

THE LOCAL CHURCH

The Vision Of The House-Flourish Personally

I. Is prosperity the will of God for every believer in every area of their life?

- A. God desires greatly to see you prosper-3Jn1,2,4-The elder unto the well-beloved Gaius, who I love in the truth. Beloved, I wish (to will, pray) above all things that you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth
1. The inspired word of God-God inspired that this be recorded for us to know, to have, to read-**2Tim3:16-All scripture is given by inspiration of God** – If this is a throwaway casual greeting, then it's not inspired by God
 2. John's praying this-(Wish-To will, pray; Same-**Js5:16-Pray for one another that you may be healed**)
 - a. The Holy Spirit doesn't inspire wishing, but rather prayer in line with the will of God-John wrote-**1Jn5:14**
 3. Love & Prosperity-When you love someone your love is always accompanied with a desire to see them prosper – I if I love you I want to see things go well for you
- B. God delights (pleased with, wills, wishes, desires) in your prosperity-Ps35:27-Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favor my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, which has pleasure (pleased with, delight, in, desire, willing, wish) in the prosperity of his servant
1. 3Jn2-John was reflecting the heart of God-He wanted it for his spiritual children because God does for His
 2. This shouldn't be shocking God wants this for us-It's want you want for your kids
 3. What does God want?-According to this scripture in the Bible
 - a. When things aren't going well for God's people does He get pleasure in that? Many say He does
 4. Why say this continually?-The enemy fights this so hard through so many, that God doesn't care if you prosper, doesn't want you to prosper, even takes pleasure in you hurting because He has some purpose
 - a. Prosperity gospel-Satan has inspired this phrase; It's not the prosperity gospel it's the word of God
 - b. If you preach against prosperity you are doing the opposite of this verse (You're not saying continually)
- C. God teaches His people how to prosper-This is counterproductive if He doesn't want you to prosper
1. **Josh1:7-8-Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate therein day and night that you may observe to do according to all that is written there in; For then you will make your way prosperous and then you will have good success**
- D. We must get rooted in this truth: Prosperity is God's will for my life. for every area of my life
1. Any truth you're not rooted in is a truth that will produce no fruit in your life

II. What does it mean to prosper? What is prosperity?

- A. Prosper definition-**NOTE**-Prosperity Definition: 3Jn2-Prosper-G2137-To help on the road, that is, (passively) succeed in reaching; figuratively to succeed in business affairs: have a prosperous journey; Thayer- 1) To grant a prosperous and expeditious journey 2) Be successful; Ps35:27-Prosperity-H7965; Safe, that is, (figuratively) well, happy; also (abstractly) welfare, that is, health, prosperity, peace; all is well or to be well, wholly; Thayer-Completeness, soundness, welfare, peace; Soundness in body, health; Peace, tranquility, contentment; Ancient Hebrew-To be in a state of wholeness: W1828-Prosper-To grow or increase; to thrive; to make gain; as to prosper in business; To be successful (Gen39); Prosperity-Advance or gain in anything good or desirable, successful progress in business or enterprise
1. Flourish-Thrive, grow, increase, gain, advance in things good and desirable
 2. Be successful-Succeed in reaching; Prosperous end of anything attempted-Got where you desired to go
 3. All is well-Wholeness, soundness, completeness

B. Prosperity is not 1-dimensional, but 5-fold-Dt29:9-Keep therefore the words of this covenant and do them that you may prosper in all that you do

1. All that your life consist of is your spirit, soul, body, relationships, material wealth and when you're prospering things are going abundantly well for you in all 5 areas
2. There's inner prosperity and outer prosperity-**3Jn2**-Prosper and be in health even as your soul prospers

C. There's more to prosperity than just the material realm-Re3:17-You say, I am rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing; and know not that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, naked

1. Prosperity includes material wealth-**Gen39:3**-The Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand

III. God is a God of abundance (Great plenty, an overflowing quantity, ample sufficiency)

A. God's will is exceeding abundantly-That means more than more than enough or more than overflowing

1. **Jn10:10**-I am come that you might have life and have it more abundantly (exceeding abundantly);
Rom8:37-We are more than conquerors

B. God doesn't just fill the cup-Ps23:5-You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies, you anoint my head with oil, my cup runs over

C. God wants to abundantly bless His people-Ps132:15-19-The Lord hath chosen Zion; he has desired it for his habitation. This is my rest forever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it. I will abundantly bless her provision; I will satisfy her poor with bread. I will also clothe her priests with salvation and here saints shall shout aloud for joy. There will I make the horn of David to bud (grow abundantly); I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed. His enemies will I clothe with shame; but upon himself shall his crown flourish; **Gen12:2**-I will bless (abundantly, altogether greatly) you...and you will be a blessing

D. God wants to show his people abundance of prosperity-Jr33:6-I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them abundance (plenty, great quantity, excess) of peace (prosperity) and truth

E. God's desire for abundance doesn't change in the material realm-2Ch32:29-He provided him cities, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance for God had given him substance very much; **Gn24:35**-The Lord has blessed my master greatly (exceedingly); and he became great: and he has given him flocks, and herds, and silver, and gold, and menservants and maid servants, and camels, and asses; **Gn26:12**-The LORD blessed him. And the man became great and gained more and more until he became very (exceeding) wealthy

F. Doesn't God know when you have enough-Yes, but to Him enough is not enough, just enough is not enough, filled is not enough, only more than more than enough is enough; **Ma3:10**-Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be meat in mine house and prove me know herewith says the Lord of hosts if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive

G. At the core of God's nature is abundance-Ex34:6-The Lord God, merciful, gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth; **Is55:7**-Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon; **Tit3:5-6**-According to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ; **Rm5:20**-Grace did much more abound

IV. Abundance is the will of God for the people of God

A. God wants us to abound in all good things

1. Joy unspeakable-1Pt1:8-Yet believing you rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory
2. Peace that passes understanding-Ph4:7-The peace of God which passes understanding
3. Exceeding faith, Abounding love-2Th1:3-We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, b/c that your faith grows exceedingly and the love of every one of you all toward each other abounds
4. Abound in hope-Rom15:13-That you may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost

5. Abound in everything-2Co8:7-Therefore as you abound in everything, in faith and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that you abound in this grace also
6. Abound to every good work-2Cor9:8-God is able to make all grace abound towards you that you always having all sufficiency in all things may abound to every good work
7. Abounding in the work of the Lord-1Cor15:58-Always abounding in the work of the Lord
8. Abound with blessings-Pr28:20-A faithful man shall abound with blessings (Does God want you faithful)
9. Abundantly satisfied-Ps36:7-Children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house
10. Abundance of peace-Ps37:11-Meek shall inherit the earth & delight themselves in the abundance of peace

B. We are supposed to prosper, flourish and things are supposed to be going well for us

1. The righteous are supposed to be flourishing-We are supposed to be a flourishing branch
 - a. **Ps92:12-*The righteous shall flourish (grow abundantly) like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon; Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God; They shall still bring forth fruit in and old age; they shall be fat (rich, of prosperity) & flourishing (prosperous, grow luxuriant); Pr11:28-He that trust in riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch; Pr14:11-The house of the wicked shall be overthrown: but the tabernacle of the upright shall flourish***
 - b. The people of God are not supposed to be some weak, struggling, failing, broke, hurting people
2. God is glorified when his people are flourishing -Jn15:8-Herein is my Father glorified that you bear much fruit; so shall you be my disciples
 - a. Fruit is anything that shows up as a result of being hooked to Jesus; Being hooked to Jesus affects every area of your life just like being hooked the devil would affect every area of your life

C. The prosperity of God and goodness of God is supposed to be on display in the lives of God's people

1. **Jer33:9-*It shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honor before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it; Zec1:17-My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad***
2. God being with us should manifest in our prosperity-Gen39:3-And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand. 23 Because the Lord was with him, and that which he did, the Lord made it to prosper; Gen24:40-Send an angel with you and prosper your way; 1Ch22:11-Now, my son, the Lord be with you and prosper you
3. Seeking God should manifest in our prosperity-2Ch26:5-And as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper; Ps34:11-They that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing; Jer10:21-For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the Lord: therefore they shall not prosper
4. Ps23-Following, obeying God, trusting God should lead to our prosperity-Any area you follow the Lord in you're going to end up at a place of abundant prosperity; Ps1:2-3-*His delight is in the law of the Lord; and his law does he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by rivers of waters, that brings forth his fruit in his season; his leave also shall not wither; and whatsoever he does shall prosper; 1Ch22:13-Then will you prosper if you take heed to the fulfil the statutes and judgments which the Lord charged Moses with*
5. If you go against the word of God you will not prosper in God-2Ch24:20-The Spirit of God came upon Zechariah which stood above the people, and said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the Lord, that you cannot prosper? Dt28:15,29-If you will not hearken unto the voice of the Lord your God... all these curse shall come on you and over take you...You shall not prosper in your ways; 2Ch13:12-Fight ye not against the Lord God of your fathers; for you shall not prosper

V. Both the devil and people who are being inspired by him fight against the prosperity of God's people

A. Why do people fight prosperity?

1. People fight prosperity because they think prosperity means we never have any trials, challenges, attacks
2. People fight prosperity because they think lack of prosperity means you're a bad Christian
 - a. Lack of prosperity comes from: 1) You're under attack 2) You've disobeyed God 3) You lack revelation in the area you're struggling 4) You have revelation, but lack faith in the area you're struggling
3. People fight prosperity because they think it's wrong to look to Jesus to take of all your needs and desires (EX: You're just using Jesus as your personal credit card to get whatever you want)
 - a. We look to Jesus for everything and we believe God is that good that He wants to take care of us abundantly in every area of our lives-Jn15:7,Mk11:24

B. Why the devil fights against prosperity?

1. Blessed to be a blessing-God's plan has always been to bless His people to be a blessing
 - a. **Gn1:28**-God blessed them and said unto them be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth-**Gn9:1**-God blessed Noah and his sons and said unto them be fruitful and multiply and replenish the Earth-**Gn12:2**-I will bless you and you will be a blessing; **Lk24:51**-It came to pass while he blessed them he was departed from them and carried up into Heaven; **2Co9:8**-God is able to make all grace abound towards you; that you always having all sufficiency in all things may abound to every good work
2. How can you bless if you're not blessed-Being blessed puts you in a position where you can be a blessing;
 - a. Many don't believe in being greatly blessed and then try to be a great blessing and it won't work-**Rm15:1**-We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak
 - b. The dumbness of religion never ceases to amaze-They get spitting bad if preachers preach God's prosperity and being blessed and yet it wants you to be a great blessing, be salt, be light, help people
3. The enemy wants you cursed because it compromises your ability to bless-This is why he's tried to shove that poverty piece down our throats
 - a. Satan knows nobody is going care what a poor person has to say-**Ecc19:16-CEV**-Yet if you are poor, no one pays attention to you; **ISV**-The wisdom of the poor man is rejected – his words are never heard
4. You need to be blessed, God needs you blessed-What can you do cursed, fearful, weak, poor, sick, broke
 - a. Mt14-Jesus could keep Peter from drowning because He wasn't
 - b. You have to learn how to walk in victory because if you're not winning you can't help other people win

VI. It's vitally important that this be strong in your heart: I am supposed to prosper, prosperity is God's will for my life; If that's not strong in you, you'll accept something less

- A. This being a daughter of Abraham meant something in regards to her being healed-**Lk13:16**-And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound, lo these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day