The Abundant Life Series Session 4 – The Blessing of Abraham

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. <u>Genesis 17:1 (KJV)</u> 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

Grace is the entry point to the abundant life

E. The Abundance of Promises

II. The Blessing of Abraham

A. Galatians 3:7-14 (NKJV) – ⁷Therefore know that only <u>those who are of</u> faith are sons of Abraham. ⁸And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles <u>by faith</u>, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." ⁹So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. ¹⁰For 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." ¹¹But that no one is



^[a] justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith." ¹²Yet the law is not of faith, but "the man who does them shall live by them." ¹³Christ 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"), ¹⁴that the **blessing of Abraham** might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

- 1. There is a blessing and a curse
- 2. Abraham had the privilege of living in the blessing of God
- 3. Those who are saved by faith are the true sons of Abraham and have the privilege of sharing in his blessing VS 9
- 4. What is the blessing of Abraham?If we share the blessing, I want to know what the blessing is.I cannot partake of what I don't know is mine.

B. Understanding the Curse

1. Everyone is born into a world that is dominated by the curse

<u>Genesis 3:17-19 (NKJV)</u> – ¹⁷Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸<u>Both thorns and thistles</u> it shall ^[a]bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. ¹⁹In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return.

- a. The curse included physical death
- b. The curse was upon the earth/ground
- c. Prior to the curse the garden of Eden flourished The ground flourished to bring forth everything freely that the human race could need
- d. After the curse *The ground did not yield freely work/labor required thorns/thistles would work against them.*
- e. Prior to the curse everything was blessed and flourished



- f. After the curse everything was cursed and only yielded through hardship.
- 2. Abraham obtained BLESSING in a land that was dominated by the curse.

C. What is the Blessing of Abraham?

- <u>Genesis 12:1-3 (NKJV)</u> 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. ²I will <u>make you</u> a great nation; <u>I will bless</u> you and <u>make your name great</u>; and <u>you shall be a blessing</u>. ³I will <u>bless those who bless you</u>, and I will curse him who curses you; and <u>in</u> you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.
 - a. I will make you a great nation
 - b. I will bless you!

When God declares <u>"I will BLESS you</u>" it means The declaration of God that empowers someone to succeed The blessing is success in every area of life!

- 1) God is declaring that Abraham is going to succeed in a land that has been cursed
- 2) God is declaring the opposite of the curse
- 3) The Blessing of God is the opposite of the curse
- 4) The Benefit = being blessed in a land that has been cursed.
- 5) Abraham will have success/his crops/his herds/his family/his business/his life/everything will work opposite of the curse.
- 6) Deuteronomy 28 is an extension of the Blessing of Abraham/ free from the curse.

Deuteronomy 28:2-8 (NKJV) – ²And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God: ³"Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. ⁴"Blessed shall be the ^[a]fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. ⁵"Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. ⁶"Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out. ⁷"The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. ⁸"The LORD will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

Deuteronomy 28:11-13 (NKJV) – ¹¹And the LORD will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the LORD ^[a]swore to your fathers to give you. ¹²The LORD will open to you His good ^[b]treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. ¹³And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you ^[c]heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them.

Deuteronomy 28:11 (GWT) – The LORD will give you plenty of blessings: You will have many children. Your animals will have many offspring. Your soil will produce many crops in the land the LORD will give you, as he swore to your ancestors.

This passage reveals GOD's Definition of Blessing – What it means to Him for us to be blessed – The blessed life – The abundant life.

BASIC DEFINITION OF BLESSING = EVERYTHING BLESSED This certainly affirms God as; "THE GOD WHO IS MORE THAN ENOUGH"!

7) <u>Genesis 24:1 (NKJV)</u> – Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the LORD <u>had blessed Abraham in all things</u>.



The Blessing of Abraham – to live in contrast to the curse!
 a. How did Abraham receive this blessing?

<u>Galatians 3:7-8 (NKJV)</u> – ⁷Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. ⁸And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, <u>preached the gospel to</u> <u>Abraham</u> beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed."

God actually preached the gospel to Abraham when He declared, "In you all the nations shall be blessed!" He was speaking of what would come through Jesus.

Abraham heard: Abraham believed:

b. We are included

When the gospel is preached to us; When we believe the gospel that is preached;

<u>Galatians 3:13-14 (NKJV)</u> – ¹³Christ 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"), ¹⁴that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

- c. The BLESSED LIFE in the Old Testament is the ABUNDANT LIFE Testament. The only difference is; the abundant life of the New Testament is better than the blessed life of the Old testament.
- d. It is impossible for the Old Covenant to contain better blessings than the New Covenant.

Hebrews 8:6 (NKJV) – But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.



- e. Our abundant life in Christ is connected to the blessing of Abraham
- f. The abundant life is the blessed life
- g. The abundant life includes being blessed to live in the blessing of the Lord while in a world that is overtaken by the curse
- h. We live the CURSE FREE life! No curse here! No curse works against me! I expect blessing! I expect the work of my hands to be blessed.
- i. Jesus demonstrated this to us by destroyed the curse everywhere he went.

<u>**1 John 3:8b (NLT)**</u> – The Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.

<u>1 John 3:8b (GNT)</u> – The Son of God appeared for this very reason, to destroy what the Devil had done.

Jesus was sent to UNDO what Satan was DOING

- Undo sickness and disease
- Undo poverty and lack
- Undo failure
- Undo oppression and depression
- Undo demonic possession

Anything Satan is doing, Jesus came to UNDO it!

UNDO DEFINITION = To cancel or reverse the effects or results of a previous action

The Curse that Satan enforces has been cancelled in the life of the believer/Jesus REDEEMED us from the CURSE of the LAW!



3. The Choice – You must choose to live in the blessing

Deuteronomy 30:19 (NKJV) – I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;

<u>Deuteronomy 30:19 (NLT)</u> – "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

<u>Choose</u> = You Decide – You get to decide

4. How do you Choose?

- a. By what you believe your developed mindset The need for mind renewal in Romans 12
- **b.** By what you say directing your life by your words According to James we are setting the direction of our lives according to our words.

III. Closing and Examples

A. Example of who chose the curse: Israel

B. Example of who chose the blessing:

1. Isaac

<u>Genesis 26:12 (NKJV)</u> – Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the LORD blessed him.

- a. Isaac lived by a different set of rules
- b. Isaac knew that while everyone else around him was being overtaken by the curse (famine is in the curse) that He was living the BLESSED life/ The ABUNDANT life He didn't have to play by the rules of a cursed world
- c. He sowed his seed by faith and not only reaped a harvest but a bountiful harvest of 100 fold.



2. The World Now

- a. Overtaken by fear. We do not have to be overtaken by fear
- b. Experiencing lack We do not have to experience lack
- c. Expecting sickness/disease and death We do not have to expect the same.
- d. Isaiah 54:17 (KJV) NO weapon formed against you shall prosper
- e. **Psalm 91:7 (KJV)** 1,000 at thy side, 10,000 at thy right hand
- f. It's time to claim an EXEMPTION: Exemption from the curse!
- g. CALEB'S EXEMPTION Caleb was living the blessed life while everyone around him was living in the curse.
 Joshua 14:10 (KJV) And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, Io, I am this day fourscore and five

years old.

Caleb CHOSE the blessing with his WORDS:

<u>Numbers 13:30 (NKJV)</u> – Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it."

- h. Caleb's exemption came because of the blessing/The Abundant Life.
- i. Caleb's exemption came because he chose it with his words/declaration of faith.
- j. What are you declaring/Saying?

I will overcome I will win I will come through I will not die but live and declare the works of the Lord. I will not be broke in this season I will not lose in this season I will not receive Covid-19 DECLARE YOUR VICTORY!