



THE BLESSING: UNDERSTANDING GOD'S WILL FOR PROSPERITY

Session 1: God's Proclaimed Blessing

Pastor Dale Campbell

I. Introduction

A. John, as a leader in the New Testament Church, believed it was God's will for His people to prosper.

1. 3 John 2

- a. **KJV** "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."
- b. **AMP** "Beloved, I pray that in every way you may succeed *and* prosper and be in good health [physically], just as [I know] your soul prospers [spiritually]"
- c. **Literal Standard Version** "Beloved, I desire you to prosper concerning all things, and to be in health, even as your soul prospers."

2. **Pastor's Note:** *John must have believed in total prosperity, or he would not have prayed in this manner.*

He believed that it was God's will for us to prosper in every area of life as well as healing prosperity for our bodies. (Healing and divine health are prosperity for your body).

B. Prosperity is the blessing of God at work in the life of the believer.

1. God blessed mankind at our creation:

- a. **Genesis 1:27-28 NKJV** "So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth'."
 - First – God created mankind
 - Second – God Blessed mankind
 - ***It wasn't enough for God to create us, He needed to BLESS us!***
- b. **Blessed:** *While there are different meanings to the term blessed, a simple definition is "TO BE PROSPERED BY GOD". Whenever a blessing was pronounced, it was the invoking of prosperity in various areas of life.*
- c. **English Definitions:**
 - To bring pleasure, contentment, or good fortune
 - Cambridge definition: Given help and protection by God
 - God's favor and protection



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C. Examples of the blessing and what it means:

1. Abraham

a. **Genesis 12:1-3 NKJV** "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. I will make you a great nation; **I will bless you** And make your name great; And **you shall be a blessing**. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth **shall be blessed**'."

b. What does the blessing look like on Abraham?

- **PROVISION - Genesis 13:1-6 NKJV**

"Then Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, to the South. **Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold**. And he went on his journey from the South as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, to the place of the altar which he had made there at first. And there Abram called on the name of the LORD. Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks and herds and tents. **Now the land was not able to support them, that they might dwell together, for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together**"

- **DIVINE PROTECTION AND REWARD - Genesis 15:1 NKJV**

"After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, 'Do not be afraid, Abram. *I am* your shield, your exceedingly great reward'."

- **Shield** = defense or surrounding cover *hedge of protection*

- **Reward** = wages, pay, passage money → **the Lord is saying: "I'm in control of your wages!"**

c. **Pastor's Note:** *It is interesting enough to point out that just prior to this declaration of blessing, Abraham had just tithed to Melchizedek and made the declaration that His trust and faith was in God alone as his source. When he declared God as his source from his mouth, and acted upon it with his tithe, God declared that He would be his protection and reward. This is the blessing of the tithe as proclaimed in **Mal 3:10**:*

"...'Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,' Says the LORD of hosts"



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d. Genesis 24:1

- **NKJV** "Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things."
- **CEV** "Abraham was now a very old man. The LORD had made him rich, and he was successful in everything he did.
- **Pastor's Note:** *The blessing of Abraham included God's provision and favor working in every area of his life. It included **HIM PROSPERING** in everything he did.*

e. Abraham's blessing connected to us.

Gal 3:13-14 NKJV "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'), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

- **If Abraham's blessing brought abundant provision to him, it will do the same for us.**
- **If Abraham's blessing caused everything he did to be successful and blessed, it will do the same for us.**
- **If Abraham's blessing provided for his wages, God as our source will see that we have the right wages.**
- **If Abraham's blessing was a protective shield for him, it will do the same for us.**

2. Psalm 91: To abide under the shadow of the Almighty is to abide in the blessing of God!

- a. "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.' Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler *And* from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, *And* under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth *shall be your* shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, *Nor* of the arrow *that* flies by day, *Nor* of the pestilence *that* walks in darkness, *Nor* of the destruction *that* lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, *And* ten thousand at your right hand; *But* it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, *And* see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the LORD, *who* is my refuge, *Even* the Most High, your dwelling place, No evil shall befall you, *Nor* shall any plague come near your dwelling; For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the lion and



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the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot. 'Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I *will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation'."

- b. PASTOR'S NOTE:** *Notice the contrast recognized between those that walk in the blessing and those who do not! God's people should believe in the blessing and should not expect the things that happen to unbelievers will happen to them. This is the blessing distinction!*