
THE CURSE OF THE LAW 2

Hebrews 2:1-6 (Amplified)

1SINCE ALL this is true, we ought to pay much closer attention than ever to the truths that we have heard, lest in any way we drift past [them] and slip away.

2For if the message given through angels [the Law spoken by them to Moses] was authentic and proved sure, and every violation and disobedience received an appropriate (just and adequate) penalty, 3How shall we escape [appropriate retribution] if we neglect and refuse to pay attention to such a great salvation [as is now offered to us, letting it drift past us forever]? For it was declared at first by the Lord [Himself], and it was confirmed to us and proved to be real and genuine by those who personally heard [Him speak]. 4[Besides this evidence] it was also established and plainly endorsed by God, Who showed His approval of it by signs and wonders and various miraculous manifestations of [His] power and by imparting the gifts of the Holy Spirit [to the believers] according to His own will.

5For it was not to angels that God subjected the habitable world of the future, of which we are speaking. 6It has been solemnly and earnestly said in a certain place, What is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You graciously and helpfully care for and visit and look after him?

This time we are looking at the other side of the blessing – prosperity. Most individuals have the wrong concept of prosperity. Prosperity is mentioned under the New Covenant only four times:

2On the first [day] of each week, let each one of you [personally] put aside something and save it up as he has prospered [in proportion to what he is given], so that no collections will need to be taken after I come. (*1 Corinthians 16:2 Amp*)

I keep pleading that somehow by God's will I may now at last prosper and come to you. (*Romans 1:10 (Amp)*)

2Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in every way and [that your body] may keep well, even as [I know] your soul keeps well and prospers. (*3 John:2*)

The word 'prosper' means to thrive or to succeed and 3 John: 2 tells us we should have prosperity in body, mind, will and emotions. At the risk of angering poverty preachers, this tells me that I must also have MONEY! In order to exist everyone must have money. Without it we would be worried over unpaid bills, could not afford to eat well, clothe or house our children and most importantly, preach the Gospel to the entire world as Jesus commanded us to do!

My personal view is that since God gives us the power to get wealth so that His kingdom may be established, every Christian should live comfortably, have good things and live a happy comfortable life – not ignoring the needs of the underprivileged. So, anything above what affords me a happy, comfortable life, meeting my needs and the needs (not extravagant desires) of my family should go to establish God's kingdom.

If God has called a minister to an international ministry, there is nothing wrong with that minister obtaining an airplane to facilitate that ministry.

The prosperity blessings are many, but here are just four:

"The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you." (*Deuteronomy 28:8*)

"And the Lord will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you." (*Deuteronomy 28:11*)

"The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow." (*Deuteronomy 28:12*)

"And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath..." (*Deuteronomy 28:13*)

The curses listed are more than the blessings and I urge you to read them in *Deuteronomy 28:15-68*

Now, if Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the Law, and included in that curse is sickness, poverty, oppression and lack, do not the blessings belong to us? Also (Mr. Poverty Preacher), He says we will lend to many nations and not borrow. Translated to us, Abraham's seed, that means the Church of the Lord

Jesus Christ will lend to the nations of the world. We have no business going to the world for our needs! Unfortunately many of us were caught in the poverty mentality and entrapped by the world system before coming to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Now, we know the truth, we can ask His help in being released from the hand of the enemy in accordance with His promises! *Psalm 103:2-6* says:

2Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: 3Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; 4Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; 5Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. 6The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

In these days there are many Christians, living under a New Covenant which has provided all that God has to offer mankind, who are neglecting the “great salvation” that Paul speaks about in *Hebrews 2:3*. Tragically, Christians are dying of all sorts of diseases, living in poverty, being abused by individuals and systems when we are meant to rule and reign as kings in the earth.

They cry, “Oh, God! Why don’t you do something about this?” Then, when nothing happens, they resolve to endure suffering saying “God wants to teach me something by making me endure this suffering!”

What a load of rubbish! God has made available to us everything that pertains to life and Godliness. Since He is good, no evil thing comes from Him. The Word says in *Psalm 84:11(KJV)*: “11For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Notice the condition “them that walk uprightly”. This is one reason people walk in defeat- they want God’s benefits but refuse to do things His way and live their lives as He instructs.

The second reason is lack of knowledge. *Hosea 4:6 (KJV)* says My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

People who walk short of what God intends lack knowledge of what is offered, their identity and their authority. They therefore cannot exercise the faith necessary to appropriate the blessings of God. Lack of knowledge also includes lack of truth – people are misled by false teaching and doctrine which has caused them to reject the truth and believe a lie.

Many denominations succeed in winning souls yet promote false teaching that rob the converts in other critical areas.

Does this mean that all “prosperity teaching” are correct? No it does not. This is where spiritual discernment comes in. Some preachers abuse the Gospel truths “for filthy lucre”. The devil always finds a way to corrupt the Word of God. This does not mean we throw the baby out with the bathwater. Would you throw away all your money because you found a counterfeit \$20 bill?

It is not a sin to have an expensive home, a luxury car or a large bank account. It is a sin to let them have you. "The love of money is the root of all evil" (*1 Timothy 6:10*) As we reflect on Church history, there have always been those who abuse the truth of the Gospel and this has been the tool of skeptics to negate the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Do not reject the principles Jesus taught regarding faith and God's bountiful grace because someone is offended. God is not against wealth, or a healthy body. Sickness and poverty are not God's blessings and He does not use the tools of the afflictions of the devil to teach His children anything or keep them in line. God uses His Word and the Spirit to keep us in line-not afflictions, trials, sicknesses and disease. How can we spread the Gospel that He commanded us to spread when we are distracted, spending all our money in doctor's bills and laying in bed sick?

Please, do not call God's blessings curses and call the curses blessings! When we do so, we dishonor the sacrifice that Jesus made so dearly on our behalf and are cheated of our inheritance!