

THE BLESSING FLOWS THROUGH OBEDIENCE

By Ps James Phiri

THE BLESSING OF THE LORD

Proverbs 10:22(NLT)

The blessing of the Lord makes a person rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.

The Blessing of the Lord is not the many blessings we see in our lives. But it is what produces these blessings. **IT IS THE ANNOINTING TO PROSPER IN EVERYTHING.** When it comes upon a person, he makes him rich in every way. And it brings no sorrow with it.

But this Blessing can only flow in our lives through obedience. We are not blessed because we obey. We obey because we are blessed.

EXAMPLES IN THE BIBLE

ABRAHAM

Genesis 12:1(NIV)

The Lord had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.'

As soon as God made the promise to Abram, Abram was blessed. However, for the promise to be fulfilled in his life, he had to obey God's instruction.

Whether Abram obeyed or did not obey, the promise or the blessing would remain because in **Romans 11:29: FOR THE GIFTS AND THE CALLING OF GOD ARE IRREVOCABLE.**

So, God did not bless Abraham because he obeyed. He was already blessed, and his obedience ensured that the blessing became a reality. The blessing of God upon him flowed through his obedience. His obedience was not the cause of his blessing. God gave the promise before Abraham could obey Him.

Again, as long as Abraham obeyed the word of God that He was the Father of many nations, it manifested in his life.

If Abraham chose not to obey the Word of promise, that would not remove the promise, but it would stop it from manifesting in his life.

SO, HIS OBEDIENCE WAS THE CHANNEL THROUGH WHICH THE PROMISE OR BLESSING COULD FLOW.

SAMSON

As long as Samson obeyed God's Word not to cut his hair, the anointing or blessing of God upon his life could manifest.

The power was not in his hair: the hair was a symbol of his obedience. Or a symbol of his faith in God. As soon as he removed the hair (disobeyed God), the anointing stopped. It was still there but he could not use it because it was now hindered by his disobedience.

NAAMAN

2Kings 5

Naaman is instructed by Elisha the man of God to go deep his body in the river Jordan seven times and he will be healed.

In other words, when Naaman left Elisha, God had already provided his healing. It was now up to him to make sure it happens.

When he dipped in the river seven times, he was not making God heal him. He was receiving his healing. His obedience ensured that the blessing of God upon his life to heal him became a reality.

THE WIDOW'S OIL

2Kings 4: 1-7

The woman is instructed to collect empty jars and the promise is that the oil will not stop until all her jars are full.

Whether she obeyed that or not, the promise or blessing would remain. Her obedience only caused the blessing to flow into her life.

You can either close or open the channel of God's blessing in your life. It is up to you.

Take for example the power stations, they generate the power and supply it into my home. But it is up to me whether I use it or not.

OBEDIENCE ACCORDING TO JESUS

John 14:15(GNT)

If you love me, you will obey my commandments.

Jesus says obedience is loving God. This means, if I want to know whether I love God or not, I should look at my obedience towards him.

When I do what God tells me to do, I show Him that I love Him.

Therefore, obedience is not me causing God to do something for me. But it is me showing my gratitude to God for what He has done for me. I love Him because He loved me first. And obedience is loving Him.

I obey him because he loves me. I obey him because he blessed me. I am already blessed; I do not obey Him because I am afraid that He will take away His blessing. No. I obey because He blessed me already, and I love Him for that.

We need to obey God with an attitude of love, not fear. Otherwise, how are we to live with Him for eternity in fear. I want to live with Him for eternity in love.

My question is: How do you show God you love Him?

AMEN.