

“The Blessing Of God” Part 5

Pastor Grant Williams June 1, 2016

Last week we left off in Luke Chapter 5, toiling for a living. Toiling is making decisions out of fear, anxiousness, not having enough, taking care of yourself, God will not provide, no hope... don't make decisions based on toil. We learned last week that Simon (Peter) didn't have to move locations to get his blessing, he just had to obey Jesus and cast out his net(s) even though it didn't make sense in the flesh.

All Peter had to do was trust Jesus even though he had already tried (the Bible says toiled all night) in his flesh with what he knew to do. But when he listened to Jesus, was obedient, he just didn't have barely enough, he had to get more people for the haul or abundance of what God had supplied.

Proverbs 10:22 King James Version

22 The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

Proverbs 10:22 Amplified Bible

22 The blessing of the Lord—it makes [truly] rich, and He adds no sorrow with it [neither does toiling increase it].

Rich defined: plentiful; abundant; copious, ample, liberal, generous, bountiful; More than enough.

Rich in all areas of your life: relationships, health, finances.

3 John 2 King James Version

2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

3 John 2 Amplified Bible

2 Beloved, 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.

Tonight we are going to delve more into this...

Romans 4:13, 16 King James Version

13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace;

Romans 4:13-16 Amplified Bible

13 For the promise to Abraham or his posterity, that he should inherit the world, did not come through [observing the commands of] the Law but through the righteousness of faith.

16 Therefore, [inheriting] the promise is the outcome of faith and depends [entirely] on faith, in order that it might be given as an act of grace (unmerited favor)

Over the last couple of weeks we have gone through the definition of “rich”.

Rich defined: plentiful; abundant; copious, ample, liberal, generous, bountiful; More than enough.

Rich in all areas of your life: relationships, health, finances.

In the 8th Chapter of 2 Corinthians it says you need to abide in this grace also for it was Jesus who was rich and became poor so in His poverty you might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9 King James Version

9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Remember, it is the Blessing of the Lord that maketh rich... (Rich in mercy, love, peace, healing. Rich in all areas of your life: relationships, health, finances.). So now we begin to see something here when the apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, said to them, “God is able to make all grace abound towards you”.

2 Corinthians 9:8 King James Version

8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

Paul is giving us vital information in Hebrews on what we need to do ...

Hebrews 4:16 King James Version

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

It doesn't say come boldly and fall down before the throne of grace, it didn't say come crawling into the throne of grace, it says ***come boldly to the throne of grace***. That means come in here and sit down, you belong here. Why? So that you or that we, you and I, may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. There's the key to the grace.

Now back to Romans 4:16...

Romans 4:16 King James Version

16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end (or God's purpose for doing it this way is that) the promise might be sure to all the seed; (all the seed) not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

Remember what we talked about in Galatians 3...

Galatians 3:28-29 King James Version

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

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

THE PROMISE !!!

Romans 4:17-18 King James Version

17(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

Faith is the activator of the Blessing, Abraham's faith activated Abraham's blessing - it still does. Abraham is the faith father of all of us. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us for as it is written in:

Galatians 3:13-14 King James Version

13 Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

What promise?

Romans 4:13 King James Version

13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world

Now stay with me – we are working on something...

The basic fundamental of faith begins with something that you can't see or feel.

Romans 10:17 King James Version

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17 Amplified Bible

17 So faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah Himself).

That basic fundamental is ***“calling things to be not as though they were”***.

What’s behind that? We’re learning and now we’re growing and we need to understand it. Because, when you “call things to be not as though they were”, the moment you do it by faith, the blessing is activated, angels are activated and the promises that were made unto Adam in the garden to multiply, replenish, & subdue are activated and it will work 24 hours a day. All we have to do is stop talking death, fear and doubt and saying it can’t be done.

Jesus said, ***“launch out into the deep, throw in your nets for a haul. (Luke Chapter 5)***

It’s working, the Blessing is working. Jesus didn’t say “Oh God help me I’m helpless, what am I going to do.” No, He just said it and He called “those things” (things are Words from the Bible or promises in the Word) to be not as though they were.

You don't catch fish that aren't there - that's a "BE NOT".

HE called it as **though it was** and we can too !

We are talking about the Blessing without measure. We tend to walk in measure, by what we see and it's not because God's holding out on us it's because we are, I am ignorant to the Word. It is a lack of knowledge, lack of vision – BUT, we're growing AMEN?

Hosea 4:6 King James Version

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge:

We are a whole lot more powerful than we think we are because it is no longer I that liveth but Christ that liveth in me. By renewing our minds, we're learning to trust, we're learning to expect and now we are putting together all the pieces as we fully understand how it all works.

I go back to when I learned to build houses. Sheldon, who was my teacher, started me out by taking me to the lot the day the basement was being dug and I would learn all about it. The day the basement walls went in, we were out there learning. The day the framers showed up, he taught me how to deal with them and how everything went.

I was learning all the different pieces of how to build a house. I was watching, reading and learning how all these different pieces connected to this piece and why this piece is important to this one.

I remember the day when Sheldon called me at night and said, “the basement crew is coming tomorrow and I will be out of town, call me if you have questions and I will come down there if I have to – I will handle it”.

When you are in training (newbie) you will make mistakes as you learn but there’s going to come a time when you take a step out of the boat yourself and start building on what you have been taught. Sheldon knew at some point I would grow discontent if I didn’t exercise what I was learning to see that it really worked and I could do this unless I’m just wasting my time.

In order for that house to be fully operational and do what it is supposed to do, I need to know all the parts of that house – electrical, plumbing, HVAC, roofing, framing. Soon it will be house building time for you in the spiritual realm and you need to get ready.

3 John 2 King James Version

2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

Matthew 6:33 King James Version

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Jeremiah 29:11 Amplified Bible

11 For I know the thoughts and plans that I have for you, says the Lord, thoughts and plans for welfare and peace and not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome.

We are building something now – God is sending us out into this world to walk in this Blessing without measure. Fullness of Blessing and we are the generation that it's required of.

So, faith calls “those things to be not as though they were”. But your mind says “I can't believe something I can't see”, and your body argues with it, but your spirit says “I can, that's my job, now shut up and get out of the way!”

Your faith is in your spirit, your spirit will BELIEVE IT, if it's in the Word.

Your spirit can take a hold of something that God says, it can't see, it can't figure out and doesn't even know if it can happen or not. But if God says it's right, if God says it will happen and to do it, all I have to do is say it and exercise my faith (***faith without works is dead - James 2:26***) in it and it will build up on the inside of me and I know that what is from God is coming to pass.

You meditate on it day and night and you will observe how to do the thing that God has called you to do – that's what God told Joshua.

Joshua 1:8 King James Version

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

I want to take you to a classic teaching on faith by Jesus in the gospel of Mark.

Mark 11:23-24 King James Version

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt (toil) in his heart, but shall believe that those things (Gods Word) which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, (now I want you to notice that little term, He gave them the faith principal but then he turned around and He used it.) Therefore I say unto you, What things (God Word) so ever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have it.

This isn't "name it and claim it", (remember, if ye abide in me and my words abide in you, you shall ask what you will and it shall be done) if you are abiding in Christ, your questions, what you are asking, are going to be totally different than someone is doing ***toil based living***.

Mark 11:24-25 King James Version

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things so ever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have it. .

Now, He said there are conditions to this...

25 And when ye stand praying, forgive,

The blessing is love dependent – you can't toil (anxious, fearful, angry, act like the world,) when people persecute you. The more you learn about this, grow in your walk, more responsibility in the Kingdom of God, the more you're going to get persecuted.

The devil will try his best to stop you, he sees what you're doing and if you get mad and fight back at those people, he's got you – you can't do anything, the blessing will be cut off. You can confess all you want to confess but you can't practice anger and walk in this, because you have to role all of your cares over to the Lord.

Well, how am I going to do that? HE said cast the whole of your care over to me unto the mighty hand of God; casting the whole of your care over on him or stop toiling, stop worrying, stop acting like the world. He demands you and I in His Word to walk in humility.

1 Peter 5:5-7 King James Version

5 ...be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, (that's the one who is trying to still take care of his own cares, he's still trying the sorrow route) and giveth grace to the humble.

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

Stop toiling like you're under a curse (without a blessing) because Jesus became a curse for you (got the blessing back). He became poor so you could be rich or walk in the blessing again. So give Him all your toil and start working or doing things the Kingdom of God way.

That is the Word of God and it doesn't matter what anyone else thinks about you. You go cast your care on Jesus and it doesn't matter when people go behind your back, talking about your financial situation, your kids or because your divorced or ??? That doesn't have nothing to do with nothing. (Nothing means no-thing or not in the Word.)

Who cares what anyone says about you, you should care what God is saying. When people start doing that and talking about it - don't listen. You should be far enough along in your walk with God so that doesn't bother you anymore. The darkness doesn't like the light. Jesus said don't be surprised when they hate you – they hated me.

Remember it's really not about you, Jesus said so himself in Mark 4...

Mark 4:17 King James Version

17 ...affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake ...

Satan is trying to stop the Word of God in you, so he can stop the Word from producing in you and stops the Blessing from getting in his way. That's what the whole issue is about – it's not a gossip issue, it's not my family is bad issue, my finances are terrible issue, it's a Word of God issue.

You and I need to come to Jesus and say I'm casting the whole of this situation onto you and I'm not going to touch it anymore! Now for HIM not to take it, would He be a merciful and faithful high priest? Not after he's demanded it in his Word, He has to take it!

So what could you say about a situation that you casted the care upon him and he took it? What did He say to the leper that came to Him and said sir, I know you can if you will, you can cleanse me and make me whole, you can heal me, what did Jesus say? I WILL, and that's His will for all men for all time. He's no respecter of persons.

How much more is He for you if it's something that you are obeying the Word of God in over a careful situation and you come to Him and you say I'm casting the care of this whole thing over on you.

He said, “I WILL TAKE THE CARE”.

What would happen if I asked Sheldon to handle something for me. I’m out here working Sheldon, and you said if I had a question or needed anything I could call. Can you take care of something, I need you to order some materials, drop this stuff off for the guys and I just don’t see how I’m going to be able to do it today – he’d say go ahead I’ll take care of that for you – you go about your business. I would say thanks and go about my business.

Now what happens when someone comes along and says did you order the material for me? No, Sheldon is going to take care of that for me. Now I can choose right there to doubt what Sheldon told me or not. I’m not going to drive down the road saying to myself “I hope Sheldon took care of that, I hope he doesn’t fail me – he’s never failed me in the past but this time the guys are really anxious. This is an important customer – I need this job – I better call him to confirm to make sure.

Then over the next few hours I call him several times and say are you really going to do this or should I? That’s distrust and unbelief as far as my friend Sheldon is concerned. Well how much worse is it when you don’t trust Jesus when HE said HE will take care of it? He will take care of it. He never intended for you to carry the care in the first place. He intended for you to quit toiling and use your faith and to have faith in that blessing.

He said I will meet your needs according to *my riches* in glory.

John 20:24-25 King James Version

24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side,

I will or I shall, 2 huge words. I will, my will, me, I will take care of it, I don't see how God is going to take care of my mortgage payment before Monday – then how do you figure you can do it?

Let me remind you of the 127th Psalm...

Psalms 127:2 King James Version

2 It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

You can sleep in the midst of all the junk that's going on around you. When you go to bed tonight say, "I receive the gift of sleep" Father, Your Word says "He giveth his beloved sleep" and I'm your beloved and there ain't no use on me feeding on sorrow because that's in that toil and sorrow world and I'm not out there any more - praise God. I'm in the blessing world and I'm just going to cast all my cares upon You and ...yawn your off to bed - you can go to sleep just like that.

Now, lets go back to where Thomas said "I will not believe."

John 20:26-29 King James Version

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, (he went right thru the door) and stood in the midst, and said, Peace (shalom: to prosper, to excel, to be made whole - peace is a blessing. Jesus walked in there and said be blessed.) Peace be unto you.

27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

He wanted to see something, but you can not base faith and the blessing on what you see – the blessing changes what you see. Remember Elisha and his servant surrounded by the Syrians.

28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

Just like Simon Peter from last week, when he didn't have the faith until the fish were in the net and he knew he didn't have faith.

29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

Faith believing and believing what you can't see and releasing your faith and calling things to be not as though they were releases the Blessing and brings it into "NOW IT IS".