



Mt. Olive Bible Study

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

TAKING
GOD
AT HIS
WORD

*God Gives
Principles
Designed For Us
To Prosper*

Tonight, In Genesis 26....We Will Focus On.....

**TAKING
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Prayer

Promises

Position

Principles

Problems

Perseverance

Purpose

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Introduction

As Christians, We Have To BELIEVE
That God Desires For Us TO PROSPER...

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

11 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..."

Deuteronomy 29:9 (NKJV)

9 Therefore keep the words of this covenant, and do them,
THAT YOU MAY PROSPER IN ALL THAT YOU DO.

Joshua 1:8 (NKJV)

8 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.

3 John 1:2 (NKJV)

2 Beloved, I PRAY THAT YOU MAY PROSPER IN ALL THINGS
and be in health, JUST AS YOUR SOUL PROSPERS.

In Genesis 26, Isaac shares with us some PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES
That are VITAL TO PROSPERING...

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Prayers That Leads To Prosperity

Genesis 26:1-4 (NIV)

1 NOW THERE WAS A FAMINE IN THE LAND--besides the earlier famine of Abraham's time--and Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines in Gerar.

*2 THE LORD APPEARED TO ISAAC AND SAID, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land **where I tell you to live**. 3 Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham. 4 I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed...*

Instead Of Complaining About The Crisis ~ Communicate With The Lord

Before There Is Increase ~ He Receives Divine Instructions

Proverbs 8:33 (NLT)

33 LISTEN to my instruction and be wise. Don't ignore it.

Jeremiah 33:3 (NKJV)

3 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and SHOW YOU great and mighty things, WHICH YOU DO NOT KNOW.'

Could It Be That You Are Not Prospering, Because Your Prayer Line Is...

REQUEST ONLY Instead of RECEIVING INSTRUCTIONS

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Prayers That Leads To Prosperity

Genesis 26:1-4 (NIV)

- 1 NOW THERE WAS A FAMINE IN THE LAND--besides the earlier famine of Abraham's time--and Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines in Gerar.*
- 2 THE LORD APPEARED TO ISAAC AND SAID, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live. 3 Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you.*

Notice The Divine Instructions

*Live In The Land Where I Tell You ~ This Will Be A Faith Journey
Faith Comes By Hearing and Hearing By The Word Of God...*

Trust God Even When You Don't Have All The Details

"Stay In THIS LAND for a while"

1 Kings 17:2-4 (NKJV)

- 2 Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying,*
- 3 "Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. 4 And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you THERE."*

Genesis 12:1-2 (NKJV)

- 1 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.*
- 2 I will make you a great nation; I WILL BLESS YOU And make your name great;*

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Promises Needed To Prosper

Genesis 26:3-4 (NIV)

- 3 *Stay in this land for a while,*
and *I will be with you and will bless you.* For to you and your descendants
I will give all these lands and *will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham.*
- 4 *I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky* and *will give them*
all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed...

Notice The Multitude Of Promises

I Will Be With You {Presence}

I Will Bless You {Provisions}

I Will Give All These Lands {Property}

I Will Confirm The Oath I Swore To Your Father Abraham {Previous Promise}

I Will Bless Your Descendants {Perpetual Promise}

You Will Never Receive The Promises Without Spending Time In Prayer

The Promises Give You The Power To Behave In What You Believe

Romans 4:20-21 (NLT)

20 Abraham *never wavered in believing God's promise.* In fact,
his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God.

21 *He was fully convinced that GOD IS ABLE TO DO WHATEVER HE PROMISES.*

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Position To Prosper

Genesis 26:3, 6 (NIV)

3 Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you.

6 SO ISAAC DWELT IN GERAR.

***OBEDIENCE** To God's Instructions Brings **OPPORTUNITIES**
Many People Miss The Opportunity*

*In the Place Where There Is **LACK...** That's The Place Where You **PROSPER**
Your **FAITH** Can **PROSPER** In The Midst Of **A FAMINE***

*You Must Believe **The Promise Is Greater** Than **The Problems In The Place***

Biblical Examples

Genesis 12:10 (NLT)

*10 At that time a severe famine struck the land of Canaan,
forcing Abram to **GO DOWN TO EGYPT**, where he lived as **a foreigner**.*

Genesis 13:1-2 (NLT)

*1 So Abram left Egypt and traveled north into the Negev, along with his wife and Lot
and **all that they owned**. 2 (Abram was **VERY RICH** in livestock, silver, and gold.)*

*You Must Be In **Position To Prosper***

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Principles Needed To Prosper

Genesis 26:12 (NKJV)

12 **THEN** Isaac *sowed in that land,*
and *reaped in the same year a hundredfold;* and the Lord blessed him.

Prayer Gave Him The Instructions ~ Promise Gave Him The Inspiration
Principle Gave Him The Instrument For Increase

The Principle

Genesis 8:22 (NKJV)

22 "While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest shall never cease...

2 Corinthians 9:6 (NIV)

6 *Remember this:* Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and *whoever sows generously will also reap generously.*

He Sowed And Didn't Have To Wait 25 Years For His Harvest

The Same YEAR.... In A Famine

~ God Controls The Harvest ~

You Take Care Of What You Can Control ~ Trust God For The Due Season

If I Get In The Right Place and Practice The Principle ~ He Will Provide

How Did You Prosper In A Famine ~ The Lord Kept His Promise

He Wasn't A Better Farmer/Different Soil ... Just Obeyed Divine Instructions

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Principles Needed To Prosper

Genesis 26:2-6 (NIV)

2 The Lord appeared to Isaac and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live. 3 Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham. 4 I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed,

*There Is Not A Command To Sow.... That Was His Choice
He Made A Choice To Practice The Principle
And God Honored His Word*

I Don't Argue About If It's An Old Testament Law ~ About If I Tithe Off Of Net or Gross

*He Made A Choice About Sowing The Seed
God Chose To Give Him A Harvest*

Mark 10:28-30 (NKJV)

*28 Then Peter began to say to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You."
29 So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, 30 who shall not receive **A HUNDREDFOLD NOW in this time**--houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, **WITH PERSECUTIONS**--and in the age to come, eternal life.*

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Problems Occur As You Prosper

Genesis 26:13-14 (NKJV)

13 The man *began to prosper*, and *continued prospering* until *he became very prosperous*; 14 for he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds and a great number of servants. **SO THE PHILISTINES ENVIED HIM.**

With God's Blessings Comes Battles To Fight

He was Prospering While Others Were Struggling

2 Timothy 3:12 (NLT)

12 Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus *will suffer persecution.*

Don't Think It's Strange!!!

Exodus 1:8-12 (NLT)

8 Eventually, a new king came to power in Egypt who knew nothing about Joseph or what he had done. 9 He said to his people, "Look, the people of Israel now *outnumber us and are stronger than we are.* 10 We must *make a plan to keep them from growing even more.* 11 So the Egyptians made the Israelites their slaves....

**12 BUT THE MORE THE EGYPTIANS OPPRESSED THEM,
THE MORE THE ISRAELITES MULTIPLIED AND SPREAD....**

PERSECUTION CAN'T STOP GOD'S PROMISE

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Problems Occur As You Prosper

Genesis 26:13-16 (NKJV)

- 13 The man *began to prosper*, and *continued prospering* until *he became very prosperous*; 14 for he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds and a great number of servants. *SO THE PHILISTINES ENVIED HIM.*
- 15 Now the Philistines had *stopped up all the wells* which his father's servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father, and *they had filled them with earth.* 16 And Abimelech said to Isaac, "Go away from us, *For you are much mightier than we.*"

What Do You Do When They Stop Up Your Wells?

Remember That The Wells Are A Means for the Blessing.... NOT THE SOURCE

2 Corinthians 9:10 (NIV)

- 10 Now **HE** who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

Ephesians 3:20 (NKJV)

- 20 Now to **HIM** who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

Genesis 22:8 (NKJV)

- 8 And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for **HIMSELF** the lamb for a burnt offering."

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Persevere Through The Problems

Genesis 26:17-22 (NKJV)

17 Then Isaac departed from there and pitched his tent in the Valley of Gerar, and dwelt there. 18 **And Isaac dug again the wells of water** which they had dug in the days of Abraham his father, for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham. He called them by the names which his father had called them.

19 **Also Isaac's servants dug in the valley and found a well of running water there.**

20 But the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, "The water is ours." So he called the name of the well Esek, because they quarreled with him.

21 **Then they dug another well**, and they quarreled over that one also. So he called its name Sitnah. 22 And he moved from there **and dug another well**, and they did not quarrel over it. So he called its name Rehoboth, because he said, "**FOR NOW THE LORD HAS MADE ROOM FOR US, AND WE SHALL BE FRUITFUL IN THE LAND.**"

Isaac Persevered Despite The Problems and Persecution

Galatians 6:9 (NKJV)

9 And let us **not grow weary** while doing good, for in due season **WE SHALL REAP IF WE DO NOT LOSE HEART.**

Faithfulness Will Not Give Up Without A Fight

Ecclesiastes 11:1-2 (NKJV)

1 Cast your bread upon the waters, For you will find it after many days. 2 **Give a serving to seven, and also to eight**, For you do not know what evil will be on the earth.

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Place Of Purpose May Different Then The Place Of Prosperity

Genesis 26:22 (NKJV)

*22 And he moved from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it.
So he called its name Rehoboth, because he said, "FOR NOW THE LORD
HAS MADE ROOM FOR US, AND WE SHALL **BE FRUITFUL IN THE LAND.**"*

The Problems Served Their Purpose

Get Me To The Place Of Purpose

*God Had A Place In Mind For Me To Be
He Used The Opposition To Push Me To My Place of Purpose*

WHAT WAS WRONG WITH THE OTHER PLACES????

First Well ~ Named "Esek" ~ Strife/Contention

Second Well ~ Named "Sitnah" ~ Hatred/Accusations

Final Well ~ Named "Rehoboth" ~ Plenty Room

Proverbs 10:22 (NKJV)

*22 The blessing of the Lord makes one rich,
AND HE ADDS NO SORROW WITH IT.*