

THE BLESSING

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We've heard for many years a lot of teaching about "the blessing" and how God wants to bless us. Unfortunately, like most things being taught in churches today it is a perversion of the true gospel of Jesus Christ. As with any teaching or sermon that you hear you should be quick to ask as I always do: "What does the Word say?"

Remember, Satan is a master at twisting the Word of God just a small bit; he did this successfully with Eve and he tried to do it with Jesus. He even tried to get Jesus to commit suicide based on the Scriptures—how perverted is that? But Jesus was too wise for him and only answered him with the pure Word of God instead of trying to debate Satan from natural reason (cf. Mt. 4:4; Lk. 4:4).

And it's a sad but true fact, my brothers and sisters, that a large majority of those in ministry today are perverting the true gospel for the sake of material gain. That's where teaching you about "the blessing" comes in because this type teaching has been mostly used to relieve Christians of their finances by Mike Murdock and so many other Balaam Boys today. There used to only be a few Balaam Boys but now there are many and they all spout the same mantra.

As I've written many different times over the past 30 years as this has gotten worse, it's exactly the scenario that Peter warned about in 2 Peter—these "false teachers" appeal to the sensual nature of man and

our desire to get rich. Well, if your goal is to get rich then Satan will guarantee you that. Listen to Omoobajesu's teaching message titled, "I Wanted to be Rich" and you'll see that there are many avenues through the occult to become wealthy though it will be transitory and ends with the person being doomed to hell.

RECEIVING A BLESSING

Now let me say first of all concerning "the blessing" that contrary to what is usually taught—that you have to sow a seed of X dollars into a particular ministry (funny how it only works if you sow to them) for God "to bless you and give you a hundred fold return"—you don't have to do anything other than accept Jesus' sacrifice for your sins and be born into the Family of God to "inherit the blessing!" If you are in the family then you will automatically receive an inheritance—this is typed so beautifully via Israel and God's promise to them in the Book of Exodus. If you were an Israelite then you received a blessing and an inheritance in the Promised Land, period. But as Hebrews reminds us, they didn't all make to the Promised Land. In fact, only two out of the original millions made it.

So as a "partaker" of the Blood of Jesus and joining the family of God you automatically receive a tremendous blessing and an inheritance "in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 1:3, 11, 14). Like many of the things God blesses us with, you don't have to *do* anything—you receive "the blessing" by faith through grace.

Now concerning *receiving* a blessing, particularly finances, it's important to remember what Jesus Himself taught—that "the Scriptures cannot be broken." Many who have taught the Prosperity Message have not taught the truth correctly and most of these have used this message as a means of manipulation, i.e., witchcraft, in order to raise offerings and finances.

But the Lord Himself showed me very powerfully from the Scriptures back in 1982 that money and materialism is not “prosperity”; in fact He told me that “money is the lowest form of prosperity.” And of course this is exactly what Jesus tried to teach the Pharisees, who loved money, in the Gospels. You can read it for yourself. In fact, the powerful truth is that money has nothing to do with *true* prosperity or as the Holy Spirit told me in 1998 “the highest form of prosperity.” He said: “The highest form of prosperity is to be in the presence of God.” And I believe this shows why Elijah, Elisha and others had no concern for physical wealth but rather with being in the presence of God and being obedient to His commands. Then they were blessed just by being in His presence.

Remember, you cannot take anything material with you to Heaven. You should use money and material things wisely as Jesus taught to “store up treasure in Heaven.” And as far as money is concerned, the only way to do this is to spend your money on others, not yourself.

BEING A BLESSING

This brings us to the main point of this teaching article and the idea I want to encourage you to focus on for the rest of your life. Instead of fixating like much of the church on *receiving* a blessing from the Lord why not be like the Bride and focus on *being* a blessing to the Lord Jesus?

Every day I pray, “Lord, I want to be a blessing to you this day. Jesus, I want my life to bless you and make you joyful this day. Lord, make me an instrument of your love, your peace, your joy, your kindness today.”

Many years ago my wife received a revelation from the Psalms concerning “The Jacob Generation.” It’s found in Psalm 24 and I would encourage you to read and meditate on it for several days because it actually also discusses “the blessing” and how to receive it.

The Lord Jesus showed Evie that the Bride of Christ is “The Jacob Generation” and this is very easy to understand by what He said to her. The Bride does not seek “the Hand of the Lord,” i.e., material blessings. The Lord told Evie that He “would not marry Himself to a prostitute” and that a woman on “the reward system” is nothing more than a prostitute.

No, she seeks His Face! (Psalm 24:6) Why? Because like a physical bride in this world she is deeply in love with the Lord Jesus and she wants to see His face and make Him happy, joyful and pleased with both her character and her words and deeds. She trusts in her husband and knows that she will not have any physical needs to be concerned about.

So you see that if you will seek the Face of the Lord each day and live your life to please Him then you will “be a blessing to the Lord Jesus” as well as to others He will direct you toward. And, in addition, by focusing on Him and “things above”:

**“IF ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things
Which are above, where Christ sitteth on the
Right hand of God. Set your affection on things
Above, no on things on the earth.”**

† Colossians 3:1-2

You will also *receive* “the blessing” (Psalm 24:5) without having to even ask for anything. This is the Jacob Generation; this is the Bride of Christ. Praise the Lord!

Maranatha

