

**The Abundant Life Series Session 5 – Living in Hostile Territory**

**John 10:10 (KJV)** – *The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly*

**I. Introduction/Review**

**A. This passage reveals the nature of the enemy in contrast to the nature of God**

**B. Abundant** – something more than – superabundant in quality and quantity – exceeding above – to the fullest measure – very highly beyond measure

**C. Genesis 17:1 (KJV)** – *And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, “**I am the almighty God**”; walk before me, and be thou perfect.*

El Shaddai = the all sufficient one – The God who is more than enough

**D. The Abundance of Grace**

**E. The Abundance of Promises**

**F. The Blessing of Abraham**

**1) Galatians 3:7-14 (NKJV)** – *<sup>7</sup>Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. <sup>8</sup>And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.” <sup>9</sup>So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.” <sup>11</sup>But that no one is <sup>[a]</sup>justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.” <sup>12</sup>Yet the law is not of faith, but “the man who*



*does them shall live by them.”<sup>13</sup>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”),<sup>14</sup>that the **blessing of Abraham** might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*

1. Abraham was blessed in an earth that is cursed (Gen 3)
  - a. The earth was cursed to bring forth thorns and thistles
  - b. The curse was never God’s intention for the human race
  - c. Because man chose sin/transgression/God is just and must judge sin.
  - d. God’s blessing/Covenant, Abraham was blessed in the land that was cursed.
2. We are blessed with Abraham (Gal 3:13)
3. The Blessed life is the Abundant life
4. We can live the abundant/blessed life in an earth that is dominated by the curse.

#### **G. Today = Living the Abundant Life in Hostile Territory**

1. Hostile = relating to the enemy, opposition, resistance  
*Hostile territory means – there is an enemy present – there are opposing forces at work.*
2. We are living in a land where the curse is at work.  
*The curse is hostile – opposes us/ resists us/ works against us.  
The enemy is hostile – Satan promotes the curse –  
Thief/Steals/Kills/Destroys*
3. The Abundant Life in Christ is the Blessed Life/like Abraham, we can live on a planet where the curse is at work and still overcome the opposing forces/BLESSED!

## **II. The Blessing of Abraham Demonstrated in His Seed/Descendants**

### **A. The Blessing of Abraham is carried forth to Israel**

1. **Deuteronomy 28:2 (NKJV)** – *And **all these blessings** shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God*



**2. While Abraham received his blessing by faith and the law declared blessing by works, we still see the blessings proclaimed in Deuteronomy 28 at work in Abraham!**

- a. He was blessed in his body and with long life
- b. His seed was blessed upon the earth
- c. His crops, herds and flocks were blessed
- d. Everything he put his hands to was blessed
- e. Abraham lived the opposite of the curse
- f. He was blessed in all things

**3. The Blessing is the opposite of the Curse**

*We see the descendants of Abraham living in the blessing while surrounded by the curse.*

**4. His Natural Descendants**

**a. Isaac**

**Genesis 25:11 (NKJV)** – *And it came to pass, after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac*

**Genesis 26:12-14 (NKJV)** – <sup>12</sup>*Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the LORD blessed him. <sup>13</sup>The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous; <sup>14</sup>for he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds and a great number of servants. So the Philistines envied him.*

**b. Jacob:** *Jacob was so blessed that Laban said, I realize that I am blessed because you are here. Jacob walked away with Laban's wealth.*

**c. Genesis 30:43 (NKJV)** – *Thus the man became exceedingly prosperous, and had large flocks, female and male servants, and camels and donkeys*



**d. He did so in hostile territory**

*Laban never did right toward Jacob*

*He schemed, lied and cheated him time and time again.*

*The blessing always worked for Jacob*

**B. The Curse Doesn't Work/The Example of Balaam**

**Numbers 22:1-6 (NKJV)** – <sup>1</sup>*Then the children of Israel moved, and camped in the plains of Moab on the side of the Jordan across from Jericho. <sup>2</sup>Now Balak the on of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites. <sup>3</sup>And Moab was exceedingly afraid of the people because they were many, and Moab was sick with dread because of the children of Israel. <sup>4</sup>So Moab said to the elders of Midian, “Now this company will <sup>[a]</sup>lick up everything around us, as an ox licks up the grass of the field.” And Balak the son of Zippor was king of the Moabites at that time. <sup>5</sup>Then he sent messengers to Balaam the son of Beor at Pethor, which is near <sup>[b]</sup>the River in the land of <sup>[c]</sup>the sons of his people, to call him, saying: “Look, a people has come from Egypt. See, they cover the face of the earth, and are settling next to me! <sup>6</sup>Therefore please come at once, curse this people for me, for they are too mighty for me. Perhaps I shall be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land, for I know that he whom you bless is blessed, and he whom you curse is cursed.*

**1. Balak saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites**

*Israel had overtaken and defeated the Amorites and possessed their land.*

**2. Balak actually saw the blessing of the Lord at work for Israel**

a. They were multiplying/Increasing

b. Their herds/flocks were blessed

c. They were overtaking their enemies

**3. (Balak saw this at work) Deuteronomy 6:10-12 (NKJV) – <sup>10</sup>“So it shall**

*be, when the LORD your God brings you into the land of which He <sup>[a]</sup>swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give you large and beautiful cities which you did not build, <sup>11</sup>houses full of all good things, which you did not fill, hewn-out wells which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant—when you*



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*have eaten and are full— <sup>12</sup>then beware, lest you forget the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.*

4. **Balak called for a curse from Balaam**

*Curse = the opposite of the blessing:*

*Failure, defeat, lack, poverty, sickness, anxiety, fear, etc.*

*Deuteronomy 28*

5. **The Curse was making an attempt to come upon God's people**

*Although Christ has redeemed us from the curse – The curse is still at work in the earth and the curse will make every attempt to come upon you! – RESIST – FIGHT the good fight – Armor*

6. **Balaam's first declaration:**

**Numbers 23:7-8 (NKJV)** – <sup>7</sup>And he took up his <sup>[a]</sup>oracle and said “Balak the king of Moab has brought me from Aram, From the mountains of the east. ‘Come, curse Jacob for me, And come, denounce Israel!’ <sup>8</sup>“How shall I curse whom God has not cursed? And how shall I denounce whom the LORD has not denounced?”

7. **Balaam's second declaration:**

**Numbers 23:20 (NKJV)** – Behold, I have received a command to bless; He has blessed, and I cannot reverse it.

8. **Balaam's third declaration:**

**Numbers 24:9b (NKJV)** – Blessed is he who blesses you, And cursed is he who curses you.”

9. **The Curse wouldn't take!**

*Although the enemy was at work trying to bring the curse upon them, the curse couldn't find place to work in the lives of those who were blessed! This was the BLESSING OF ABRAHAM AT WORK in his seed*

10. There was something that was more powerful than the curse

a. The Blessing

b. The reason the curse wouldn't take was because the blessing had taken!

c. Israel was BLESSED/In the blessing/The blessing was upon them!

d. As long as the blessing was working the curse could find no place

e. Give no place to the devil!

f. When the blessing is upon you

1) The curse will still try to attach

2) Satan is always looking for an opportunity

*Like a roaring lion seeking whom He may devour*



- 3) He cannot devour everyone  
g. The Blessing works! The Abundant Life Works!

1) For those who know about it

*Destroyed for the lack of knowledge*

2) For those who place faith in it

*The just shall live by faith*

3) For those who will practice it

*Faith without works is dead*

*Stand against the wiles of the devil*

*Resist the devil/curse*

*Put on the whole armor of God*

4) **The Blessing**

*Provided fish and loaves for 5000*

*Opened prison doors for Paul and Silas*

*Kept Paul alive when stoned* – Lystra

*He rose up in the midst of them and went into the city and the next day departed to Derbe.*

**2 Corinthians 4:8-9 (KJV)** – <sup>8</sup>*We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;*

<sup>9</sup>***Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;***

*Will keep you alive*

*Will see to your provision*