

**Biblical Prosperity**  
**Session Seven – Hindrances to Prosperity**

**I. Review**

- A. **Genesis 12:2 (NIV)** – “...I will bless you.... and you shall be a blessing”
- B. God provides bread for food – something for us
- C. God provides seed to sow – something for others
- D. Poverty is a curse
- E. Prosperity and the Ministry of Jesus
- F. The Giving Connection to Prosperity

**II. Hindrances and Right Attitudes Toward Prosperity**

- A. While ALL THINGS that we have need of have been provided through our covenant with God, ALL THINGS are not received by all covenant participants.
  - 1. All covenant participants are SAVED or BORN AGAIN
  - 2. While all saved people have partaken of the blessing of salvation, many have failed to receive other benefits in our covenant package.

**Psalms 103:1-5 (KJV)** – Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. <sup>2</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: <sup>3</sup>Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; <sup>4</sup>Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender

mercies; <sup>5</sup>Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

3. Hindrances = the state of being interfered with, held back, or delayed. The slowing or delaying of progress. Hindrances left to themselves will not only delay blessings but in many cases will permanently keep the blessing from manifesting.

## B. Hindrances to Prosperity

### 1. Blindness or Limited Vision

- a. Failure to see who God is and what kind of Father we have
- b. This is usually a result of a traditional church experience rather than a word – based church experience.
- c. Common response – *This is how I was raised – this is just how my family always believed.*
- d. Spiritual blindness will always keep us from our covenant benefits.
- e. The remedy to spiritual blindness is to see things based on the Word of God alone.

**Ephesians 5:17 (KJV)** – Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the LORD is.

**Ephesians 1:18 (KJV)** – The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

- You cannot partake of any blessing that you cannot see as yours.

## 2. Fear

**2 Timothy 1:7 (KJV)** – For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

- a. Fear of not having enough will keep us in bondage to poverty
- b. The spirit of poverty fuels and feeds off fear
- c. Fear will hinder your giving – giving is connected to prosperity
- d. Fear will hinder your accomplishment of dreams and goals
- e. Fear will lead you to trust in yourself rather than trusting God as your source
- f. It is not what we hold on to that protects us from lack, but what we give in obedience to God that declares our trust in Him. *Every time I tithe, I am declaring WHO my trust is in.*
- g. God told Abraham, *“I am your shield, I am your reward... Whenever You trust in me, I will shield you from poverty and lack.*

## 3. Impulsiveness

- a. Impulsive = acting or done without fore-thought
- b. Impulsive actions regarding finances, debt, purchases, etc. have the tendency to empower poverty and delay prosperity

**Proverbs 2:11 (KJV)** – Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:

**YLT – Thoughtfulness will watch over thee**

- c. An impulsive shopper will be tempted to buy on credit.
- d. Debt is bondage and a hindrance to prosperity

**Proverbs 22:7 (KJV)** – The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

- **Servant = slave**

- e. The thing you think you must have today may become the thing you wish to get rid of tomorrow!
- f. Patience – is of God
- g. Pressure – is of the enemy

4. Laziness

- a. Slothful = to slacken, cease, be idle, slow, hesitate, tardy, sluggish, lazy or dull.
- b. God promised to prosper what we set our hand to, not what we sit on!

**Deuteronomy 28:8 (KJV)** – The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

**Psalms 1:3 (KJV)** – And 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.

- c. Laziness starts with an attitude of the heart

**Proverbs 19:15 (KJV)** – Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

- d. The lazy man always has an excuse for not working but his excuses never produce anything.

**Proverbs 20:4 (AMP)** –

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The lazy man does not plow when the winter [planting] season arrives;

So he begs at the [next] harvest and has nothing [to reap].

- e. Jesus' description of the servant who failed to produce results

**Matthew 25:26-27 (NIV)** – <sup>26</sup>"His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup>Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

- f. Overcome laziness/slothfulness with diligence

Greg Mohr Definition of diligence =

*Focused and persistent obedience or effort that is consistent with your strengths, gifts and calling.*

**Proverbs 12:24 (NIV)** – Diligent hands will rule, but laziness ends in forced labor.

## 5. An Ownership Mentality vs Stewardship

- a. It is very important that we realize who owns everything in order for us to be successful in life.

**Psalms 24:1 (KJV)** – The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

**Haggai 2:8 (KJV)** – The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts

- b. According to Genesis 1:26: 2:8, 15, Man's part is to STEWARD (Tend to and keep) what God created and owns.
- c. Each of us is a STEWARD, not an owner, for a brief period of time on this earth.
- d. We are judged as STEWARDS - not owners - on how well we manage the owner's gifts, talents, resources, and time which will determine our eternal rewards.

**1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (NIV)** – <sup>10</sup>By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. <sup>11</sup>For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup>If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, <sup>13</sup>their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. <sup>14</sup>If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup>If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

- e. The right attitude toward finances and material possessions is stewardship.
- f. True stewardship begins with the foundational belief that God is the SOURCE of all that has been entrusted to us.
- g. Abraham saw God as his source, not himself; therefore, he prospered.

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