

# 1. Principles of Prosperity

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Over the last few weeks we have had some outstanding teaching about God's prosperity for us. Today we will continue teaching principles of prosperity.

## 1. Prosperity begins in our soul

**3 John 2 (NKJV)** *Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.*

- KJV: ... even as your soul prospers
  - ... to the degree that ... (DBL Greek)
  - ... inasmuch as ... (DBL Greek)
- Our prosperity begins in our soul
- Inward prosperity (in our soul) produces outward prosperity (in real life)
- (A person with poverty-thinking in their soul cannot prosper in real life)
- Our outward prosperity is a direct reflection of our inward prosperity

## 2. Renewing of the mind

Once we are born again, our mind needs to be renewed by the Word of God.

**Romans 12:2 (NKJV)** *And do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

- NCV: .... *be changed within by a new way of thinking ...*
- MSG: ... *you'll be changed from the inside out ...*
- NLT: ... *let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think ...*
- Life transformation is achieved by changing the way we think
- Inward change brings forth outward change
- Our mind needs to be renewed, to remove:
  - Poverty thinking
  - Shortage thinking
  - "Cannot" thinking
  - Generational limitations
  - Ethnic restrictions

### **3. Why do we teach the Word of God on the subject of prosperity?**

The Word of God:

- Teaches us God's plan and purpose for our lives (Jer. 29:11)
- It challenges wrong thinking (Matt. 22:29)
- It demolishes strongholds of the mind & lofty reasonings (2 Cor. 10:4)
- It renews our mind by establishing proper thinking (Rom. 12:2)
- It imparts faith into our hearts (Rom. 10:17)
- For example, when we hear God's Word on prosperity, faith for prosperity comes into our heart

**Isaiah 55:7–9 (NKJV) *Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. 8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.***

- Here, God speaks about "thoughts" and "ways" (way of life, methods)
  - Wrong thoughts lead to wrong ways
  - Wrong ways are maintained by wrong thoughts
- (check out Kenneth E. Hagin's book: Right and Wrong Thinking)
- God challenges low-level thinking & low-level ways
- He is inviting us to come higher to His level of thinking and acting

**Isaiah 55:10–11 (NKJV) *"For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.***

- God has sent His Word into the earth
- It is like water & snow – that water the earth to bring forth & bud
- God's Word does not return to Him void
- It accomplished that which God pleases
- It prospers in the thing for which God has sent it
- God has sent His Word primarily into the hearts & minds of men, women & children

**1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)** *For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when **you received the word of God** which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, **the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.***

- The Thessalonian believers received the Word of God which they heard from Paul
- They welcomed it, not as the word of men, but as the Word of God
- It worked effectively in them because they believed

#### **4. Joshua, keep speaking the Word**

**Joshua 1:7–8 (NKJV)** *Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, **that you may prosper wherever you go.** **8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.***

- God told Joshua to observe (do) what the Law of Moses commanded
- He said: If you do what it says, you will prosper wherever you go
- He said: Do not let the **Book of the Law depart from your mouth**
- **In other word: Joshua, keep speaking the Word**
- NET: You must memorize it day and night
- Meditate in it day and night
- Observe to do according to all that is written in it
- Then you will make your way prosperous
- Then you will have good success
  
- The Bible (Word of God) is the best success literature in the whole world

#### **5. The Word of God's grace will give you God's inheritance**

**Acts 20:32 (NKJV)** *So now, brethren, **I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.***

- God uses the agency of His Word to give us His blessings
  - Hear the Word

- Receive & believe the Word
  - Speak the Word
  - Meditate in the Word
  - Do the Word
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- It will not return to God without accomplishing what He pleases