

## GOD OF LOVE, GOD OF PROSPERITY

### Satan's Target

- I. The issue regarding prosperity is not stuff, it's a revelation of God's love, the strengthening of your voice and the empowering of your cause --- Religion makes it about stuff, but it's about what God does through the stuff**
- A. Ezekiel 16-God called it a time of love, but it manifested in the prosperity of His people
    - 1. As God prospers you experience His love and get a greater revelation of it
    - 2. Love in it's highest form is not displayed in the meeting of needs, but in the fulfilling wants
    - 3. Gift giving is a part of any loving relationship-Gifts are tokens of one's love for another
  - B. Mark 16:15, Ecclesiastes 9:16-The more poverty/lack reigns in your life the weaker your voice is and the less impact your words have in the world (His wisdom delivered the city, but afterwards nobody paid attention to him)
    - 1. You can have a good message, but success and prosperity will act as a spiritual megaphone to make that message louder and as a spiritual hammer to cause the impact of it to be greater
  - C. Judges 6:3-6-The first thing Satan targeted was the prosperity of God's people, because he knows that if he can stop the prosperity he can cripple the cause
  - D. Your greatest asset as a believer is your own prosperity; it makes you an asset to the Kingdom while poverty makes you a liability
    - 1. You need to be strong in spirit, sound in your mind, whole in body, loving in relationships and overflowing in finances
- II. Judges 6:3-6-The enemy always targets the prosperity of God's people because if he can stop the prosperity he can cripple the cause**
- A. Mark 16:15-The general assignment of every believer is to go into the world and speak the word of God, the good news to others
    - 1. Ecclesiastes 9:16-The more poverty/lack (in any area) reigns in your life the weaker your voice is and the less impact your words have in the world
      - a. CEB-So I thought, Wisdom is better than might, but the wisdom of commoners is despised and their words aren't heeded
      - b. CJB-So, although wisdom is better than strength, nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is despised; nobody pays attention to what he says
      - c. NET-However a poor but wise man lived in the city, and he could have delivered the city by his wisdom, but no one listened to that poor man. So I concluded that wisdom is better than might, but a poor man's wisdom is despised; no one ever listens to his advice
      - d. NLV-The wisdom of the poor man is hated and his words are not carried out

- e. NLT-So even though wisdom is better than strength those who are wise will be despised if they are poor. What they say will not be appreciated for long.
  - f. Voice-The Wisdom of the poor is despised; nobody listens to their wise counsel
2. Even though his wisdom delivered the city afterwards nobody paid attention to him
- B. When God's people are broke the Kingdom is weakened
- 1. How can we do Mark 16:15 effectively and be broke (in any area)
  - 2. The broker you are the weaker your voice is; why would we want to listen to somebody tell us about life who isn't living it very well themselves?
  - 3. You can have a good message, but success and prosperity will act as a spiritual megaphone to make that message louder and as a spiritual hammer to cause the impact of it to be greater
    - a. It's the fruit in your life that makes people want to listen to what you have to say
    - b. If Satan can get you in poverty he can squelch your voice
  - 4. Some people talk about how much they care about the Kingdom how much they want the Kingdom to advance but neglect to teach the people how to have victory in their own lives forgetting that if I don't come up the Kingdom doesn't advance because I'm in the Kingdom; they'll look down on people who teach and preach people to walk by faith and have victory in their own lives and they preach it's not about you, it's not about you, but if it's about the Kingdom then it's about you