

The Power of the Blessing Part 3

The Lord made a promise to Abraham in

Genesis 12

1 The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

2

“I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.

3

I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you.”

- notice something about what the Lord said here...
- He said, I will make you into a great nation.
- He said, I will make your name great...
- I will bless those who bless you and I will curse those who curse you...

- What’s contingent upon this: The Lord said, If you will obey me and “Go from your own country and your own people and your own father’s household to the land I will show you.”

- This was the Word of the Lord for Abraham...
- The blessing of the Lord was promised to Abraham, if he obeyed....
- Abraham is remembered for one major thing; He believed God...
- Abraham is known as the father of the faith...
- Abraham obeyed God and God blessed him...

When it comes to the blessing of God and an obedient, surrendered servant. There is no better example than Jesus...

It says in

Philippians 2:5-11

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6

Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

7

rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

8

And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

9

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

10

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11

and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

- Jesus was surrendered to the will of the Father...
- Jesus made himself nothing and took on the nature of a Servant...
- Jesus humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place...

When Satan tempted Jesus it was a similar objective but with an opposite approach.

Matthew 4

8 Again, the devil took (Jesus) to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **9** “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’ ”

- Satan’s alternative was to abandon the will of God...
- Abandon the Cross...
- Abandon being God’s humble servant...
- Take the short cut, bow down and worship the devil and acquire greatness the Devil’s way instead of God’s way...
- Satan will always offer a counterfeit to the blessing of God, but it really is a curse...

This is the difference between walking in obedience to God that leads to the Power of the Blessing of God and walking in rebellious to God and leads to a curse.

Remember what the Lord said to King Saul...

1 Samuel 15:23

For rebellion *is* as the sin of witchcraft,
And stubbornness *is* as iniquity and idolatry.

Abraham experienced the blessing of the Lord...
Saul suffered a tormenting spirit...

When God looked at Abraham he saw Faith and Obedience...
When God looked at Saul he saw Rebellion and Witchcraft...

Galatians 5

16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. **17** For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh.

19 The **acts of the flesh** are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; **20** idolatry and **witchcraft**;

The NKJV uses the word sorcery

Another translation uses the word spiritism (encouraging the activity of demons)

...hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions **21** and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But **the fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. **24** Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

“Witchcraft is the attempt to control people and make them do what you want, by the use of any spirit, which is not the Holy Spirit.” *Derrick Prince*

“If any person that has a spirit which he or she uses; it is not the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit is God and no one uses God” *Derrick Prince*

God cannot be Manipulated...

Proverbs 16:2

All the ways of a man are clean in his own sight,
But the Lord weighs the motives.

**You don't have to be a witch to operate in a spirit of witchcraft...
A Person can call themselves a Christian and operate in as spirit
of witchcraft...**

**Anyone who allows their carnal nature to have it's way will
instinctually...**

3 Indicators you could be dealing with a spirit of Witchcraft:

1. Manipulation
2. Intimidation
3. Domination

For the purpose of control

Acts 8

9 Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great, **10** and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention and exclaimed, "This man is rightly called the Great Power of God." **11** They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his sorcery. **12** But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. **13** Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.

14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. **15** When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive

the Holy Spirit, **16** because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **17** Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

18 When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money **19** and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

20 Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! **21** You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God.

22 Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord in the hope that he may forgive you for having such a thought in your heart. **23** For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin."

- **The Holy Spirit cannot be bought...**
- **Simon might have thought this was something like what he did in his previous life as a sorcerer, but the Holy Spirit is the Holy Spirit of God...**
- **He is not moved by money...**
- **He is not moved by flattery...**
- **He can not be manipulated in any way...**
- **He is Holy...**

The Holy Spirit is greatly needed when dealing with a spirit of witchcraft...

After the city believed in Jesus and the influence of witchcraft had been confronted, there was a need for the infilling of the Holy Spirit...

Story: God filled me, to give me power to be a witness to my friend.

And to let me know that “greater is he that is in me than he that is in the world.”