

**Revelation 3:8 (NKJV)** – *“I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name*

**I. Previous Sessions**

**A. Understanding the Open Door**

**B. Stop Identifying with the Curse**

1. Israel missed their opportunity because they identified more with the curse than the blessing.
2. Many in the Church identify more with the things listed in the curse than they do that which is listed in the blessing.
3. The sharing of our faith becomes effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing that is us in Christ Jesus.
4. I walk through the open door of God’s blessing for my life by acknowledging EVERY GOOD THING that is in me because of Jesus.
5. I identify with the NEW ME – not things relating to the old me.  
*The Blessing – not the curse!*

**II. Always Identify with the Blessing**

**A. Identify Defined**

1. **To think of oneself as associated with a particular person, group, or idea.**
2. **I can identify with those who have overcome cancer/COVID/depression.**

**B. Once I am born again, I must identify with the new me.**

1. **In the Old Testament, God's people had a choice to identify with the blessing or the curse.**

**Deuteronomy 30:19 (NLT)** – *“Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live*

2. **In the New Testament you must choose to identify with the new you.**

- a. **2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)** – *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*
- b. **Colossians 3:9-10 (NKJV)** – *<sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him*
- c. **Ephesians 4:23-24 (NKJV)** – *<sup>23</sup>and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, <sup>24</sup>and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness*
- d. **NOTE:** Notice that in two of these references, the instruction is that you “Put on the new man.” *It isn't automatically done.*
- e. *Grace does away with earning by works – however grace doesn't do away with all effort. We must renew our minds and put on the new person daily.*
- f. Choosing to identify with the new me means I no longer see myself in the curse. *Weak, unable, sickly, unworthy, defeated, impoverished, less than.*
- g. Choosing to identify with the new me means that see myself as God sees me. *Righteous, blessed, able, strong, prosperous, a leader, a winner, an achiever, etc.*
- h. This attitude is not arrogance.
  - 1) *It isn't arrogant to think of yourself in the way God made you.*
  - 2) *Arrogance is to think highly of yourself while forgetting that everything you are, is because of what God did for you.*

**III. The Blessing sets me apart from others.**

*Many in the Church struggle with this.*

**A. We are not all God's children.**

1. **John 8:44 (NKJV)** – *You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it*
2. **Galatians 3:26 (NLT)** – *For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.*
3. **John 1:12 (NLT)** – *But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God*

**B. God always makes a distinction between those who were His and those who were not. This doesn't mean God doesn't love everyone, He does. It does mean that the distinction is made by our choice, not His.**

1. **Distinction means a noticeable difference.**  
*You can tell the difference.*
2. **Scriptures to consider**
  - a. **Exodus 9:3-7 (NLT)** – <sup>3</sup>*the hand of the LORD will strike all your livestock — your horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep, and goats — with a deadly plague. <sup>4</sup>But the LORD will again make a distinction between the livestock of the Israelites and that of the Egyptians. Not a single one of Israel's animals will die! <sup>5</sup>The LORD has already set the time for the plague to begin. He has declared that he will strike the land tomorrow.” <sup>6</sup>And the LORD did just as he had said. The next morning all the livestock of the Egyptians died, but the Israelites didn't lose a single animal. <sup>7</sup>Pharaoh sent his officials to investigate, and they discovered that the Israelites*

*had not lost a single animal! But even so, Pharaoh's heart remained stubborn, and he still refused to let the people go*

- b. **Psalm 91:7-8 (NKJV)** – *<sup>7</sup>A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. <sup>8</sup>Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked*
- c. **Exodus 19:5 (NKJV)** – *Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.*
- d. **Deuteronomy 7:6 (NKJV)** – *“For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth*
- e. **1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV)** – *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light*  
**1 Peter 2:9 (CEV)** – *But you are God's chosen and special people. You are a group of royal priests and a holy nation. God has brought you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Now you must tell all the wonderful things he has done. The Scriptures say.*

### 3. The Kingdom Advantage

*Because I live am a citizen of the Kingdom of God, I have an advantage over the world.*

- a. Joseph – Old Testament Distinction
  - 1) Joseph had favor with a slave master, a prison keeper and Pharaoh.
  - 2) Joseph had an advantage when famine came. He had the wisdom/insight needed from his God to not only sustain himself but all of Egypt.
- b. Israel is given Goshen as their home  
*Joseph and his family acquire Goshen*  
**Genesis 47:1-6 (NLT)** – *<sup>1</sup>Then Joseph went to see Pharaoh and told him, “My father and my brothers have arrived from the land of Canaan. They have come with all their flocks and herds and possessions, and they are now in the region of Goshen.” <sup>2</sup>Joseph took five of his brothers with him and presented them to Pharaoh. <sup>3</sup>And Pharaoh asked the brothers, “What is your occupation?”*

*They replied, “We, your servants, are shepherds, just like our ancestors. <sup>4</sup>We have come to live here in Egypt for a while, for there is no pasture for our flocks in Canaan. The famine is very severe there. So please, we request permission to live in the region of Goshen.” <sup>5</sup>Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Now that your father and brothers have joined you here, <sup>6</sup>choose any place in the entire land of Egypt for them to live. **Give them the best land of Egypt.** Let them live in the region of Goshen. And if any of them have special skills, put them in charge of my livestock, too.”*

*Goshen – The Best Land of Egypt*

*Promotion – Leadership over Pharaoh’s livestock*

c. The Goshen Distinction

1) Goshen is the best.

2) Goshen has divine protection

**Exodus 8:22-23 (NLT)** – <sup>22</sup>*But this time I will spare the region of Goshen, where my people live. No flies will be found there. Then you will know that I am the LORD and that I am present even in the heart of your land. <sup>23</sup>I will make a clear distinction between my people and your people. This miraculous sign will happen tomorrow.’*

3) Goshen had no hail.

*Hail was a crop destroyer.*

**Exodus 9:24-26 (NLT)** – <sup>24</sup>*Never in all the history of Egypt had there been a storm like that, with such devastating hail and continuous lightning. <sup>25</sup>It left all of Egypt in ruins. The hail struck down everything in the open field—people, animals, and plants alike. Even the trees were destroyed. <sup>26</sup>The only place without hail was the region of Goshen, where the people of Israel lived.*

4) Goshen had light.

**Exodus 10:22-23 (NLT)** – <sup>22</sup>*So Moses lifted his hand to the sky, and a deep darkness covered the entire land of Egypt for three days. <sup>23</sup>During all that time the people could not see each other, and no one moved. But there was light as usual where the people of Israel lived.*

d. The Kingdom Advantage in the New Testament

- 1) **Matthew 7: 24-27 (NKJV)** – <sup>24</sup>“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: <sup>25</sup>and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup>“But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: <sup>27</sup>and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”
- 2) **Luke 10:18-19 (NKJV)** – <sup>18</sup>And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. <sup>19</sup>Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.
- 3) **1 Corinthians 15:57 (NKJV)** – But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 4) *Against the Odds, I win!*
- 5) *Victory means I can, I have, and I will overcome the enemy!*
- 6) **1 John 5:4 (NKJV)** – For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith  
**1 John 5:4 (NLT)** – For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith.  
**1 John 5:4 (AMP)** – For everyone born of God is victorious and overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has conquered and overcome the world—our [continuing, persistent] faith [in Jesus the Son of God].

C. We have the kingdom advantage/the Blessing working on our behalf in every area of our life.

1. Our covenant is not less than the Old Testament covenant.
2. Our promises are better.
3. Our advantages are better.

4. We should live in faith for the kingdom advantage to be at work in us every day.
5. We should expect the kingdom advantage us to follow us wherever we go.
6. The kingdom advantage/blessing works only for those who identify with it.
7. Believe for it! Identify with it!