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Message preached Sunday, February 27, 2022

It is astonishing how many Christians have an easier time believing that...

- * God is good...so He gives people sickness, poverty, crisis after crisis (because of how strong they are), because He is good.
- * **OVER...**God is good and wants you blessed...wants you healed and healthy...wants you prosperous and living in more than enough...wants you clear mind, victorious life...
- **OBVIOUSLY** tradition has a big part in this mentality...but the WORD consistently reveals to us that people who were obedient to Him...people who were chosen by Him...people who were HIS PEOPLE lived prosperously and blessed lives!
- **ESSENTIAL NOTE:** *It doesn't mean that battles don't come*...but they DON'T COME FROM GOD...the enemy brings them to steal the Word and to steal your blessing!
- **QUESTION:** Why do people believe that God puts bad things on people and has chosen for some people to lived bad lives, sick lives, etc.
 - 1.) Obviously it is NOT because they understand the Bible.
 - 2.) When they used the Bible, they use...
 - a.) Paul's thorn in the flesh...which is clearly identified as a messenger from satan.
 - b.) Job's struggles...which are clearly blamed on fear...not God.
 - c.) Jesus not having a place to lay His head (but the birds and foxes do)...which is clearly pointing to the fact they were sleeping on the road on their way home. John tells us Jesus had a home.
 - d.) Scriptures on enduring hardships and battles.
 - **BELOVED:** You will have hardships because the enemy doesn't want you living in victory.
 - <u>1 Corinthians 15:57</u> "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
 - <u>2 Corinthians 2:14</u> "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place."
 - **QUESTION:** Why would God tells us that He gives us a victory is we are never going to have an opposition to our blessings?
 - 3.) **ONLY THING LEFT** is that they have made up their mind because of LIFE CONDITIONS...people they know! Tradition!

GOD WANTS US BLESSED

BELOVED: There is absolutely NO QUESTION, NO DOUBT...if you are a child of God...God wants you blessed! He wants us blessed!

If we are going to walk in the good that our GOOD FATHER has planned for us...we are going have to get an understanding that HE WANTS US BLESSED!

- **THINK ABOUT IT:** The children of Israel had 430 years of thinking their destiny was living in bondage.
- **THEREFORE:** When God got them out...even with supernatural actions...every time they came up to another battle they assumed that was where it was going to end.
- **THERFORE:** They died not enjoying what God had planned for them.
- **BELOVED:** If there is ONE WORD that God uses to identify His people, in the Bible, it is the WORD BLESSED!

UNDERSTAND: It is our heritage...it is in our DNA!

"Blessed" an empowerment to prosper..to increase!

BEFORE the fall...how God made man to live!

Genesis 1:26-28

- And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
- 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.
- And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

We know what BLESSED means...gave them everything they needed and intended for them to INCREASE!

BELOVED: Mankind was CREATED to live blessed lives.

WE KNOW satan stole it from mankind.

BUT God the Father began the process of bringing man back to the BLESSED lives!

THINK ABOUT JOB: Was perfect and upright before God...was blessed!

Genesis 12:2-3 – Abraham, the Father of our faith.

- And I will make of thee a great nation, **and I will bless thee,** and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:
- 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

After Abraham obeyed God with his son...

<u>Genesis 22:17</u> – "*That in blessing I will bless thee,* and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;"

GOD WANTS US BLESSED

LOOK...it is our heritage!

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

BELOVED: God wants us blessed!

SAY IT: God wants me blessed!

<u>Ephesians 1:3</u> – "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ**:"

All the blessings that flow from heaven to us...have already been provided for us!

- <u>3 John 2</u> "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."
- **BELOVED:** Anyone who is a child of God and walks hand in hand with Him…has a heritage of blessings and being blessed!

Ephesians 1:7,8 (NASB)

- 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, *according to the riches of His grace*
- 8 *which He lavished on us*. In all wisdom and insight

"The riches of His grace" – grace is God's ability in us to do what we couldn't do on our own. Our simply God's ability on us to do what He intended for us to do.
THEREFORE: God has LAVISHED on us the ability to live in ways that we may not be

able to do otherwise!

"Lavish" – to bestow with perfusion; produced in abundance; extravagant, very abundant; more than what is needed; to pour out as of wastefully.

That sounds like being BLESSED! **SAY IT WITH ME:** God wants me blessed!

Psalm 31:19 (NLT) – "How great is the goodness you have stored up for those who fear you. You lavish it on those who come to you for protection, blessing them before the watching world."

God wants you OVERWHELMINGLY BLESSED!

SAY IT WITH ME: God wants me OVERWHELMINGLY blessed!

Deuteronomy 28:1-14 (possibly read it)

- Vs. 8 "*The LORD shall command the blessing upon* thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."
- **SAY IT:** God has commanded blessing upon me! God wants me blessed!

GOD WANTS US BLESSED

<u>Psalm 133:3</u> – "As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore."
NOTE: This is talking about being in your spot in the body.

AGAIN: God has commanded blessing to you!

SAY IT: God has commanded blessing upon me! God wants me blessed!

<u>Psalm 3:8</u> – "Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah." **SAY IT WITH ME:** God's blessing is upon me! God wants me blessed!

<u>Proverbs 28:20</u> – "*A faithful man shall abound with blessings*: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent."

God wants us blessed!

The Big Question

Well, then why do so many Christians not live in the blessing of God?

The first answer to this is for us to notice all the things that are tied to living in the blessings of God.

Obedience...Faithfulness...Actually being a child of God... There are many of your answers...

HOWEVER: The purpose for this series is to give you the foundations of your blessings. **ILLUSTRATION:** The foundation of the house is essential...don't cut corners on the foundation.

We are going to look at what the Bible says is the FOUNDATION to your blessings. The essential things! The things that you need to put first in your life!

A quick look forward:

- 1.) Faith
- 2.) Love
- 3.) Wisdom