

The scriptural concept of Prosperity simply states that God wants us to be successful in every area of life. That he wants us to move forward / advance in everything.

- #1 The O.T. definitions.
- #2 Scriptures in the Bible where it shows God's perspective on Prosperity that actually have the word (some form) Prosper in the scripture.

- #3 The word Bless / Blessed in the O.T.
  - Since in Deut. 28 & 29 God specifically said that to be in the Blessing will bring Prosperity. To be out of the Blessing will bring Poverty.

I. Salvation and Prosperity

## Deuteronomy 30:1-15 (NKJV)

1 Now it shall come to pass, when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God drives you, 2 and you return to the LORD your God and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul,

3 that the LORD your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you. 4 If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you.

5 Then the LORD your God will bring you to the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it. He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers. 6 And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.

7 Also the LORD your God will put all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, who persecuted you. 8 And you will again obey the voice of the LORD and do all His commandments which I command you today.

9 The LORD your God will make you abound in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your land for good. For the LORD will again rejoice over you for good as He rejoiced over your fathers,

10 if you obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

11 For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. 12 It is not in heaven, that you should say, Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it? 13 Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?

14 But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it. 15 See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil,

Romans 10:6-10 (NKJV)

6 But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, Do not say in your heart, Who will ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above) 7 or, Who will descend into the abyss? (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 8 But what does it say? The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Moses is saying that Blessing / Prosperity are:

1. In our mouth and in our heart.

Paul quotes that and says that Salvation is:

1. In our mouth and in our heart (which is the word of faith that he is preaching)

In doing this, the Holy Spirit is equating Blessing / Prosperity with NT Salvation.

#### **II. What is Salvation?**

- It is what Jesus bought for us so we could Prosper.

#### **#1.** Apply Prosperity Def. to Salvation

- a. We were lost, now we're found
- b. We were not part of God's family, now we are
- c. We weren't heirs, now we are.
- d. We had no access to the Covenant / Promises, now we do

- e. We were going to hell, now we're going to heaven.
- f. We were without hope, now we have hope.
- g. We were without God, now we have God.
- h. We had no position with God, now we're seated in Heavenly Places with God.
- i. Etc.

#2 - Salvation: comes from the Greek word: Sozo.

(G4982 - Sozo) - "Saved"

"from a primary sos (contraction for obsolete saos, "safe"); to save, i.e. deliver or protect (literally or figuratively):--heal, preserve, save (self), do well, be (make) whole."

#3 - How are we Saved?

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NKJV)

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

1. <u>Grace</u>: God giving to us what we don't deserve.

Mercy: God not giving to us what we do deserve.

**Numbers 6:23-27 (NKJV)** 

23 Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, <u>This is</u> the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:

24 The LORD bless (Barak) you and keep you;

"Keep" (H8104)

"a primitive root; properly, to hedge about (as with thorns), i.e. guard; generally, to protect, attend to, etc.:--beward, be circumspect, take heed (to self), keep(-er, self), mark, look narrowly, observe, preserve, regard, reserve, save (self), sure, (that lay) wait (for), watch(-man).

25 The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you;

## "Gracious" (H2603)

"a primitive root (compare 2583); properly, to bend or stoop in kindness to an inferior; to favor, bestow; causatively to implore (i.e. move to favor by petition):--beseech, X fair, (be, find, shew) favour(-able), be (deal, give, grant (gracious(-ly), intreat, (be) merciful, have (shew) mercy (on, upon), have pity upon, pray, make supplication, X very."

26 The LORD <u>lift up His countenance upon you</u>, And give you <u>peace</u>. (Shalom)

THIS IS THE GOD OF THE UNIVERSE BECOMING FOCUSED IN ON YOU (ONE PERSON AT A TIME) - SAYING I WANT TO PROSPER / BLESS YOU!!! YOU!!! YOU!!!

> Remind them: God is kneeling before you to serve / Bless YOU.

#### Remind them:

- #1 "The Lord" (Jehovah the God of Covenant)
  - > What did Jesus cut with the Father to bring us Salvation Covenant)
- #2 "Bless (Barak) You"
  - > He will kneel before you to be of service to you.

- #3 "And Keep You"
  - > To Guard, Protect, Build a Hedge of Protection around You, and Save You.

- #4 The Lord (Jehovah) make his face (Countenance) <u>shine</u> upon You.
  - > This is the God of the universe become PERSONAL with YOU.
  - > He's looking at YOU. This is all about YOU.

## "Shine" (H215)

"a primitive root; to be (causative, make) luminous (literally and metaphorically):-- X break of day, glorious, kindle, (be, en-, give, show) light (-en, -ened), set on fire, shine"

## Exodus 34:34-35 (NKJV)

34 But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he would take the veil off until he came out; and he would come out and speak to the children of Israel whatever he had been commanded. 35 And whenever the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses face shone, then Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with Him.

Isaiah 60:1 (NKJV)

1 Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.

Isaiah 60:3 (NKJV)

3 The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.

- #4 "The Lord (Jehovah) make his <u>face</u> (Countenance) <u>shine</u> upon You."
- #5 "And give you Peace (Shalom)".
  - > "Rest, Favor, Health, Welfare, Prosperity, Safety, Wholly"

Number 6:27 (NKJV)

27 So they shall put My <u>name</u> on the children of Israel, and I will bless (Barak) them.

"Name" (H8034)

a primitive word (perhaps rather from 7760 through the idea of definite and conspicuous position; compare 8064); an appellation, as a mark or memorial of individuality; by implication honor, authority, character:--+ base, (in-)fame(-ous), named(-d), renown, report.

That whole O.T. Blessing is a description of the Salvation Jesus bought for us.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NKJV)

8 For by grace you have been saved through <u>faith</u>, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

#### 2. Faith: A HUGE Prosperity Word:

- It's having the substance / knowledge that God has something good coming down the road for us. (Heb. 11:1)

- Faith is "Being Sure" (NIV). Being sure of what??
  - > We're in the Blessing / Abraham's seed
  - > We're part of the promise that through Abraham all the world would be Blessed (Genesis 12 Barak).
  - > The Blessing of Abraham is for YOU.

III. Jesus and Prosperity.

**#1.** He began his life in prosperity:

## Matthew 2:10-11 (NKJV)

10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

## Matthew 4:23-24 (NKJV)

23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. 24 Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them.

- #2 Matthew 5 The Sermon on the Mount & the Beatitudes (5:1-13)
  - a. v. 3-11. ("Blessed")
  - b. Remember the 3 O.T. words translated Bless (ed, ing) in the O.T.

Remember the NIV Dictionary of O.T. Theology & Exegesis

- c. This rendering in Matthew 5 coincides with the last of the 3 words:
  - Barak: "To Kneel". (with much more.....)
  - Brakah: The actual Power of Blessing taking Place.
  - Esher/Asre: The end result of the first 2: 'Happiness'.

# The Beattitudes confirm / express that God wants us to Prosper.

#3 - Jesus expressing he is in favor of Prosperity.

### Matthew 6:9-13 (NKJV)

9 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. 13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## Matthew 7:7-8 (NKJV)

7 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

#### Matthew 8:2-3 (NKJV)

2 And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean. 3 Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, I am willing; be cleansed. Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Matthew 8:14-15 (NKJV)

14 Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever. 15 So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And she arose and served them.

## Matthew 9:1-7 (NKJV)

1 So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. 2 Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you. 3 And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, This Man blasphemes! 4 But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, Why do you think evil in your hearts?

5 For which is easier, to say, Your sins are forgiven you, or to say, Arise and walk? 6 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" then He said to the paralytic, Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house. 7 And he arose and departed to his house.

#### Matthew 10:7-10 (NKJV)

7 And as you go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. 9 Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts, 10 nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food.

#### **Matthew 10:40-42 (NKJV)**

40 He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. 41 He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. 42 And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.

John 10:10 (NKJV)

10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

But Pastor, Jesus wasn't in favor of Financial / Material Possessions Prosperity - was he???

## Matthew 6:25 (NKJV)

25 Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Matthew 6:31-33 (NKJV)

31 Therefore do not worry, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? 32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

## Mark 10:28-30 (NIV)

28 Peter said to him, We have left everything to follow you! 29 I tell you the truth, Jesus replied, no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel 30 will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields"and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life.

Remember: he warned us to not make physical treasures the goal.

Matthew 6:19-21 (NKJV)

19 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 <u>but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven</u>, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Revelation 22:12 (NKJV)

12 And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.

"Reward" (G3408 - Misthos) - Strong's Concordance

"apparently a primary word; pay for service (literally or figuratively), good or bad:--hire, reward, wages."

# "Reward" Misthos) - Thayer's Lexicon

- 1. dues paid for work; wages, hire: Ro. 4:4 (κατὰ ὀφείλημα); in a prov., Lk. 10:7 and 1 Tim. 5:18; Mt. 20:8; Jas. 5:4; Jude 11
- 2. reward: used—of the fruit naturally resulting from toils and endeavors, Jn. 4:36; 1 Co. 9:18;—of divine recompense: in both senses, rewards and punishments: Rev. 22:12.

Which fully agrees with God's perspective of Blessing and Wealth in the OT:

Proverbs 10:22 (NKJV)

22 The blessing of the LORD makes one rich, And He adds no sorrow with it.

Ezekiel 18:23 (NKJV)

23 Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? says the Lord GOD, and not that he should turn from his ways and live?

Ezekiel 18:32 (NKJV)

32 For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies, says the Lord GOD. Therefore turn and live!

# Ezekiel 33:11 (NKJV)

11 Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?