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Message preached on Sunday Morning, January 12, 2025

The Holy Spirit has been impressing upon me the importance of staying behind that WALL OF BLESSING that has been given to us.

Deuteronomy 28

- * Adam and Eve were blessed at creation. They didn't even know what the curse was...they were not intended to know.
 - **QUICK THOUGHT:** This is what God wanted for us...however, mankind showed the same problems in the beginning as we face now...INTRIGUED with the thought that PERHAPS God is holding out on us and needs our help.
- * Adam and Eve lost the blessing and got the curse. Ugh.
- * God placed that BLESSING upon a man, a family, a lineage, a nation Genesis 12 & Matthew 1 It was still present upon the earth and you could tell.
 - The WALLS of blessing were on them while they were in Egypt. Increase, protection, health, etc... generation after generation...as long as they stayed faithful to God. Which they didn't al ways do.
- * **FINALLY**, through Christ...the last Adam...the BLESSING came back to God's people...that final generation of the BLESSING.

Galatians 3:13,14,29

- 13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, 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.
- And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.
- <u>1 John 5:18</u> "We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, *and that wicked one toucheth him not*."
- **WEDNESDAY:** We covered an ESSENTIAL reason why this blessing eludes too many Christians...NO FAITH.
- According to verse 14...you must use FAITH to receive this promise of the BLESSING.
- James 1 tells us if we don't use faith we don't need to even THINK that we will receive from God. **NOTE:** Isn't it crazy how many people still fight the faith message.
- I wonder why that is? Perhaps the lie of the devil telling them that God is holding back on them? If God wanted them to have it, they would just have it magically?

BELOVED: The enemy hasn't changed since the beginning.

LAST SUNDAY: We started out with the ESSENTIAL key of walking in the BLESSING...listening and doing.

Deuteronomy 28:1,2 – Makes it very clear.

Joshua 1:8 – Listen the Words and observe to do all that is spoken.

BELOVED: When you chose to do things your own way...God will allow you to do things your own way... and you will get your own reward, but not the BLESSING.

Just like Adam and Eve in the garden.

Humble Yourself

1 Peter 5:6-8

- 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.
- 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

We, as humans, don't like the concept of humility.

We look at humility as going through life thinking poorly of ourselves. "I'm not worthy!"

- A lot of our generation spends a lot of time trying to get people to understand their self-worth.
 - * You are valuable...God made you.
 - * Your true value is found in Christ...don't let the enemy steal that from you.

UNDERSTAND: God's Word never debases you...knocks you down. Never.

Romans 12:3 - Don't think of yourself MORE HIGHLY than you ought.

WE SAY: "I'm just a sinner saved by grace."

BELOVED: You were saved by grace...so you are not a sinner no more!

THIS IS WHY we accept sickness and poverty and stress, etc...We live in a world of sin...who are we?

BELOVED: We are God's children who live behind the WALL OF BLESSING that God provided for us through His Son.

If God paid the PRICE HE PAID for our redemption...don't you think we are important?

NOTICE: vs. 6 - God is VERY interested in exalting you.

THE KEY? Don't be busy trying to EXALT yourself. That is what humility is all about.

"Humility" - is basically about rank...having a lower rank. Yielding yourself to someone else.

Remember the speech made by the centurion in Matthew 8?

- Matthew 8:9 "For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it."
- **BELOVED:** This is humility. The centurion is saying his view of himself in regard to those who are over him...as well as those things that are under him.
- **HUMILITY** is when those over you (God, His voice, His Word, etc.) say go, we go...say come, we come... say do this, we do it.

OUR IDENTITY comes from obeying orders!

BELOVED: When we spend our time trying to exalt ourselves, we commit treason, and move ourselves outside of the blessing because we **PERSONALLY** move ourselves away from Deuteronomy 28:1,2 and we move to Deuteronomy 28:15.

(perhaps soldiers who have looted places during war...it is a war crime)

WHERE does TRUE HUMILITY take place?

Galatians 5:7 - "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

I KNOW we have always read this more as a comforting verse...to comfort us in tough times...and it can be...

HOWEVER: Look at context...

- * Vs. 6 Humble yourself so God can exalt you
- * Vs. 8 Our adversary is trying to devour us
- **QUESTION:** What part of this section is just about comfort? It is a direction.

IN LIFE our temptation, when situations arise, is to TAKE CARE of it ourselves. **BELOVED:** When we try to CARRY the CARE...it is pride!

<u>Galatians 5:7</u> (AMP) – "Casting the whole of your care *[all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all]* on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully."

Jeremiah 17:5-8

- 5 Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.
- 6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.
- 7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.
- 8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.
- **BELOVED:** The enemy will work you over to try to get you to TAKE CARE of your CARES. He knows if you can CARRY them you can't CARRY the blessing at the same time.
- **ONE PERSON SAID it like this:** We were not created to be a BEAST OF BURDEN (a donkey or mule that carries a load).

THINK OF Genesis 16 when Abram tried to carry the load...and do it himself.

Things turned out contrary to the blessing.

Genesis 22 – Abraham didn't carry the load and the blessing was released.

This is NOT necessarily easy...it does go against sinful human nature.

- It will start out being a challenge...and because of the lies of the enemy...it will always have its challenges.
 - * Stay in the Word
 - * Keep your ear tuned in to His voice
 - * Keep DOING what you know to do...if you learn something new, do it
 - * When the enemy tries to bring a care upon you, "I don't care!"

Jesus is our care-taker! He doesn't just take my cares...He takes care of my cares!

THINKN ABOUT a care-taker of an apartment complex. He doesn't just tell you to "don't worry about it", he takes care of it.

The Only Care We are to Carry

(next week)