

BIBLICAL PROSPERITY
Session 1 – God's Will for Prosperity

I. The world's definition of PROSPERITY

- A. Merriam Webster – the condition of being successful or thriving
- B. Dictionary.com – a successful, flourishing, thriving condition, especially in financial respects; good fortune
- C. Cambridge English Dictionary –
 - 1) the state of being successful and having a lot of money
 - 2) a situation in which people are successful and have a lot of money

II. The bible definition of PROSPERITY

- A. Scriptures using the term prosper – (Prosper is a bible term)
The Word PROSPER/PROSPEROUS is used 96 times in the KJV
 - 1. The first use of the word PROSPEROUS – when Abraham's servant sought a wife for Isaac
 - Genesis 24:21 (KJV)** – And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not
 - **Prosperous definition** – *to advance, to prosper, to make progress, to succeed, to be profitable*
 - **The Servant prayed for prosperity** – *Genesis 24:12 (KJV)* – *"I pray, send me good speed this day and shew kindness unto my master Abraham.*
 - **This servant expected the Lord to prosper him in his search.**

2. Various other scriptures using the term PROSPER/PROSPEROUS

- Joseph

Genesis 39:2-3 (KJV) – ²And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. ³And his master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

Genesis 39:23 (KJV) – The keeper of the prison looked not to any thing that was under his hand; because the LORD was with him, and that which he did, the LORD made it to prosper.

- The Old Covenant

Deuteronomy 29:9 – Carefully follow the terms of this covenant, so that you may prosper in everything you do.

- *Prosper here refers to gaining insight, wisdom and understanding that will give you success!*

- Joshua

Joshua 1:7-8 (KJV) – ⁷Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper withersoever thou goest. ⁸This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

- *It was God's Will for them to have success*

- *The Old Covenant provided success through complete obedience*

- Solomon

1 Kings 10:7 (KJV) – Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard.

- *Prosperity here is pleasant, good, excellent, rich, valuable, happy, good benefit, good things*
- *Wisdom and prosperity go together*

- Hezekiah

2 Kings 18:7 (KJV) – And the LORD was with him; and he prospered whithersoever he went forth: and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not.

- Nehemiah

Nehemiah 1:11 (KJV) – O LORD, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer

- *Nehemiah – we desire to succeed and prosper*

- Psalms

Psalms 1:1-3 (KJV) – ¹Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. ²But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. ³And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Psalm 35:27 (KJV) – Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.

Psalm 118:25 (KJV) – Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity.

Psalm 118:25 (NIV) – LORD, save us! LORD, grant us success!

- *It's ok to pray for success/ prosperity*

- New Testament Scriptures on prosperity

Romans 1:9-10 (KJV) – ⁹For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers; ¹⁰Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you.

- *Paul prayed for a prosperous and successful journey*

1 Corinthians 16:2 (KJV) – Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

- *Paul indicated that God prospered believers financially to be able to give in offerings*

3 John 1:2 (KJV) – Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

- *John writes that believers should prosper in natural things and spiritual things.*

- *Prosper here is to – have success – be successful – succeed.*