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The Blessings Of Being A Doer Of The Word  
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We have been learning about the importance of being a doer of the word of God and not just a hearer. In the book of Deuteronomy, which has been referred to as the remembering book of the bible, we learn that it is a book of instruction to the children of Israel, renewing to them what they are to do to inherit the promised land and what God had done for them, He had "brought them out to bring them in". Examples that have been given in the Old Testament still apply to us today in the New Testament because God doesn't change. Under the new covenant we know that we are not under the old strict mosaic law, but under the law of love. Paul teaches that the old law is not done away with, but we fulfill the law through the law of faith. Through the law of faith we become doers of the word of God and learn how to walk in love and learn how to take on the character and image of Jesus.

Rom 15:4 "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." KJV

Deut 6:23 "And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore unto our fathers." KJV

He brought them out of captivity to bring them into liberty, much like we are brought out of bondage today by being born again, but unfortunately many are still walking in bondage but God has brought us out in order to bring us in to what He has promised.

Deut 6:1-2,6-12 "Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: 2 That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. 9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates. 10 And it shall be, when the Lord thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not, 11 And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full; 12 Then beware lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage." KJV

These scriptures are telling the children how to inherit the Promised Land and to enjoy it once they get there. That can be a challenge for us to enjoy what God has for us once we have received what has been promised to us.

v.1 - v. 2 - teaches being a doer - keep doing those things that you have been taught so that you can enjoy the blessings and that your days may be prolonged

v. 6 the words will be your heart, not hearers only, v. 7 - v. 9 teach them to your children continually keeping them before them, putting priority on the words being taught

v. 10 - v. 12 tells of all the good things that had been prepared for them, but a reminder to not forget the Lord who had delivered them from bondage

The word of God must have priority in our lives, seeking the kingdom first, keeping the word in front of our eyes, written down in order to remind ourselves who we are and what the Lord has done for us. We must never forget that it is the Lord who has given us all the blessings and we should still have the word of God as priority in our lives, focused on it and being doers of the word.

Matt 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be Rom 15:4 "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." KJV

Jesus has been teaching what we know as the Sermon on the Mount and then adds the following as a way of telling them, that if they were not going to be doers of what He has taught them it will not help. The importance of hearing and doing the word will make them like wise men. These words are foundational words, words that a life can be built on, you will be a smart carpenter if you work them into your lives, they will stand the test of time, there will be challenges, the storms will come to everyone and some will not make it through, the doers of the word will make it through using the words, working them into their lives. What made this teaching acceptable to the people? it was apparent that Jesus was living what He was teaching.

Matt 7:24-29 "These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. *They are foundational words, words to build a life on.* If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock. Rain poured down, the river flooded, a tornado hit—but nothing moved that house. It was fixed to the rock. 26-27 "But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don't work them into your life, you are like a stupid carpenter who built his house on the sandy beach. When a storm rolled in and the waves came up, it collapsed like a house of cards." 28-29 When Jesus concluded his address, the crowd burst into applause. They had never heard teaching like this. It was apparent that he was living everything he was saying—quite a contrast to their religion teachers! This was the best teaching they had ever heard." MESSAGE

Matt 7:24-29 "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. 26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. 28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: 29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes." KJV

James was writing to born again believers telling them they weren't acting any different than the unsaved, the word of God has the power to transform. (see Hebrews chapter 4) Reminding them that they must be doers of the word, not hearers only or they will after looking into a mirror forget who they are, but if they look into the perfect law of liberty and continue, they will not be forgetting but will be doers of the word and will be blessed. The law of God brings freedom, does not bring bondage, the key is to continue. We learn the law of liberty by continuing in it. If we are going to be blessed, one of the requirements to being blessed is obedience or a doer of the word of God.

James 1:21-25 "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving

your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." KJV

\* engrafted means planted, spring up and grow

The word planted in us, is going to spring up and grow and has the power in it to transform or save our souls. The bible teaches that we are a spirit we have a soul and live in a body. The soulish part of man makes up our mind, will and emotions. In most Christian people this area of the soul is where the battle is waged on the inside of them. Receiving the word of God which has the power and as it springs up and grows on the inside of us, is able to transform our thinking and change our outlook on life and our actions.

Rom 12:1-2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." KJV

Heb 4:12 "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." KJV

The following scriptures explain the perfect law of liberty, continuing in them and the blessing that is received as we walk in obedience and are doers of the word. It is not always exciting to be obedient or a doer of the word, but the results or blessings we receive in everything we do make it worth it, being blessed beyond our natural abilities, moving over into the supernatural, but we must become doers of the word of God, prioritizing our lives. If you want the blessings of God in your lives, then you must be a doer of the word, there is no other way. It will be challenging.

James 1:25 "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." KJV

James 1:25 "But he who looks carefully into the faultless law, the [law] of liberty, and is faithful to it *and* perseveres in looking into it, being not a heedless listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he shall be blessed in his doing (his life of obedience)." AMP

James 1:25 "But you must never stop looking at the perfect law that sets you free. God will bless you in everything you do, if you listen and obey, and don't just hear and forget." CEV

James 1:25 "But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it." NLT

James 1:25 "But whoever catches a glimpse of the revealed counsel of God—the free life!—even out of the corner of his eye, and sticks with it, is no distracted scatterbrain but a man or woman of action. That person will find delight and affirmation in the action." MESSAGE

God has due order and His ways are so simple, but it must be His way and not ours.

These words were spoken to Joshua as he was taking over for Moses. Joshua would be going into the Promised Land and would be facing many challenges. He must not be talking about all the things going on around him but must be speaking the words of God, meditating on them in order to be successful in what he would be doing. Four times in the first chapter of Joshua, the words

strong and of good courage are mentioned. Joshua let it be known that he and his house were going to serve God, regardless of what others were doing.

Joshua 1:8 "**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." KJV

It is a challenge in being a doer of the word of God, to not be thinking or talking about the word of God, meditating on the word will enable us to be a doer of the word of God, the result is our way will be prosperous and we will have good success in life. God is the one who enables us to do the supernatural, but we will make our way prosperous because of being a doer of the word of God. Meditating the word as in the following scripture.

Pro 4:20-22 "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. 21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. 22 For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh." KJV

Challenge given to the congregation to read the following scriptures once a day for the next upcoming week and start working these words into our lives. It is very challenging to build our houses when the storm is bearing down. Build while the sun is shining.

Deut 28:1-13 "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt \*hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: 2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God. 3 Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. 4 Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. 5 Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store. 6 Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out. 7 The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways. 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. 9 The Lord shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways. 10 And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the Lord; and they shall be afraid of thee. 11 And the Lord shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers to give thee. 12 The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow. 13 And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:" KJV

\* hearken diligently means to hear intelligently and put out a firm steady effort to accomplish what was undertaken

These people were on the way to the Promised Land, but they would need to be listening, observing and doing all His commandments. This was the plan for Israel, but they were unable to implement the doing part of it. They were told what the blessings in every area of their lives would be if they did what was told them and what would happen if they did not. They must be doers of the word of God in order to receive the blessings.

Deut 11:13-16,18-21 "And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, 14 That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. 15 And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat

and be full. 16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; 18 Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. 19 And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 20 And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates: 21 That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth." KJV

God wants our days to be as the days of heaven here on the earth in a measure but we will never experience it in its fullness because of the effect of sin. God has a tremendous plan for us, His due order is that we be doers of the word, we cannot partake of everything else in our lives and expect to have the blessings. We can survive or we can thrive, but we must be doers of the word. Gods plan is for an abundance in our lives.