!

BELIEVE What The Bible Says About Your Giving:

*The generous soul will be made rich,
And he who waters will also be watered himself. — Proverbs 11:25*

*“Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”
— Luke 6:38*

Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days. Give a serving to seven, and also to eight, for you do not know what evil will be on the earth. — Ecclesiastes 11:1

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. — 2 Corinthians 9:6

Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness. — 2 Corinthians 9:10

- ❖ When you sow your seed, don't cry and say, "Goodbye!" Speak to it and say, "GO! Grow! I will see you later!"
- ❖ The seed you sow may exit your hand, but it will never exit your life!
- ❖ The seed you sow are eternal if they come from your heart and are done in faith and obedience to God.

As born-again children of God, we are all givers, because we are born of our Father who is the GREATEST GIVER.

God gives seed to the sower!

Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness. — 2 Corinthians 9:10

- ❖ Good news! If you don't have seed to sow, you can ask the Lord, and He will supply you with seed. Anyone can be a sower of seed!

C. Store up for Yourself a Good Foundation.

Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

— 1 Timothy 6:17-19

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Question: | How do we store up a good foundation for the time to come? |
| Answer: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Do good. – Be rich in good works. – Be ready to give. – Be willing to share. |

- ❖ We each have a heavenly account. Some have made more deposits than others!

Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.

— **Philippians 4:17**

D. Scriptural PLACES to Give (Not listed in any particular order)

1. **The poor** (the powerless, the helpless, widows, and fatherless)

*He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord,
And He will pay back what he has given. — Proverbs 19:17*

*Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this:
To visit orphans and widows in their trouble... — James 1:27*

2. **Churches and ministries** that are teaching/preaching the Word of God or winning souls (**Malachi 3:8-10**).

Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. — Philippians 4:15-16

3. **Pastors and Ministers** (**1 Timothy 5:18**)

Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. — Galatians 6:6

- ❖ Don't withhold from your pastor. You want him well taken care of and blessed!

4. **Brothers and sisters in Christ** (**1 John 4:17**)

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith. — Galatians 6:10

- ❖ As members of the family of God, we have a responsibility to take care of our own!

5. **Israel**

For if the Gentiles have been partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister to them in material things. — Romans 15:27

- ❖ Be on the lookout to bless the land and people of Israel!

E. The Principle of Partnership

“...But as his part is who goes down to the battle, so shall his part be who stays by the supplies; they shall share alike.” — 1 Samuel 30:24

The Same Reward

We learn an important principle here from this verse.

When we “partner” with individuals, ministers, or ministries that are called to “GO” to foreign lands or to carry out special assignments for the Lord, we share together in the rewards.

Through our giving and prayers, we can become partners in any given outreach, project, or Kingdom undertaking.

As we partner faithfully, obeying the Lord and adding our supply, we partake of the same eternal rewards as if we went ourselves!

Are You a Go-er or a Sender? Or Both?

*“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”
(Mark 16:15)*

*As Christians and as the seed of Abraham, we are all called to “go into all the world and preach the gospel.”
Some are specifically called to go to other nations to expand the Kingdom, while others are called to “stay by the supplies.”
But whether you are called to travel and live in a foreign land or whether you are called to stay right where you are, we are all to be involved in the propagation of the gospel.*

We can actually “go” by helping to “send” those who are called, appointed, and anointed to go. Thank God! We can SEND THEM with our faith, our finances, and our prayers! By being a sender, we are fulfilling a certain part of our calling to “go” even though we may be stationed in our homeland.

*We all need to find out, “Am I a go-er or a sender, or perhaps both?”
But either way, we are all to be involved in the work of
God’s Eternal Kingdom!*

IV FAITHFULNESS

“A faithful man will abound with many blessings” — Proverbs 28:20

◆ **A faithful man will abound with many blessings.**

1. We need to get busy finding out what God has called us to do and be faithful with it.
2. Be faithful in tithing and giving.
3. The mark of faithfulness: the church in Philippi gave to Paul ONCE AND AGAIN (**Philippians 4:16**).

Whatever God has called you to do; wherever He stations you in life; whatever your assignment is, BE FAITHFUL with it because THE FAITHFUL WILL PROSPER.

V OBEDIENCE

A. Obey the Written Word of God.

B. Obey the PROMPTINGS and LEADINGS of the Holy Spirit.

- ❖ As the Holy Spirit prompts you to give, then give.
- ❖ If He leads you to go a certain direction, then go.

C. There Are Blessings that Will Come into Your Life NO OTHER WAY than by Being Obedient.

“If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.”

— **Isaiah 1:19**

- ❖ It is not enough to be obedient. You must also be willing.

*“If they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures.” — **Job 36:11***

***You may not be the sharpest person in the world...you may not be the most talented...you may not be the best-looking...
you may not have the richest family in the world;
BUT YOU CAN OBEY GOD.
As you hear what God says and do it, you will prosper!***

- ❖ Abraham was quick to obey. As Covenant people, we need to cultivate a lifestyle of being quick to obey God.

VI SAYING

A. Death and Life Are in the Power of the Tongue.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue... — Proverbs 18:21

The Lord told the people of Israel, “Your words have been harsh against Me...” (Malachi 3:13).

It really matters what you say!

*We can no longer talk poverty talk:
“Well, I can’t afford that.” “Where will we get the money?”
“No money!” “No jobs!” “Corrupt government!”*

We have to stop that kind of unbelieving speech because of the spiritual reality that we are snared by the words of our mouth (Proverbs 6:2).

Oftentimes, people’s biggest problem is the hole right beneath their nose—it’s called the mouth!

Do you have a tongue? Then you have power! It’s just a matter of which way you want to release that power.

*Do yourself a favor—
don’t make the mistake of doing all these things: tithe and sow;
give and obey; and then curse yourself with your words.
Don’t curse your life!*

B. The Tongue Is Like a Bit for the Horse, and Like the Rudder on a Ship.

“Indeed, we put bits in horses’ mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires.” — James 3:3-4

- Your tongue and the words you speak will cause your life to go one way or the other.

Speak the Word Only

Speak the Word of God no matter how you feel. The Lord did us a great favor when He poured out the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. The part of man that was impacted the most was his tongue. God knew man needed help to control this deadly thing.

So, even when the pressure is strong...when you feel like it's not working...when you feel like speaking doubt and unbelief...when you feel like complaining...make up your mind to speak the Word of God only. Speak in tongues instead.

Don't Ruin Your Breakthrough!

Sometimes people are on the brink of a breakthrough and they ruin it with their mouth when the enemy puts pressure on them through circumstances.

*Determine in your life that...“No matter what I see or feel,
I'm going to cultivate a lifestyle—
I ONLY SPEAK WHAT GOD SAYS.”*

Do not undo your prosperity with your mouth!

VII DILIGENCE

...the hand of the diligent makes one rich. — Proverbs 10:4

The hand of the diligent will rule... — Proverbs 12:24

...the soul of the diligent shall be made rich. — Proverbs 13:4

A. Be Diligent to Know the State of Your Finances.

*Be diligent to know the state of your flocks;
And attend to your herds... — Proverbs 27:23*

- ❖ In the day we live, we may not have flocks and herds, but we have income, investments, businesses, accounts—things we have to keep up with and attend to with diligence.

■ **DEFINITION:** “Diligence”

- EARNEST and PERSISTENT APPLICATION to an undertaking
- STEADY EFFORT
- ATTENTIVE CARE

- ❖ Diligence means we give attention to things.

***Don't fall asleep on the job!
Don't be negligent with your finances. Stay on top of things!***

- ❖ Because we live in a fallen world, things naturally tend toward “disorder” if we stand by and do nothing.

I went by the field of the lazy man, and by the vineyard of the man devoid of understanding; and there it was, all overgrown with thorns; its surface was covered with nettles; Its stone wall was broken down. When I saw it, I considered it well; I looked on it and received instruction: A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest; so shall your poverty come like a prowler, and your need like an armed man.

— Proverbs 24:30-34

B. Areas of Diligence in Finances:

1. Tithe

- Track your income. Know how much came in.
- Have a system in place to “capture” the tithe.
- Take the first ten percent (10%) or more as you purpose in your heart, right off the top.
 - Put it in a GIVING ACCOUNT or envelope.
 - Call it a “GOD ACCOUNT” because it’s His money.

2. Sow

- It is easy to let months go by and not be aggressive in your sowing.
- It takes diligence to sow regularly and faithfully.

3. Save

- The Bible says God will command His blessings on our storehouses (Deuteronomy 28:8).
- God wants us to have storehouses, meaning savings accounts.
- Diligence is required in order to take a certain percentage of your income and regularly put it in a savings account.
- If you don't have money to open a savings account, start a SAVINGS ENVELOPE.

4. Spend

- Be diligent to track your spending, so you can give proper attention to your sowing.
- Sometimes you need to cut back on your spending—not because God is making you cut back, but because you want to prioritize the Kingdom with your finances.
- Take inventory of where your money is going.

The early days of your prosperity are often the most critical days. These are the days you often have so little; therefore, these are also days when your need to sow and give is so great.

5. Invest

- The Holy Spirit will lead you into good investments.
- Begin by saving, so that when it is time to invest you have something to invest.

From the Author

I believe you have in your hands the TOOLS you need to GO TO THE NEXT LEVEL in the prosperity and increase that God has called you to. Be a DOER OF THE WORD and not a hearer only, and you will be blessed in your deeds!

God bless you!

APPENDIX A

PRAYER TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

*But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem...—Acts 1:8*

The moment you receive Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to dwell **within** you. As a born again believer, you have become the temple or dwelling place of God's Spirit. But there is more of the Holy Spirit that God wants you to experience!

The promise of the Spirit was given to empower us to walk in the pathway of prosperity that God has prepared for us. The Holy Spirit is God's gift to us, so that we can enter into all the fullness of God! All the believer must do is to receive this gift. This experience is called the baptism of the Holy Spirit or the Holy Spirit coming **upon** us.

If you want to experience the fullness of life that God intended for you to have with the benefit of praying in tongues, pray this simple prayer from your heart:

“Heavenly Father, I come to You in the name of Jesus. Your Word says that you will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask you. I ask you now to fill me with Your Holy Spirit. I want to experience Your fullness in my life!

I release my faith to expect to speak with other tongues as the Holy Spirit will give me the utterance. I thank You Father, for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the ability to speak with other tongues. In Jesus' name. Amen!”

Begin to thank Him now for filling you with His Holy Spirit. Yield yourself to Him. Speak the words—not in your own language—but in a language the Holy Spirit gives you. It is you who will do the speaking, not the Holy Spirit!

Praise the Lord daily for this wonderful gift of being able to communicate with Him spirit to Spirit!

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from your local bookstore.

If you have enjoyed this book,
or if it has made an impact on your life,
we would like to hear from you.

Please send your comments to:

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In this book you will discover that as a child of God you have a Covenant right to *increase* and *abundance*. Through Jesus Christ, you are free from the curse of poverty and lack. Now "the Blessing of Abraham" is upon your life and you are empowered by God to prosper.

But beyond your *right* to wealth, is an even greater *responsibility* to increase. The increase and prosperity that God has ordained for you is not just about you and your family. It's for you to go and be a blessing to all the families of the earth.

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