



God's will for you is to do well financially. He says, "Beloved I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" (3 John 2). It is not God's plan for you to live in poverty. It is not His will for you to move from one financial crisis to the other. Jesus Christ came so that you can have abundance. He says, "I have come so that you can have life and have it abundantly" (**John 10: 10**). Poverty is not abundant life. Christ came and His message is, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, so I can preach the gospel (good news) to the poor..." Good news to the poor can only be: you don't have to be bound with poverty any longer. You don't need to remain poor. The price has been paid. Christ said, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light." Financial crisis is not part of His yoke.

The Bible says, "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake, he became poor, that ye through His poverty might be made rich" (**2 Cor. 8:9**). That scripture is not talking about Christ being poor spiritually, Christ was not poor spiritually. A spiritually poor person cannot heal the sick, or raise the dead. The whole chapter and the next to it were talking about finances to the church of God.



Prosperity is God's will for you. All our covenant fathers prospered. Abraham was a very rich man (Gen. 13:2). Isaac was rich too. "And the man (Isaac) waxed great, and went forward and grew until he became very great for he had possessions of flocks and possession of herds and great store of servants and the philistines envied him" (**Gen. 26:12-14**). So were Jacob and Joseph. All these people were Godly people and the Lord still blessed them. He made them rich. He prospered them under the Old Covenant. How much more will He do for us in this New Covenant.



The idea of poverty and holiness is not from God. It is the devil's strategy to keep the Church poor. God's will for His children is to have their needs met. His promise is: "My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory" (**Phil. 4:19**).

As God supplied their needs in the Old Testament and prospered them, He also wants to do it in the New Testament. He says, "I am the Lord I changeth not." Friends, today marks the end of lack in your life in Jesus' Name.

What is God's reason for prosperity? **Duet. 8:17-18** says, "But thou shall remember the Lord thy God: for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish His covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day." God gives power to get wealth, so that He can establish the covenant He made with Abraham. And part of the Abrahamic covenant is that God will make him prosperous. And in **Galatians 3:29** the Bible says, "And if ye be Christ's, then ye are Abraham's seed, and heir according to the promise." **Galatians 3:13-14** says, "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law... that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ..."

Brethren, poverty is part of the curse in **Deuteronomy 28**, but you have been redeemed from the curse. Henceforth, poverty will no longer be found with you. You will begin to experience the blessings of Abraham in the Name of Jesus Christ.



Now, the greatest revelation you can catch is that prosperity is a covenant, not a promise. Most people don't understand the difference between covenant and promise. A covenant has terms, which must be fulfilled before certain benefits can follow. But a promise, you can claim by prayer.

Prosperity does not answer to prayer and or enforced by fasting; you fulfill your own part and God will fulfill His own part. Covenant is a serious business with God and He does not fail. God is eternally committed to all His covenant. He does not break nor alter them. **Jer. 33:20, 21** says, "If you can break my covenant of the day and my covenant of the night," then God is not bound to fulfill those covenants in your life.

Millions of Christians are having financial crisis because they are busy claiming prosperity as a promise, but they are not walking or practicing the covenant.

The principle of the covenant is revealed in **Gen. 8:22** where God says, "While the earth remained, seedtime and harvest... shall not cease."

For you to harvest there must be planting, there must be "seeding". If you don't plant seed, you don't harvest. It is a spiritual law. You don't harvest from a land by claiming promise on the land; you must first plant, then claim the blessing and God will bless the work of your hand. Seedtime is essential for harvest. Little seed, little harvest; plenty seed, plenty harvest; for "God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap" (**Gal. 6:7**).

Jesus said in the book of Matthew that you should not lay up your treasures on earth where moth and rust doth easily corrupt, where thieves break through and steal. But lay up for yourself, treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, where thieves do not break nor steal (Matt. 6:19-20).

Jesus is saying that you should have a heavenly bank account. Friends, as you open an earthly bank account, you can have a heavenly bank account.

This account is opened by planting seed, and deposit is made through four ways:

1. **Tithe;**
2. **Giving to the gospel;**

3. Giving to the poor; and
4. Giving to the prophets.

By these four methods, you deposit in your accounts in heaven and you can always withdraw from it by faith. If you have any need, you can withdraw from your accounts and the Lord will honour His promise. Many today do not have account with God but they have God's money in their pocket.

GOD'S MONEY IN YOUR PURSE

When Christ began His ministry in Jerusalem, one of the first things He did was to drive the money changers out of the temple. We find that three and a half years later, as He neared the end of His ministry, the money changers had returned to the temple. Now note what the Bible says Christ did, "And Jesus went into the temple of God and cast out all of them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the table of money changers, and the seats of them that sold doves. And said unto them, 'It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but ye have made it a den of thieves" **(Matthew 21:12,13)**. If the Lord were to visit many churches today He would say the same thing that He said 1900 years ago.



Not long ago, a newspaper told us about a pastor of a large church in Montana who found himself short of funds to operate his church. He devised a most ingenious scheme to raise the needed funds. He had printed raffle tickets and sold chances on a case of 90 proof whisky. Some good members of his church, after having taught how to gamble by his ministry, would be the proud possessor of a case of whisky by which he could become intoxicated. Some religionists defend such practices by saying they are necessary in order to finance the gospel.

It would not be necessary to stoop to such depths of iniquity if we would take



the Bible and let God show His plan for giving to the gospel.

1. What is God's plan for providing for His work? Malachi 3:10.

2. How did Abraham show that he recognized the tithing system? Genesis 14:18-20

Note: Hebrews 7:1, 2 also tells us that Abraham gave a tenth of all. The tithe is the tenth.

3. What portion of his income did Jacob promise God for blessings received? Genesis 28:20-22.

4. For what purpose was the tithe to be used during the days of ancient Israel? Numbers 18:21, 24.

5. To whom does the tithe belong? Leviticus 27:30, 32.

6. Upon what basis does God claim the tithe as rightfully His? Psalm 24:1; Psalm 50:10-12.



7. Who gives us the ability to earn a living? Deuteronomy 8:18.

8. What should be our response to the Lord for all that He has entrusted to us? Proverbs 3:9, 10.

9. What did Jesus say concerning the faithfulness of the Jews in paying tithe? Matthew 23:23.

Note: While pointing out their failures, Jesus endorses tithe paying.

10. How does Paul say the Christian minister is to be supported? 1 Corinthians 9:13, 14.

11. What does a man do when he withholds tithe and offerings from God? Malachi 3:8, 9.

12. What blessings does He promise to those who will be faithful in recognizing His ownership? Malachi 3:10, 11.



13. When are we to think of God and our obligation to Him? Matthew 6:33.

14. How will God reward the liberal givers? Luke 6:38.

15. Where does God advise us to deposit our treasures? Matthew 6:19-21.



Thousands of stories could be told about those who have followed God's plan and who have discovered that God's promises are sure. A farmer had always been faithful in returning to God his tithe. One day he saw a dark cloud of locusts in the sky and knew that it was headed toward his farm. If the locust ate his crop, he'd faced financial ruin. With his family gathered about him that evening he reminded God of the promise in Malachi 3:10,11. The family went to bed that night and slept secure in the knowledge that their heavenly Father never sleeps, but watches over His own.

The next morning the farmer arose to examine his fields.



He discovered that the locusts had eaten to his fence on every side, but not a green stem was left on the other side of the fence. God has kept His promise and protected the faithful farmer's crop from the locusts.

What better insurance can a man have against disaster, costly sickness, or accidents than a partnership with the all-powerful God? Try God's plan and you will never again be without the blessings that come, as you and God become partners. As you meditate upon this subject, pause first to count your many blessings. Remember that every good and perfect gift comes from God. With your heart full and overflowing with gratitude, why not write, "yes" after these suggestions?

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