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Prosperity #5
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We read in Psalm 35, that the "Lord takes pleasure in the prosperity of his servant." God is for us, He wants us to be prosperous and His plan is to teach us and show us how this can be accomplished. His plan is that we have increase and we have substance. His anointing and favor is upon everyone, not just those in the 5 fold ministry. There may be persecution sometimes with those blessings, but we should never be apologetic for what God gives to us.

Psa 35:27 "Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant." KJV

Pro 3:9-10 "Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: 10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine." KJV

Jesus means for us to be rich, not being poor, poverty is a curse just as much as sin and sickness are curses, but He was willing to pay the price and redeem us from the curse of the law.

2 Cor 8:9 "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." KJV

Gal 3:13 "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:" KJV

The following scriptures are in reference to the life of David and his accomplishments during his leadership over Israel, spanning a 40 year period, it did not happen overnight and should be an encouragement to us that what happens to us may be over a period of time as we stay faithful to the Lord.

David was making plans for a temple to be built, but he would not be doing the actual work, his son Solomon would be, however, David would be making preparations by gathering what would be needed to accomplish the project. The verses tell in detail all the amounts of different materials that were collected and what David personally gave, which were extreme in the amounts and then continues with what the other people gave, making large donations, but the main emphasis on the giving, is their willingness to give and be part of the building of the temple. David's heart was in the building of the temple for God, and he did everything that he could do. David was able to accomplish this offering toward the building of the temple because of how the Lord had blessed him over the 40 years that he had been ruler over Israel.

Looking at the amounts on today's market, the amounts given were in the billions, and yet David was able to give out of his own accounts, he had received favor from God, he was not perfect but the Lord continued to bless him, anytime he sinned, he was quick to repent and become humble before the Lord. David knew that God was his source, he had learned that while he was a shepherd and a warrior and he knew how to trust God. We probably cannot comprehend what this large amount that was given would even be.

We may not all be millionaires, many of us would not be able to handle the discipline and responsibility that goes along with that, but God does want us to have all our needs met and for us to be prosperous with more than enough.

1 Chron 29:1-4 "Furthermore David the king said unto all the congregation, Solomon my son, whom alone God

hath chosen, is yet young and tender, and the work is great: for the palace is not for man, but for the Lord God. 2 Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God the gold for things to be made of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and the brass for things of brass, the iron for things of iron, and wood for things of wood; onyx stones, and stones to be set, glistening stones, and of divers colours, and all manner of precious stones, and marble stones in abundance. 3 Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, which I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house. 4 Even three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses withal:

As the people began to see what David had given to the building of the temple, they began to get involved, it became a trickle-down effect, wanting to be a part of what was being planned. They too, offered willingly and gave in great abundance because of the blessings of God on them.

1 Chron 29:6-9 "Then the chief of the fathers and princes of the tribes of Israel and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers of the king's work, offered willingly, 7 And gave for the service of the house of God of gold five thousand talents and ten thousand drams, and of silver ten thousand talents, and of brass eighteen thousand talents, and one hundred thousand talents of iron. 8 And they with whom precious stones were found gave them to the treasure of the house of the Lord, by the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite. 9 Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the Lord: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy." KJV

1 Chron 29:6-9 "Then the family leaders, the leaders of the tribes of Israel, the generals and captains of the army, and the king's administrative officers all gave willingly. 7 For the construction of the Temple of God, they gave about 188 tons of gold, 10,000 gold coins, 375 tons of silver, 675 tons of bronze, and 3,750 tons of iron. 8 They also contributed numerous precious stones, which were deposited in the treasury of the house of the Lord under the care of Jehiel, a descendant of Gershon. 9 The people rejoiced over the offerings, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the Lord, and King David was filled with joy." NLT

The palace or temple was for the Lord, not for man, but the buildings that we build are a tool which enable us to help in ministering to people more effectively.

The religious mind has trouble imagining these kinds of figures, but if we become apologetic regarding the blessings that God is able to bestow upon us, we will begin to start limiting Him, He wants to bless us.

In previous teachings we have learned in chapters 8 and 9 of 2nd Corinthians how to give into an offering and they tell us what happens after we give into an offering. Multiplication is always involved. Paul teaches that everyone should be involved and that we should give out of what we have and not what we don't have. Just because we don't have, doesn't mean that we shouldn't give anything at all, that is a wrong attitude. It should not be left to any one person to give it all, but everybody to be involved.

We learn in chapter 12 of Romans that God anoints some people for specific giving. We need to be hanging around people who are givers, which can have a trickle-down effect on us. However, there are people who may not be born again but have a gift from God for receiving and giving to others. We can't let our attitude be wrong in them having the ability to receive wealth if they are honest in getting that wealth. We should be doing some of what they have learned in order to have those kind of blessings. The word tells us that God gives believers wisdom and knowledge in order to have inventions and new ideas shown to them.

Pro 8:12 "I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions." KJV

In the following scriptures David is acknowledging the goodness of God in his life, David knows that it has been God who has blessed him in all that he has and made available to him, therefore he is able to give back to the Lord an abundant supply of wealth to be used in the construction of the temple. God has always been David's source and he knows that. David also recognizes that the people have been willing to give with a cheerful heart and with much joy. We must have the same attitude of giving as the Lord begins to bless us, acknowledging Him as being our source, the one who has given us the ability to receive from Him all that we have. Giving freely with a cheerful heart, not having a greedy attitude and we must be willing to be led by the Holy Spirit in all that we do.

1 Chron 29:11-14 "Thine, O Lord is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. 12 Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. 13 Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name. 14 But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee." KJV

1 Chron 29:16-20 "O Lord our God, all this store that we have prepared to build thee an house for thine holy name cometh of thine hand, and is all thine own. 17 I know also, my God, that thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy thy people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto thee. 18 O Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare their heart unto thee: 19 And give unto Solomon my son a perfect heart, to keep thy commandments, thy testimonies, and thy statutes, and to do all these things, and to build the palace, for the which I have made provision. 20 And David said to all the congregation, Now bless the Lord your God. And all the congregation blessed the Lord God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads, and worshipped the Lord, and the king." KJV

The principle of being willing to give began earlier when the children of Israel came out of Egypt, they left there with an extreme amount of wealth, that had been laid up for them during their 400 years of being slaves. When the Lord spoke to Moses about preparing the tabernacle in the wilderness, the Lord instructed Moses to gather up the necessary items needed, which the children of Israel had been given and were able to provide. God told Moses how the tabernacle was to be constructed, in addition to the supplies that would be needed, there were people with the ability to construct special items made of all kinds of precious metals, knowledge in weaving and anything else that might be needed. The people had willing hearts and were more than willing not only to give from their wealth but in their ability to perform the duties required in the construction of the tabernacle. After a period of time during the giving process, Moses informed the people that there was an abundant supply, the need had been met and that nothing else was needed.

Exo 25:1-8 "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering. 3 And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass, 4 And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, 5 And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood, 6 Oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense, 7 Onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate. 8 And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them." KJV

Exo 35:5,10,21-22,29 "Take ye from among you an offering unto the Lord: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the Lord; gold, and silver, and brass, 10 And every wise hearted among you shall come, and make all that the Lord hath commanded; 21-22 "And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the Lord's offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments. 22 And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted, and brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every

man that offered offered an offering of gold unto the Lord. 29 The children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the Lord, every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work, which the Lord had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses." KJV

Exo 36:5-7 "And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the Lord commanded to make. 6 And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing. 7 For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much." KJV

In the book of Ephesians we learn that under the new covenant that the local church is the temple of God, the believers make up the cooperate body of Christ and the outreach of that body of believers affects many different kinds of people.

Eph 2:21 "In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:" KJV

It is so important to have facilities that will met the needs of each of these kinds of ministries. We cannot allow the enemy to rob us of the blessings that God has for us because of a lack of funds. The religious people who think that the church is only after their money is wrong, but each person must have a desire to give willingly and not out of necessity. God loves a cheerful giver and will make all grace about to us. Not only does God give seed for the sower, but He will increase or multiply that seed that is sown.

2 Cor 9:7-10 "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 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: 9 (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. 10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)" KJV

2 Cor 9:7-10 "Let each one [give] as he has made up his own mind *and* purposed in his heart, not reluctantly *or* sorrowfully or under compulsion, for God loves (He takes pleasure in, prizes above other things, and is unwilling to abandon or to do without) a cheerful (joyous, "prompt to do it") giver [whose heart is in his giving]. 8 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]. 9 As it is written, He [the benevolent person] scatters abroad; He gives to the poor; His deeds of justice *and* goodness *and* kindness *and* benevolence will go on *and* endure forever! 10 And [God] Who provides seed for the sower and bread for eating will also provide and multiply your [resources for] sowing and increase the fruits of your righteousness [which manifests itself in active goodness, kindness, and charity]." AMP

A story was shared of a pastor who continually spoke about Gods increase and favor following him wherever he would go. When going with his wife to the mall he would stay outside of the stores and talk with the people. People would come to him and give him cash money and upon receiving a large amount of money, he would give it all away to those who appeared to have needs or wanted to make purchases that apparently they did not funds to do so.

Money is not the issue. God owns it all. In order for God to bless us, we must get rid of the religious mindset that God doesn't want us to have money or be blessed. We must prove ourselves in the little things, if we say that we are going to do something, then do it. God is not through with us yet.