

UNDERSTANDING THE BLESSING

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To be blessed is to be empowered to prosper. To be blessed is to be empowered by God to succeed. To be blessed is to be favoured by God.

To bless is to make holy and set apart for God. When God blesses a man, He cleans up the man to make it possible for the man to have continuous fellowship with Him, sets him apart for Himself, and empowers him to walk with Him in close relationship and holiness. Salvation through Jesus Christ is the blessing of God. Anyone who has received the salvation of God through faith in Jesus Christ is blessed – sanctified, made holy and set apart for God.

The blessed are protected by the very God who has blessed them, because the blessing includes protection. To bless is to watch over protectively. Anyone blessed by God is safe.

To bless is to wish well - to declare approval and support for somebody or something. When God blesses a man He declares His approval and support for that man and all that concerns him. This guarantees heavenly backing and success in all his life endeavours.

To bless is to confer or input personal abilities or benefits on a person. It is to give somebody a desirable quality or talent needed to achieve greatness and fulfill destiny. If God has blessed a man, it means he has inputted into him all that he will ever need to live life successfully if utilized.

2 Peter 1:3

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

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To bless is to make happy. It is to cause the things that will make a man to be happy to happen in his life by the divine power of God working in and through the blessing.

Blessing is inherited – passed from father to child. Abraham passed the blessing to Isaac when he blessed him. Isaac passed the blessing to Jacob when he blessed him thinking he was Esau because of his failed vision, and he couldn't reverse it when he discovered that Jacob had deceived him. Israel blessed his sons and the sons of Joseph. The same way causes are transferred by inheritance, blessing is transferred. Through Jesus Christ the blessing is transferred to the believer. We are joint heirs with Jesus Christ. What he has access to as a Son of God, we too as sons of God have access to them. The blessing is ours and we can and will succeed in all things as Jesus did.

Rom 8:17

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

KJV

Gal 3:29

*29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.
KJV*

The Child of God is blessed

An understanding of the above definitions reveals that the blessing of God is released and made effective when a person renounces his sins and makes peace with God through faith in Jesus Christ. The moment the salvation of God is received, the sinner becomes a saint, a child of God. The power to become a son of God is the blessing. At the new birth, the believer is cleansed, made holy, and set apart for God's holy use. He is immediately, supernaturally empowered by God to live the life of God in this natural world. This singular supernatural act of God inputs into him the righteous and holy nature of God and all that he will need to live a godly and successful life on earth. This act of God empowers him to be a success in life pursuits and in his relationship with God. It activates the favour and support of God on him and his pursuits within the will of God. This blessing guarantees his safety. It gives him protection. He becomes God's responsibility because he has reconciled himself with God. This blessing guarantees God's support in life. So, he is never alone and as long as he walks by the leading of God, he cannot fail or be defeated. This act of blessing works behind the scene to create happy experiences for him.

The believer is already blessed at the new birth. The blessing the men of God pronounces on believers in the prayer and preaching time is calling into manifestation the blessing already given by God to the believer at the new birth. You as a believer are already blessed by God. You can never be more blessed than you were the moment you gave your life to Christ.

2 Peter 1:3

*3 According as his divine power hath given unto us **all things that pertain unto life and godliness**, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:
KJV*

His divine power which is the BLESSING has already given unto us all things (everything) that are required for life and godliness. You are already blessed. All you need to do is to recognize that you are blessed and because you are blessed all you will ever need from time to time will be manifested in your life as you keep trusting and walking with God.

Whether men bless you or not, you are already blessed by God who is the highest authority in the universe. No one is higher or greater than the God who has blessed you, so no curse of man or devils can or will cancel the blessing of God on your life. The words of God and the plan and purpose of God cannot be cancelled, thwarted or frustrated. So the blessing on the believer is forever and cannot be overruled by any one on earth or elsewhere.

Isa 14:24

*24 The LORD Almighty has sworn, "Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will stand.
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Isa 14:27

27 For the LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?

NIV

Ps 119:89

Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.

NIV

Num 23:19-20

19 God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill? 20 I have received a command to bless; he has blessed, and I cannot change it.

NIV

Isa 46:9-11

9 Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. 10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. 11 From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.

NIV

If you are his son, you are blessed. And because you are blessed, everything you put your hand to do that is within His will for your life will prosper.

The blessing and the blessings

The blessing is the life of God received at the new birth and the empowerment to be successful in life. The BLESSINGS is the result or effect of the blessing. Many people mistake the effects of the blessing for the real blessing. Cars, properties, money, a good spouse and home, a good job and a flourishing business are all effects of the blessing of God and not the blessing. It is because one is already blessed that is why the material things manifest to prove the existence of the blessing.

If you don't have a car right now does not mean you are not blessed. That you are not yet a millionaire does not mean you are not blessed. That you are struggling in your business does not mean you are not blessed. That you are yet to have a baby does not mean you are not yet blessed. That you don't have a house of your own does not mean you are not blessed. You are already blessed. What you are expecting is the effect or manifestation of the blessing. It is the blessing that produces the blessings – the material things we need and look for.

The blessed life

The life of God we have received is a blessed life. One who has that life is blessed – empowered to succeed and prosper.

John 1:12-13

12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God- 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

NIV

John 3:16

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

NIV

The life of God is the greater and most powerful life. The man that possesses it is blessed to have success and achieve all that he sets his mind to achieve like God.

If you have this life, you are blessed – you are empowered to succeed.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to be empowered to be a living witness – a walking proof of the life and power of God. God is a success. God is prosperous. God is an achiever. God is an overcomer. When you are empowered by the Holy Spirit, you experience the supernatural life and power of God and success becomes the result.

When Blessed

When you are blessed, things work well, obstacles are overcome, mountains are scaled, victories are won, goals are achieved, business grows, the ladder of success is climbed, and life is well lived.

When you are blessed no man can curse you or stop you from achieving all that you are destined and supposed to achieve. You are already blessed in Christ.

When you are blessed though there are challenges, victory is certain. When you are blessed, God fights your battles for you. And when God fights for you, victory is sure.

1 Sam 17:47

47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

NIV

2 Chron 20:15

15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

KJV

The effects of God's blessings

Gen 12:1-3

12:1 The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."
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The effect of the blessing:

1. Greatness in life.
2. Great name.
3. Divine protection.
4. Divine favour.
5. It affects the way people treat you – anyone that blesses you gets blessed by God. The one that curses you gets cursed.
6. Overflowing grace and favour – people get blessed through you.
7. The blessed cannot be cursed – No curse works in his or her life.

Num 23:19-24

9 God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill? 20 I have received a command to bless; he has blessed, and I cannot change it. 21 "No misfortune is seen in Jacob, no misery observed in Israel.

The LORD their God is with them; the shout of the King is among them. 22 God brought them out of Egypt; they have the strength of a wild ox. 23 There is no sorcery against Jacob, no divination against Israel. It will now be said of Jacob and of Israel, "See what God has done!" 24 The people rise like a lioness; they rouse themselves like a lion that does not rest till he devours his prey and drinks the blood of his victims."

NIV

8. Demonic curses, enchantments and divinations cannot cancel or nullify the blessings of God.
 - Since God is the final and ultimate authority, no one can reverse the blessing of God.
9. The blessed cannot experience misfortune or misery – that does not mean he cannot or will not experience challenges. It does mean that the challenges will not overcome him and bring him to a state of misery and pain.
10. Witchcraft, occult or demonic powers cannot harm him or prevail in any area of his life.
11. The blessed cannot be made slave of. Their backs are not meant for yokes or burdens. No evil load rests upon them.
12. The blessings of God are visible to all around the blessed. They will see it and testify about it.
13. You cannot play or toil with the blessed. Like a lioness he will defend successfully to the destruction of the attacker what belongs to him.
14. The floodgates or windows of Heaven are open to the blessed. When the windows or floodgates are opened, favour, anointing and wisdom to profit are released. So the blessed is favoured, anointed and wise.

Mal 3:10-12

10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. 11 I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty. 12 "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty.

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- 15.** Material goods finance will be so much that his house will not be able to contain them.
- 16.** There will be no abortion of dreams, businesses, pregnancies and crops of the blessed.
- 17.** Pests and diseases cannot eat up what belongs to the blessed.
- 18.** His life, business, marriage, home and job will be delightful.
- 19.** The blessings work everywhere the blessed go – in the city and in the village. The place he lives doesn't matter, except God gives a directive on where to live, then the blessing cannot work outside of that particular place.

Deut 28:1-14

28:1 If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. 2 All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God: 3 You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country. 4 The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock--the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks. Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed. 6 You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out. 7 The LORD will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven. 8 The LORD will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you. 9 The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on oath, if you keep the commands of the LORD your God and walk in his ways. 10 Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will fear you. 11 The LORD will grant you abundant prosperity--in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground--in the land he swore to your forefathers to give you. 12 The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. 13 The LORD will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the LORD your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom. 14 Do not turn aside from any of the commands I give you today, to the right or to the left, following other gods and serving them.

NIV

- 20.** The blessed will always have a child if he wants, and they will be blessed also.
- 21.** The farm, business and job of the blessed are all blessed.
- 22.** The animals the blessed keeps are also blessed.
- 23.** The blessed will never lack food. He will always have more than enough.
- 24.** He will be clothed and housed. And never homeless.
- 25.** The blessing works when the blessed is in the house and when he is out of the house. It works everywhere.

26. The enemies of the blessed will always be defeated by the blessed. The blessing includes victory over all enemies. The enemies will always run in terror.
27. The blessed will have a store house and prosper in all that he does. It will not be from hand to mouth. He will have more than enough to be able to store some away.
28. Everything he does prospers. God is committed to his success.
29. The Lord will establish the blessed and confirm his covenant as the blessed walks in his ways.
30. The blessings will command the populace's respect and fear of the blessed.
31. The blessed' children and livestock are all blessed.
32. The blessed will experience rain in the season of rain unfailingly so that he and his crops can do well.
33. The blessings makes one to be so prosperous that he will have so much that he will lend to others in need.
34. The blessing will take the blessed to the top and make him the head no matter where he is at the time of being blessed.

To keep the blessings

Just obey the commands of the Lord and the blessings will keep flowing non-stop. Your happiness is God's concern. Follow him and he will keep the blessing running. All the passages we have considered so far reveal that the blessings run on obedience to God's command-walking in the covenant. Keep the blessing by keeping God's commands.

Do not be demon or evil conscious. Be blessing conscious. Change the picture in your head. Do not allow your past sufferings and hardship to cause you not to see yourself as blessed. No curse of man or devils can nullify the blessing on your life as long as you are walking with God. Keep seeing yourself as blessed. Keep speaking of yourself as blessed. Confess you are blessed no matter what you encounter or experience. As you continue to do this, the blessing will speak and manifest for all to see in your life. Do not fear. Do not be anxious or worry about situations. Let God have His way in your life and carry your burdens for you. Let the blessing take over and manifest through your positive mind and faith.

If you have not accepted Jesus Christ I urge you to surrender to Jesus Christ so you can become blessed by God and the blessings of God will start manifesting in your life. The life of Jesus is the blessed life. Do it now and don't postpone it to a later time.

Always remember that:

1. You need people. Your blessing work through the instrumentality of men. Respect men and treat them nicely.
2. You must respect time. Your time is your life. Don't waste or kill time. Respect people's time also.
3. The blessing works depending on how close and obedient you are to God the Blessor.
4. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is your guide and counselor for success in life and godliness.
5. The lesser is blessed by the better. Men and women of God are anointed to activate and cause to manifest the blessing of God upon your life. Respect them and humbly submit to their ministry.

Heb 7:7

7 And without doubt the lesser person is blessed by the greater.

NIV

Aaron and the priests pronounced the benediction (Num_6:22-27; Deut_10:8). Jacob and Moses gave dying blessings prophetic of the character and history of the several tribes (Genesis 49; Deuteronomy 33). The cup in the Lord's Supper is called "the cup of blessing" from the Passover cup of wine called so because "blessing" was offered over it to God. 1Co_10:15.

The blessing upon your life will keep speaking and producing great results in your life in Jesus name.

SUCCESS TIT-BITS

12 PRINCIPLES OF MANAGING PROBLEMS

1. **Don't underestimate your problem or your potential power to cope with it creatively.**
2. **Don't exaggerate your problem:** Pray it down and pray it up to God.
3. **Don't wait for the problem to solve itself:** Understand that you alone are personally responsible for managing your problem.
4. **Don't aggravate the problem:** You have the power to make any problem better or worse depending on your reaction. Threatened people become angry people. Fearful people reflect hatred. Hatred and anger aggravate the problem.
5. **Illuminate your mind on your problem:** Ask yourself some questions about the problem:
 - "Has any other person faced my problem and overcome it?"
 - "What really is my problem anyway?"
 - "Is my problem unemployment or is it early retirement or unproductivity?"
 - "Is it lack of money to meet my needs, or is it boredom or laziness?"
 - "Could I solve the problem of boredom by volunteering to work in my church or community organizations?"
 - "If you think your problem is lack of finances, think again. Is it really finances, or is it a problem of managing what you have?"
 - Is my problem demonic or the result of my evil character and mistakes?
6. **Motivate yourself to positive action.**
Note: In some cases, you don't have a problem to solve but a decision to make.
7. **Put out a bait:** If you need a job, go where the jobs are and put in an application. Advertise yourself, goods and services. Let people know you are available.

8. **Keep trying:** Don't give up. If your problem is a job, discover the many different kinds of jobs there are. Look them over. Play the field. Don't let age be a factor. A change of career may be just what you need. Keep trying until you come to a place of satisfaction and rest.
9. **Believe that every adversity holds within it the seeds of an undeveloped possibility.**
10. **Dedicate yourself to enthusiasm:** Anyone can succeed if he can get enthusiastic about life even when life seems empty. Doors will open to the enthusiastic person first. Don't let frustration and failures kill your enthusiasm. Remain joyful.
11. **Communicate:** Manage your problem by remembering that often times the solution lies in help from some other source. Do you need help? Then ask for it. Don't be too proud to ask for help for what is lacking in you is in another. But don't share your problem with anyone who cannot contribute to its solution for not everyone has the ability to solve your particular problem.
12. **Shield yourself:** Don't shield yourself from help, but do shield yourself from negative forces and negative responsibilities. Shield yourself from negative thoughts and suggestions.

WISDOM FOR ASSOCIATION

1. You are a sum total of all the contributors into your life.
2. Treat people right, because you will need them someday.
3. Not every friend is a friend.
4. Any adviser or friend encouraging you to go contrary to God's word is an enemy in disguise.
5. A wrong environment destroys potential. Your associates are part of your environment.
6. You have no business with a loafer except to show him his folly.
7. You were not designed to survive and be fulfilled alone.
8. What you need is in another person. Find that person.
9. Two cannot walk together except they be agreed (Amos. 3:3)
10. Find the partner that fits you.
11. Surround yourself with encouragers and not discouragers. You need positive thinking and talking people around you.
12. Weigh the contributions of everyone in relationship with you to identify their level of sincerity, and know how to relate with them.
13. Don't be flattered. Always look into the heart. Go beyond the sweet words of love. It might be a set up.
14. Secrecy is a message that you can't be trusted. Relationship is built on trust.
15. Love is not just spoken, but expressed. If it is not expressed, then, it is not love but deceit.

RENEWING THE MIND

1. Everyone who speaks into your life is directing your thoughts, inspiring your words and conversation, and stirring you to act in a certain way.
2. Counseling prepares you to have a certain experience. So if it is a wrong counsel, it will create the wrong experience.
3. Thoughts are living forces that determine the direction of your life.
4. Thoughts give birth to words, generate emotions and determine decisions and actions.
5. Thoughts determine moods in a man's life. You feel good because you think good thoughts. You feel bad because you think bad thoughts.
6. If you therefore, focus your thoughts on the negative things in your spouse and marriage, it will overwhelm you and produce negative feelings, words and actions towards your spouse and marriage.
7. The more negative your thoughts about your spouse and marriage, the less your desire to continue your marriage.
8. Your hope for your marriage died or is dying because your thoughts about your spouse and marriage are very negative. Change it and hope will come alive again.