

## Prosperity & the Kingdom of God, pt.2

### Positioning Yourself For Prosperity

#### Introduction

1. You can be rich, but not prosperous. Riches have to do with money; prosperity has to do money, plus everything else. Will you choose to be rich or prosperous?
2. Mindset must change. Jesus came preaching, “Repent the KOG is here.” Change your mind about riches & prosperity.

#### **EMBRACE THE TRUTH THAT IT ALL BELONGS TO JESUS (David)**

1. 1 Chron.29.10–19 – David is the person we all aspire to be like & he clearly understood this truth.
2. This is first base and you won’t enter into prosperity into you settle this one. He is the King & this is his Kingdom.(Col.1.15a, 16). He has given us charge to expand His reign over the planet.
3. As long as you think it’s yours, you’ll have a hostile attitude towards God & money. You’re acting like a squatter on someone else’s property and claiming it to be your own.
4. You’re a groundskeeper. The best groundskeepers are the ones who treat the land like its theirs but realize it belongs to another to whom they are accountable. They aren’t afraid of the owner, but rather are devoted to him.

#### **BE A GOOD STEWARD OF THE RESOURCES ENTRUSTED TO US (Joseph)**

1. Gen.39.19–23; 41.1, 33–36 – The story of Joseph in prison & then elevated to second in command. He was faithful during the hard, quiet & dark times. When nobody noticed and the pay was minimal and the work was sweaty. He didn’t expect anything, but was using the time & his ability properly and developing new skill sets. He could’ve complained, cried mistreatment, sought revenge, escaped, grown disenchanted with God but he remained faithful. In time, God raised him up.
2. Do you want to be entrusted with millions? Be faithful with thousands! Don’t be envious of what others have and you don’t.

- Rather manage well what you have. Use good business practices, invest properly, get out of debt, etc.
3. Luke 16.10
  4. The story of Joel Osteen running the cameras and editing the messages for tv, etc & now pastor of America's largest church.
  5. Luke 19.11–26

### **HONOR THE LORD WITH THE TITHE (Abel & Abraham)**

1. Gen.4.2–5 – Abel's gifts were accepted by God & God's favor rested on him; Gen.14.18–20 – Abraham was blessed by Melchizedek & God's favor rested on his life.
2. Mal.3.8–12: God promises abundance upon those who tithe. You can either be rich and not tithe or tithe and be prosperous. God promises prosperity of every kind upon tithers.
3. By tithing I am positioning myself to receive God's radiant abundance. If I'm not receiving it, I have legal right to ask for it and expect to receive it.
4. If I don't tithe, I don't have leverage, but only His mercy. One of the reasons I have had few spiritually dry seasons is b/c I tithe and God pours down blessing. I have witnessed with my children God's creativity & favor on their lives. God obligates Himself to those who obey His word.
5. If you find yourself cranky, in a foul mood, spiritually empty, discontent, financially adrift, unsettled, etc. consistently tithe and watch what God does. There may be other things that need to be attended to, but open the door to the Lord in this area.

### **PRAY & BELIEVE GOD WILL BLESS YOU (Jabez)**

1. 1 Chron.4.9–10 – Jabez.
2. We serve a good God who is in a good mood and he wants to bless His people. Even when He disciplines us, he has a smile on His face.
3. God is a giver. He has given us His Son...the Spirit to live inside of us...everything we need for life & godliness...precious promises...gifts, abilities & resources...the KOG...authority over the

devil...wisdom...etc. Never doubt that God loves you and wants to bless you.

4. The purpose of our King's wealth is to provide abundantly for His citizens. Our King wants the world to see that he is well able to take care of all His citizens. He doesn't want to be known as miserly or weak, but beneficent and strong. He wants his citizens to announce his generous heart
5. You can't believe the lies of the devil or focus on the unanswerable questions. Look at Jesus, smile and see that we serve a good God who is in a good mood and He has some good gifts for you. You can either focus on what you don't have or you can bless him for what you do have.
6. The key to prosperity of soul is to focus on what you do have.
  - a. Brooke McQueen – graduated from college, got engaged & hired as a teacher within a few days; this summer will be lean. She can either focus on what she doesn't have or what she does.
7. ss

### **BE A GIVER (Cornelius)**

1. Acts 10.1–6, 44–46 – Cornelius. His generosity drew the presence of the Lord and opened the door for His salvation & his whole household. (the reason some of us are blessed is b/c of the generosity of our parents & grandparents)
2. Generosity is a prosperity magnet. If you want to draw the favor of God, be generous with the wealth God gives you. Prov.19.17; Is.58.
3. Luke 6.38
4. When you give to a king, he is obligated not only to respond to it, but also exceed it. 1 K.10.10, 13 – Solomon & Queen of Sheba
5. Story of land bought from \$250,000 & eventually sold for \$2.5 mil. How do you end up with a deal like that? Give & it shall be given to you pressed down shaken together & running over.