

Grace for Provision: Grace for Prosperity: [Courtesy of www.BibleCities.com]

The Supernatural Provision of God

Scripture Reference:

- "But you shall [earnestly] remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, (even) as it is this day." [Deut 8:18 AMP]
 - "And God is able to make all GRACE (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation]." [2Cor 9:8 AMP]
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POWER to PROSPER!

Did you notice what the above scriptures promise? Almighty God, our heavenly Father has stated in His Word that HE has promised (guaranteed and confirmed) that he has given us POWER to prosper!

He has given us the means and the ability to obtain the supply, provision, and abundant prosperity that we need - not only to be totally self-sufficient requiring no aid or support - but also to have an abundance of provision so as to be able to help out anyone else with every good work and charitable donation. And it is ALL done because of His GRACE!

What a Promise?

But, even after decades of the church trying to obtain this promise one has to be blind, deaf and dumb not to recognize that either God was mistaken when HE promised this - or there has been a power 'failure' in the church!

Can I let you in on a little secret? It's the question that even ministers are wondering: "Where's the Power?" It's been on everyone's mind - though very few recognize the answer.

WHERE IS THE POWER?

Consider the fact that we have preached prosperity in the church for almost 40 years now - and despite all the teaching on it - the church has not only FAILED to enter into the supernatural prosperity that the Bible promises - but as a whole the church is farther in debt than ever before! Even worse, most ministers and even whole ministries are just as much in debt as the rest of folks - with little or no hope of ever getting out of debt.

Let's be honest with ourselves. Most people, even many ministers, while having an appearance of prosperity - are in reality mortgaged in their homes, their buildings, their automobiles, and just about every other item they have. Additionally, most folks have purchased the majority of what they possess with credit-cards, home-equity loans or other financing options. What that means is that most Christians do NOT own what they have - the bank or finance company owns it and most are just paying constantly for the right to 'use' it.

Brethren, this is NOT what God has promised in His Word. The WORD of GOD not only gives us an exact description of what the prosperity of GOD looks like - but it also states quite clearly that DEBT is not prosperity but is in fact part of the curse! [Deut 28:44]

SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH:

When the Lord first began to talk to me about this I was stunned as well as confused as to why this was so. After all, aren't the majority of churches, ministries, preachers and Christians in general conducting their lives and ministries in this manner. How could we have been so mistaken?

And so the Lord began to reveal (thru His Word) WHY this is so -and HOW the Biblical principles of God's provision for the church became corrupted by the traditional teachings and doctrines of men.

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GRACE

When, one begins to recognize the basic principles of God's GRACE (as taught in His Word) for provision and supply for the New Testament believer - it won't be long before we come to the point where we can no longer reconcile what the WORD of GOD teaches - with the traditional teachings that are commonly believed today.

And recognizing this, it becomes evident both in scripture - as well by the failure of the Church to OBTAIN the promises - that most in the Body of Christ today have failed to understand the manifest GRACE of God for provision and prosperity for the New Testament Church as defined in the Word of God.

What's even worse is the fact that in failing to 'understand' how GRACE applies to the area of financial supply and supply, the church has adopted instead, a doctrine of 'grace + works' that neither agrees with scripture nor has it brought forth the manifestation of the prosperity that this 'grace + works' doctrine promises.

LET'S EXAMINE THIS SUBJECT MORE CAREFULLY:

Most Christians realize that 'salvation' (eternal life) is the 'gift' of God - and is made available by GRACE thru faith. Right?

However, the majority of those same Christians have a deep misunderstanding of what the Word of God teaches regarding that same GRACE when applied to ALL of the other blessings of God - and especially in the area of supernatural provision and supply.

RESULTS:

What we have is a multitude of God-loving people doing their very best to 'honor God' with their finances - most doing their very best to qualify for financial blessing from the Lord. Yet, never realizing that what the Body of Christ has done is to create 'grace + works' doctrine (a mixture of Grace, and works) that has in the process nullified the power of God to manifest the promises of provision and supply by GRACE thru faith. [Mark 7:13 • Gal 5:4]

As mentioned : this 'grace + works' doctrine (a combination of Grace, and works) has been prominently taught in the church for almost 40 years now with very little if any results! The church is no closer today to entering into the supernatural prosperity that the Bible promises than it was before we began teaching it. Worse: As a whole the church is farther in debt than ever before! Yet, we continue to preach it - teach it and follow it even though it has produced very little, if anything!

My friends it is foolishness to continue to do the same thing and expect different results. We need to face the fact that if it hasn't worked in 40 years - it just isn't going to work! We missed it, and we need to get it right if we are going to enter into the promised blessing of supernatural provision and supply!

DON'T MISUNDERSTAND?

Honoring God with our finances - and giving generously (sowing) IS definitely taught in scripture! No argument about that! And, honoring God with our finances is the RIGHT thing to do on every occasion! However, is this doctrine of qualifying for financial blessing and supply based upon what WE do with our finances what the 'scriptures' teach - or is it something that we have invented? Let's find out.

Consider the following admonitions from the Word of God:

"If it is the adherents of the Law who are to be the heirs (those who 'qualify' for the blessing thru their works), then faith is made futile and empty of all meaning and the promise [of God] is made void (is annulled and has no power)." [Rom 4:14 AMP]

"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), to make it stable and valid and guaranteed to all his (Abraham's) descendants--not only to the adherents of the Law, but also to those who share the FAITH of Abraham, who is [thus] the father of us all." [Rom 4:16 AMP]

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Notice that the promises of God (ALL the promises including supernatural provision and supply) are dependent ENTIRELY upon not what WE 'do' - but rather on what CHRIST has done FOR us! And, just as with receiving eternal life, all we have to do is BELIEVE it - and RECEIVE it by FAITH.

HOW DOES GRACE APPLY TO PROVISION AND SUPPLY?

Let me ask you a question: Does GRACE apply to everything under the 'New Covenant' - or are some things omitted? Let's examine some things that the BIBLE teaches regarding grace and put it to the test.

Eternal Life:

MOST know that according to Eph 2:8-9 that it is by GRACE thru faith that we obtain the promise of 'salvation' (eternal life). Right?

Justification / Sanctification:

SOME know that it is by GRACE thru faith that we are justified before God (deemed guiltless) [Read: Rom 3:24]

Righteousness:

A FEW know that we are MADE the righteousness of God by GRACE thru faith. [Read: Rom 1:17 • Rom 3:22 • Rom 4:3 • Rom 5:17 • 2 Cor. 5:21]

Healing:

Even LESS know that it is by GRACE thru faith that we obtain the promise of healing that is available to EVERY believer in every situation: [Read: Matt 8:17 • 1 Peter 2:24 • Rom 8:11 • Rom 5:2,17]

GRACE IS ALL ENCOMPASSING:

For all of the above it is fairly evident (even to the most unlearned among us) that NOTHING we 'do' can, or will qualify us for any of the these things once we understand the proof of these truths as shown forth in the WORD of God.

DOES GRACE INCLUDE THE SUPERNATURAL PROVISION AND PROSPERITY OF GOD?

Here is where most people abandon the principals of GRACE and. Bring up the issue of the supernatural financial provision and prosperity, or even just the supernatural supply of God to simply meet our needs - and suddenly grace goes out the window. And, what do we have instead?

Most people will immediately revert back to the system of WORKS to qualify us. In other words our qualifications for the supernatural blessing of God on our finances suddenly becomes based upon what WE do - instead of what 'CHRIST' did FOR us.

This is despite the clear and unmistakable statement given us by GOD in [2 Cor. 8:9] that it is by GRACE (and Grace alone!) that we qualify for financial prosperity, provision and supply. We do NOT qualify by what WE do -but rather by what CHRIST has done FOR us!

"For you know the GRACE of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty (what HE did for us) might be rich." [2 Cor. 8:9]

TAKE HOLD OF THE TRUTH OF THIS PRINCIPAL:

What amazes me so much is the fact that even though we often quote the above verse, few have actually noticed that the verse starts off with these words: *"For you know the GRACE of our Lord Jesus Christ"* .

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The reality is that very few recognize and understand that this passage is emphasizing GRACE for provision and prosperity! Yet, it seems that the church is unwilling to accept the truth of the statement and instead prefers to teach the current traditions of 'qualification' for blessing based upon what WE do with our finances instead of what CHRIST did for us..

Brothers and sisters - it is time for the church to open its eyes to the fact that we have MISSED it when it comes to understanding the GRACE of God for the promised blessing of supernatural provision and supply. And only after the Church lets go of its propensity to believe that it is thru our act of required sacrifice that qualifies us for the prosperity of God - and accepts the truth of 2 Cor. 8:9 - only then will the Church begin to access the supernatural supply and provision of God as promised in His Word by GRACE thru faith.

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:... By whom also we have access BY FAITH (not works) into this GRACE --wherein we stand!" [Rom 5:1-2]

"Christ (the Word of God) is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law (works); because you are *fallen from grace*." [Gal 5:4]

IT 'S ALL ABOUT GRACE!

EVERY promise of God made to the 'Church' is based upon the FINISHED work of Christ on the cross - NOT on anything WE do - have done - or will do. It is only in this manner that CHRIST receives the glory and not us. And, it is only in this manner that we OBTAIN the blessings purchased by HIS sacrifice.

But what about Abraham?

What about Him? Yes, yes, I realize that we love to talk about Abraham and how he allegedly qualified for the supernatural blessing of God on his finances: But, look at what the scriptures say:

"If in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he would have something to boast about—but not before God. What does the Scripture say? "Abraham BELIEVED God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.... (for) the man who has NOT works but trusts God ... , his FAITH (in What God has promised and done for Him) is credited as righteousness.... Therefore, the promise COMES BY FAITH, so that it may be by GRACE and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring — not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the FAITH of Abraham. He is the father of us all." [Rom 4:2-5,16]

Could it be explained to us any clearer? It wasn't what Abraham did that qualified him for blessing - it was the trust and faith he placed in what God had promised! FAITH! He obtained the promised after he believed - not after what he did.

"It was not through law (works) that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith." [Rom 4:13]

WHAT ABOUT SOWING AND REAPING?

The principal of sowing and reaping is a principal taught in the Word of God regarding increase - and it is relevant to the New Testament believer.

But, we are not talking about *increasing* what the Lord has given us (here!) - we are talking about receiving what is already given us as our inheritance - and as our rights and privileges as children of God. And we have an inheritance that guarantees the supply and provision of God for every need - on every occasion - in every circumstance based upon what Christ has already done FOR us - not what we do today.

Somehow the church has *confused* our inheritance which is given by the grace of God thru the finished work of Christ on the cross with the principal of *increase* thru sowing and reaping.

- "...your Father knows what things ye have need of, before ye ask him." [Matt 6:8]
- "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." [Phil 4:19]

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Sowing and Reaping allows us to *increase* what has already been given as our inheritance but it does not *qualify* us for the inheritance that CHRIST died for in order to give us.

- "For you know the GRACE of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." [2 Cor. 8:9]

BELIEVE THE WORD: OBTAIN THE BLESSING!

Brethren it is time to abandon this idea that we can *qualify* for ANY blessing thru works of ANY kind - and instead RECEIVE the abundance of GRACE for everything including eternal life, righteousness, sanctification, healing and supernatural PROVISION & PROSPERITY.

Remember: "Therefore, since we have been justified 'through faith', we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ... through whom we have gained access BY FAITH into this GRACE in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God." [Rom 5:1 -2]

"Beloved, I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers." [3Jn 1:2]

I encourage you brethren to consider this - and begin to ask the Lord for wisdom on this subject. Seek God! And, Study out for yourself the scriptures regarding NEW TESTAMENT GRACE and how it applies to you in every area.

The surest way to prevent one's self from ever learning the truth - is to believe that we already know it!

"My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and BRING YOU PROSPERITY. Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart and LEAN NOT TO YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING..." [Prov. 3:1-5]

About the Author: In addition to his contributions to this website Reverend W. C. Slyde Moran also has a weekly television show • Online Audio Studies • And an ever-increasing outreach ministry providing free Audio teachings on CD to enable the growth and maturing of the body of Christ.