

Opening: In Christ we were called to receive and to walk in the blessing of the Lord. We often say, “I’m blessed”, but what does the blessing of the Lord mean, what does it entail? Do you have a part to play in being blessed? God’s wants you blessed so you may be a blessing.

1. In Christ you were called into the blessing of God once reserved only for Israel.

- a. **Ephesians 2:12-13** remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. **13But now in Christ Jesus** you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.
- b. God tells the blessings available to the children of Israel in the Old-Testament are now available to the Church in Jesus Christ. Furthermore, they are attached to Christ and His obedience to the Father.
- c. What does this mean? Walking in God’s blessing is about positioning and not perfection. Jesus dealt with the perfection; our part is to position ourselves in Christ.
- d. **Galatians 3:13-14** **13Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. For it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.” 14He redeemed us in order that the blessing promised to Abraham would come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.**
- e. This truth turns the world upside down. God has promised to the Christ follower, that He would indeed give them the following blessings just as He did with Israel and even on a greater level.

2. The wonderful blessings for the child of God

- a. **Peace: Proverbs 16:7** When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. **“Jesus said, my peace I give to you” John 14:27**

1. The peace God provides to us is even superior to the Old Testament peace, not only will Christ give us peace with our enemies but He has given us internal peace even when our world is unstable or full of calamities. Conflicts will arise but peace is our position in Jesus.
- b. **Protection: 2nd Thessalonians 3:3** **2 But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard (protect) you against the evil one.**
 1. **Isaiah 54:17** **17 no weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me," declares the Lord.**
 2. **John 10:28-30** **28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are one."**
 3. The protection Jesus offers is to secure your eternity, and to guard your soul for Heaven. In this life we will have trials, but God will protect His people. In Christ every trial has a purpose, your enemy does not have free will to do whatever he chooses in your life.
- c. **Prosperity: Deuteronomy 8:18** **17**You might say in your heart, "The power and strength of my hands have made this wealth for me."
18But remember that it is the LORD your God who gives **you the power to gain wealth**, in order to confirm His covenant that He swore to your fathers even to this day.
 1. **2 Corinthians 9:8:** And God will **generously provide** all you need.
 2. **Philippians 4:19** And this same God who takes care of me will supply **all your needs from his glorious riches**, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.
 3. **Key Point:** Is the Christians aim to amass wealth? No, our goal is to be fruitful for Jesus and money is a resource that we use like a tool to accomplish Kingdom principles.

4. Life Lesson: Biblical prosperity is not in the accumulation of wealth but in its distribution for the glory of Christ.

d. **Presence: John 14:16-17** 16And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate to be with you forever— 17the Spirit of truth. The world cannot receive Him because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. **But you do know Him**, for He abides with you and will **be in you**.

1. John 14:18 Jesus Speaking “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.”

2. God’s presence in our lives adds joy, hope and meaning. Without His presence this world can seem cold, fake, and empty. Practice His presence, start by beginning each day in prayer and finishing each day in prayer.

3. Sadly, it is possible as a believer of Jesus not to enter into His presence, enjoy His presence and rest in His presence. Don’t let your enemy rob God’s presence in your life. How?

a. Be quick to repent when the Holy Spirit convicts you, its okay to fall, its not okay to stay down.

b. Make God the most important relationship by which every decision is measured by how it will affect that relationship. Will God be pleased by your choices?

c. Focus on Christ’s love for you and do not worry about what you cannot control.

d. Remember God wants you to be with Him and has made provision for you to enter His presence.

e. Lastly, do what you don’t want to do and don’t allow your flesh to lead.

e. **Purpose:** The closer you get into Jesus the closer you will be to your full purpose. It is God’s desire and ability that will deliver you from lifeless work and pursuits that don’t utilize your full potential.

1. Proverbs 19:21 “**Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails**” (Proverbs 19:21)

2. **John 15:16 You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.**
 3. In Christ you have an APPOINTMENT with your Purpose, don't miss your appointment. Your appointment is your God given assignment, your mission, your victory, your legacy, the work you were made for that you will come alive by doing.
- f. **Power:** Biblical power is best understood as authority to do what should be done. God will give you power to accomplish His will and desire in the earth. The Holy Spirit will grant you the upper hand. God's kingdom is not one of weakness, but of Power and demonstrations of His authority over all other authorities.
1. **Isaiah 50:2 Why was no one there when I came? Why didn't anyone answer when I called? Is it because I have no power to rescue? No, that is not the reason! For I can speak to the sea and make it dry up! I can turn rivers into deserts covered with dying fish.**
 2. **Matthew 22:29: Jesus answered, "You are mistaken because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. The Sadducees religious leaders were often blind to God's full ability, and since they didn't believe in God' power to raise the dead or do much of anything they often lead people astray. We too will lead people astray if we preach a gospel that denies the power of God.**
 3. **Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."**
- g. **Prominence:** Importance or famous, simply put you will be known because of your allegiance with Christ. This doesn't mean fame like the world has fame. This prominence is important to God. God gives his faithful people a platform so that the world may see His blessing and return to Him.
1. **Proverbs 10:7 Proverbs 10:7 The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.**

2. Deuteronomy 28:1 “If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth”
3. Isaiah 61:9_Then their offspring will be known among the nations, And their descendants in the midst of the peoples. All who see them will recognize them Because they are the offspring whom the LORD has blessed.

Conclusion: Allow God to paint the picture of His blessed life for you. Tear down the expectations for less and believe the good news. God is not just offering forgiveness, but He is offering promotion, not a handout but a hand up to become who you were meant to be!