

GOD OF LOVE, GOD OF PROSPERITY

Humility and Poverty

Foundation Statement: People have been deceived into thinking that poverty or even modest living is pure and holy while abundance and excess is unholy and ungodly

I. Romans 10:12,15-The Gospel is a prosperity gospel

A. Prosperity is fivefold-Spirit, Soul, Body, Relationships, Finances

II. Deut15:4-5-Poverty is not some badge of holiness but rather it's the result of disobedience

A. Translations-Deuteronomy 15:4-5

1. ERV-There should not be any poor people in your country because the Lord your God is giving you this land. And the Lord will greatly bless you. But this will happen only if you obey the Lord your God.
2. MSG-There must be no poor people among you because God is going to bless you lavishly in this land that God, your God, is giving you as an inheritance, your very own land. But only if you listen obediently to the voice of God, your God, diligently observing every commandment that I command you today.

B. Obedience to the Word of God is the answer to poverty of every kind and it's foolish to try to answer it with other things

1. Materialism is trying to meet spiritual needs with natural things
2. John 12-Ignorant people think money is the answer for poverty, but the only thing that will end poverty is obeying God
3. People devote their lives to ending poverty and God already said it's not going to happen; Both poverty and prosperity are obedience issues not money issues

C. In any area of your life, if you humble yourself and do what God says in his word you're going to see His prosperity poured out upon you in a very excessive way

1. You can trace lack of any kind in any area of your life back to disobedience to the Word of God

III. ***Job 36:11-The level your of prosperity reveals the depth of your obedience

A. Your prosperity is in your own hands and hinges upon whether or not you will obey God

B. In any area of your life no matter how great the obstacle may seem, if you will obey God you will prosper in that area and nobody can stop it

IV. ***Proverbs 22:4-Poverty is not some badge of humility, but rather it's the mark of the proud-

A. I'll submit to you that poverty is a result of pride and disobedience and therefore poverty is unholy, unclean and it's the result of an ungodly life

1. It's unscriptural to attach lack of material wealth to humility

2. Jesus was not humble because he rode a donkey and not a stallion; he was humble because he obeyed God

B. 2 Chronicles 32:26-30-Humility brings prosperity; Pride brings poverty

1. Is this abundant excess holy? Is it clean? Is it pure? Is it godly?