

*Kingdom Culture*

FINANCE

*and*

STEWARDSHIP



GEORGE AKALONU

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## USE OF HEBRAIC NAMES OF THE MOST HIGH

Yahweh, Elohim, Yeshua. During our walk with the Lord, we discovered by leading of Holy Spirit how fundamentally flawed was the intrusion of Rome into the gospel from 4<sup>th</sup> Century AD. Replacement Theology led Rome to take away all Hebraic/Jewish connections as root of what is now called the Christian Faith. What He has led us to do is to call our Father by the Name He revealed Himself to Israel which is Yahweh. In the same way, rather than call our Creator by the generic title God, we find it more appropriate to call Him by the Hebraic Name he revealed to humanity through Moses which is Elohim. The name, Elohim properly conveys His Unity in Plurality as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! We also call our King the Name His Father gave Him, Yeshua as well as the Anglicized translation, Ioseus. We do this as led by Holy Spirit, not as part of the so-called sacred Names movement. Neither do we subscribe to the legalistic methods of Judaizers intent on dragging saints into the dead works and rituals of Judaism. We do not condemn or malign those who have not yet caught this depth of revelation. Please feel free to call the Most High by what He reveals to you and what you are comfortable with.



## CHAPTER 1 PROLOGUE AND INTRODUCTION

Three Courses in Systematic Applied Kingdom Theology namely Understanding Elohim; Understanding Yeshua, Jesus The Son; and Holy Spirit: Who He Is and What He Does combine to expand our knowledge of Elohim which is the basis of all knowledge:

### **Jeremiah let not the wise man glory in his wisdom**

When we know Him as He Is and embrace Him as our heavenly Father rather than a distant, Unknown God, it is easy to accept Him as El Shaddai, our All Sufficient God and as Jehovah Jireh, our God Who provides. Before we can discuss the issue of Finance and stewardship, in the Kingdom, it may be necessary to outline in detail, two extreme positions that are part of the baggage saints acquire in two broad strands of Christian Religion and its variant, Churchianity and their impact on believers. The two extremes are:

- The Pseudo-Holiness Movement and its disdain and demonization of money
- The Pseudo-Prosperity Movement and its idolization of money

### **The Pseudo-Holiness Movement**

The first negative attitude is that of scorn and disdain for money championed largely by what is broadly called ‘the Holiness Movement’. The Holiness Movement tried to help God by inserting words He never put in the Holy Writ. Where 1 Timothy 6:10 says “*The love of money is the root of all evil*”, the Holiness Movement made it out through various preaching and

teachings that money in itself is evil. Because of this tendency, saints grew up seeing money as a sign of evil; evidence of backsliding and worldliness. They became scared of money in itself and thought that the best way to show practical holiness was to live in poverty and celebrate lack! Poverty was thus given free rein to the point of developing a tap root of systemic lack which has plagued generations of believers across the world till today, in spite of their sound testimonies of genuine salvation. The evidence of this state of affairs is the large army of ‘begging believers and ministers’ on various social media platforms – using all kinds of strategies to seek support, not for kingdom advancement, but for basic sustenance. In the process, many ‘holy people’ lie, distort reality, and exaggerate just to attract sympathy and support. We all must realise that our spirit man transitions, instantaneously, on conversion from darkness to light and from death to life eternal in Yeshua, Jesus. As we grow in grace, giving the Holy Spirit right of way, He uses the Word and circumstances of life to sanctify our souls wholly.

Our physical body however is substantially prospered or not depending on our understanding and applications of the laws of holistic prosperity. If the physical body is not given the right balance of nutrients, exercise, and rest, it may be degraded, decay or crumble. If we put a yoke of systemic poverty and lack, that Elohim did not give us, on the physical body, it may snap, and the spirit and soul can be negatively affected. Undue poverty can therefore rank equally with ingestion of liquor, cigarette, drugs and other harmful substances and immorality, as abuse of the BODY which happens to be the Temple of the Holy Spirit! Our body was bought with a great price by the precious blood of Yeshua, Jesus and so we must ensure that it is not misused or overstressed by, among other things, poverty which is not a virtue in itself!

1 Corinthians 6:20 (KJV) 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

In other words, it is pseudo-holiness to seek prosperity of the spirit-man and shun the wellness of the soul and physical body.

### **The Pseudo-Prosperity Movement**

On the other part of the religious divide, is near idolisation of money by the pseudo-Prosperity Movement. The mantra of this group is addition to the essence and meaning of some scriptures to justify their error. The favourite text is taken from Ecclesiastes 10:19 “*Money answers all things*”. Because of this perspective, believers fed by their doctrine, set out to acquire the capacity to answer all things presumably to be able to “finance the gospel



programme”. Their understanding of God is as inadequate and a kind of old senile fellow who needs help! The outcome is inadequate spiritual preparation before seeking wealth leading to massive backsliding, handling the word deceitfully for private gain and generally affirming the truth of what the Holy Spirit said through the mouth of Paul:

Philippians 3:17-19 (KJV) 17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. 18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

Speaking further, Holy Spirit used Paul to state emphatically in verses 20-21:

20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

By exalting money above the word and thereby making it an idol, the pseudo-prosperity movement has done a great disservice to the true gospel by supplanting the Old Rugged Cross with the New Plastic Cross!

## **B. Elohim: A Responsible Father**

There should never be any question that Elohim is a Responsible Father. The Gospel of the Kingdom presents Elohim as a Faithful, Responsible, and benevolent Father Who cares for holistic wellbeing of all His creation. This is why He demands that ALL saints, notwithstanding their estates in life should get the order of priorities right and depend on Elohim to do what He does best – provide for our needs.

Matthew 6:19-34 (KJV) 19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole

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body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! 24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Beyond that, He pays particular attention to every detail of the lives of those who are His children to ensure that they receive His blessings as an inheritance of Grace.

Ephesians 1:3-12 (KJV) 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 9 Having made known unto us the

mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

He knew us before we knew Him! Elohim has a specific calling and assignment for each of us, just as He told Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 1:4-10 (KJV) 4 Then the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, 5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. 6 Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. 7 But the Lord said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. 8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord. 9 Then the Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. 10 See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

### **The Dimensions of His Calling**

Many believers who skim the surface of scripture tend to run with some truths without making room for ALL TRUTHS about a subject matter. In this regard, certain instructions of King Yeshua when taken out of context can create unintended consequences. The Bible reveals that four types of people Yeshua called to different dimensions of Ministry requiring certain dispositions to wealth.

#### **1. Those Elohim called to Full-Time Ministry**

These were specific types of people whose callings required them to abandon all other occupations and activities to become fishers of men. This was the case of the 12 disciples who were chosen for the specific assignments of understudying Him for the three and half years of His earthly ministry.

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Matthew 4:17-22 (KJV) 17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. 18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. 19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. 20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him. 21 And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. 22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

Mark 3:13-19 (KJV) 13 And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. 14 And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, 15 And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils: 16 And Simon he surnamed Peter; 17 And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder: 18 And Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Canaanite, 19 And Judas Iscariot, which also betrayed him: and they went into an house.

Those He tried their hearts to ensure that no idols exist which will hinder them.

2. Those He tested their hearts to ensure that idols were located and rooted out.

There may be some people who Elohim God will test their hearts by asking them to give up wealth or pursuit of wealth so that He can be their sufficiency.

Mark 10:17-24 (KJV) 17 And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? 18 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God. 19 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother. 20 And he answered and said unto him,

Master, all these have I observed from my youth. 21 Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. 22 And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions. 23 And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! 24 And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God!

Through the experience of this man, Yeshua brought forth some critical truths about those who pursue wealth with all their hearts: they are in the grip of Mammon, the demon Satan assigns as principality to control hearts of humans. Let us keep this truth in view in order to understand the reality that the heart of a human is not designed to latch onto anything outside of Elohim. Those who ignore this truth will worship the Idol that grips the heart more than Elohim.

3. Those He called, and their assignments required capacity to handle wealth and power.

### **Case studies: Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea**

John chapter 3 presents us with the man Nicodemus, a Pharisee and leader in the Jewish world. Subsequent events showed that this man received the gospel and was saved. Because of his assignment, Yeshua did not ask him to resign and join the 12 in full time ministry. From his exalted perch, Nicodemus was used by the Lord to puncture a plan to capture Yeshua.

John 7:43-53 (KJV) 43 So there was a division among the people because of him. 44 And some of them would have taken him; but no man laid hands on him. 45 Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him? 46 The officers answered, Never man spake like this man. 47 Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived? 48 Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him? 49 But this people who knoweth not the law are cursed. 50 Nicodemus saith unto them, (he that came to Jesus by night, being one of them,) 51 Doth our law judge any man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth? 52 They

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answered and said unto him, Art thou also of Galilee? Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet. 53 And every man went unto his own house.

Another secret disciple was Joseph of Arimathea. We can deduct from scripture that he must have been a very prominent man, obviously wealthy enough to have his own grave that was used to fulfil scriptures about Yeshua. Furthermore, he had access to the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate to the degree he could request and was given permission to take the dead body of Yeshua to give Him a decent burial.

John 19:38-42 (KJV) 38 And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. 39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. 40 Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. 41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. 42 There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

The prophecy by Isaiah that Yeshua would be buried with the rich was fulfilled by the ministry of Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. It is noteworthy that none of the 12 full-time disciples had the capacity to do this assignment!

Isaiah 53:9 (KJV) 9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

**Barnabas.** Though born again and called, this brother was obviously a wealthy man. The Lord positioned him to be an instrument of sustenance and encouragement when the early Church fell into hard times because the brethren evidently abandoned their business to live off communal resources.

Acts 2:41-47 (KJV) 41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. 42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of

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bread, and in prayers. 43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. 44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common; 45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. 46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, 47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Acts 4:32-37 (KJV) 32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. 33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. 34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, 35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. 36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus, 37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

4. Those who are called to 'Pulpit' Ministry but required to have channels through which Elohim provides blessings.

Paul the Apostle was called to a massive global ministry to the Gentiles in Acts chapter 9. But Elohim knew that he would encounter proud and carnal people like the believers in Corinth. Accordingly, Elohim gave him skills and the ability to fend to earn income therefrom so that he would not be constrained by their pride.

Acts 18:1-4 (KJV) 1 After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; 2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. 3 And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. 4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

Though Paul was used by Elohim to articulate a Kingdom compensation plan for full time ministers, he opted to not earn any formal salary. In this way, the Lord used brethren of their own accord, without coercion to support him. Whenever he was amongst carnal people, he did not depend on them for sustenance.

1 Corinthians 9:1-19 (KJV) 1 Am I am not an apostle? am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not ye my work in the Lord? 2 If I be not an apostle unto others, yet doubtless I am to you: for the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord. 3 Mine answer to them that do examine me is this, 4 Have we not power to eat and to drink? 5 Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas? 6 Or I only and Barnabas, have not we power to forbear working? 7 Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges? who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock? 8 Say I these things as a man? or saith not the law the same also? 9 For it is written in the law of Moses, thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen? 10 Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope. 11 If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? 12 If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ. 13 Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? 14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel. 15 But I have used none of these things: neither have I written these things, that it should be so done unto me: for it were better for me to die, than that any man should make my glorying void. 16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! 17 For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me. 18 What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my



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power in the gospel. 19 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

If we do not understand these distinctions, we may judge people wrongly based on what they have or do not have. But when we accept the reality that Elohim designs people as it pleases Him and has specific callings for them, it will help us to appreciate why saints have different sets of Grace to handle various challenges of life.

**Assignment:** 1. Please write down 5 key things you are taking away from this lesson. 2. Please briefly summarise the 4 types of call discussed in this lesson.

## CHAPTER 2

### INTRODUCTION, KINGDOM ECONOMIC SYSTEM AND SYNOPSIS

The prologue in chapter 1 established that Elohim is a responsible and faithful Father to His children and does not take pleasure in their living in abject poverty, unable to meet their needs and a reproach. That first chapter also established some important principles:

1. Both the Pseudo-Holiness and Pseudo-Prosperity Movements miss the mark when discussing Money.
2. Money should not be demonised or Idolised. Both extremes are wrong.
3. It is wrong to lump everyone together into the same mould when discussing Finance and money. The Bible reveals 4 categories of people who are to have different attitudes to wealth:
  - 3.1. Those called to full-time ministry, who would invest everything to serve the Lord and those they are assigned to. Elohim guarantees provision of all they need, using whatever channel it pleases Him. If He sends anyone on full-time ministry assignment, He will pay the bills.
  - 3.2. Elohim does not want money and possessions of material things to be a stronghold in the life of saints who desire to inherit eternal life. He reserves the right to test hearts of saints by asking them to give up wealth. Those who are genuinely appreciative of the superiority of spiritual wealth will release material wealth when asked. Those for whom it has become an idol will cling to wealth at expense of their souls like the young man who encountered Yeshua.
  - 3.3. There are those Elohim will call to ministry of receiving wealth, proper management, and distribution of same. He empowers them

financially to use as vessels of sustaining His gospel programme within their loops of influence. Among such people were Joseph of Arimathea and Barnabas, the son of consolation.

- 3.4. There are those who will be called to ministry and required to have skills or businesses which Elohim will use to channel financial resources into their lives. In this way, they will not be an undue burden to those they lead and cannot be compromised or intimidated by proud or difficult followers. Such was Paul the apostle who was a tentmaker.

### **Between Personal Consecration and Doctrine**

Many preachers tend to be carried away by their personal experiences and thrust such forward as if that constitutes doctrine. Doctrine is what the Word says of any particular issue. Doctrine is Truth that we are all bound to receive, embrace, and practice. The personal experience of a minister or specific ways Holy Spirit leads the minister to live as part of his or her unique walk with Elohim is called consecration. The unique consecration of a vessel should not be turned into a doctrine. For instance, in the Old Testament, some people consecrated themselves to be Nazarites. In that case, they did not shave their hair and beards. This was personal and was not compulsory for other categories of ministers. When this distinction is not made, a good deed done as unto the Lord may become an instrument of error and satanic deceit, if presented to others as a compulsory experience for all! Pastors and leaders need to go back to the Word to understand what it says of all things which pertain to life and godliness, comparing scripture with scripture in much prayer to receive inspiration of Holy Spirit so that saints are fed the pure word which is able to save them. Let this be repeated until it sinks in: the personal consecration of a leader or a specific sacrifice which the Lord requires of a leader should not be imposed on people who had no such call. Doing so will create an atmosphere of control, foster a religious spirit of hypocrisy as people do their best to appear to be what they are not. In the process, the leaders can end up producing clones of themselves, not disciples of Yeshua.

In the year between 1997 and 1998, Elohim effectively and suddenly blessed our young family with wealth! We did not look for wealth, neither did we covet it. However, because Elohim ordained it, wealth literally came looking for us as we sought first His Kingdom and focused intensely on His will and assignment for our lives! After some years, the Lord tugged at our heart to test whether it had become an idol that gripped or whether He was still at the centre of our lives. Like He did to Abraham in the matter of Isaac, Elohim asked us to release the 'precious' wealth. By His grace, we passed the

test and released it joyfully. In a special way, He became our Jehovah Jireh, meeting us at every point of need in a literal sense, using whosoever He wanted. The truth is that He took us into another paradigm that we consider greater than accumulation of money: As Jehovah Jireh He provides the ALLOCATION for every ASSIGNMENT, right on time! Since then, we have gone forth into every assignment from Him with that same confidence, knowing assuredly that He Himself has already made provisions and decided before-hand the vessels He will use to meet the needs. We therefore do not fret over money, neither do we give it any room to put us under pressure.

In reality, non-availability of specific funds for any assignment has been to us an ultimate sign that we are running ahead of God or trying to do His spiritual work in the flesh! Without fail, He has provided everything needed for every level of the assignment – locally, nationally, and globally. In this way, all assignments He placed in our hand concerning mobilising and networking the remnant; teaching to disciple the saints; training, equipping, activating, and releasing labourers into the vineyard as Ministers of the gospel as well as mobilising intercessors to stand in the gap have been executed miraculously by Him. This was the route He chose for us by Election and the grace released for us to embrace it as a personal consecration. That is why He did not allow us to turn our experience into a doctrine. The reality of our experience was not as smooth as this testimony. There were fiery trials at the place of lack. Through them, we understood the beauty of a spiritual principle: if you embrace your process and dance through your fire, you will come forth like gold! On certain occasions, we had to depend on the depth of Faith in Elohim and certainty of His word to pull through circumstances He allowed us to experience. We experienced verbal reproaches of brethren and sneering by those who were not privileged to see where the Lord was taking us.

Hebrews 13:5-6 (KJV) 5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. 6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

The Alpha Church did not walk in fullness of understanding of these revelations. The result is that businesspeople sold their assets and laid all at the Apostles feet for distribution to be made to all. Within a few years, real famine hit the Church. Missionaries like Paul the apostle were used by the Lord to fund raise through which money and material resources were mobilised from the Gentiles to sustain Jewish believers in the homeland.

**Poser**

## KINGDOM FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

Is it possible that the situation would have been different if those gifted with receiving and distributing wealth simply consecrated their assets to Elohim, employed saints, grew their businesses using Kingdom models of integrity and dedicated the profits to support needy saints and sponsoring the gospel programme? We cannot blame them because they walked in the degree of light they had. In addition, they believed that Yeshua would fulfil the promise to return in their lifetime.

John 14:1-3 (KJV) 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

One of the most overlooked promises is that the Alpha Church is not the ultimate! Elohim has reserved the best for us of the Omega Church and we need to press in by Faith to become all that He intended.

Hebrews 11:39-40 (KJV) 39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Of that intention, we have been given a sneak peek of what the last dispensation will look like at close of the age as we submit to the intense cleansing of water of the Word.

Ephesians 5:26-27 (KJV) 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

We believe that both the spirit of covetousness as well of those that drive systemic poverty may well be part of the other such things that need to be rooted out so that the Church will be pure and unspotted from the world system which is driven by greed.

### **Kingdom Economics, the basis of wealth and prosperity**

One big shame that is upon the kingdom movement is the laziness to discover the full extent of our identity and the responsibilities our heavenly

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Father expects from us. We need to go beyond agitation-propaganda and tossing around the term “Kingdom” carelessly while living according to the dictates of the Satan controlled world economic system! The truth, pure and simple is that true saints of the Kingdom are those who have responded to His call to come out of the world system and embrace their true and full identity as citizens of His own Kingdom.

John 17:9-18 (KJV) 9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. 10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. 11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. 12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. 13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 (KJV) 14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

1 John 2:15 15-17 (KJV) 15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the

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lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Ephesians 2:1-13; Colossians 1:12-18; Colossians 2:13-15; 1 John 5:19-21.

In this scenario, Elohim is the Sovereign Ruler over His people offering them everything that pertain to life and godliness. These include righteousness; peace and security; the joy of connecting with and to Him and His own type of prosperity, based on His own kind of economic system, amongst others (Romans 14:17-19; 2 Peter 1:3). In effect, though we are physically in this present world, we are not really of it. We are primarily citizens of the Kingdom and then citizens of the nation where He planted us as His own ambassadors! This dual citizenship is at the heart of any proper understanding of the paradox of the Kingdom in this present time (John 17:15,16). The Jews are a typical example of a people who understand dual citizenship. It does not matter where a Jew finds him or herself on planet earth, it is branded deep down in the psyche that he or she is first and foremost, a Jew with a non-negotiable commitment to the peace of Jerusalem and well-being of Israel. Flowing from that consciousness, the Jew literally works under the weight of the burden to be a sent one from Yahweh to the gentile nation where he or she is planted. The Jew realises, even as a youth, that to excel in his/her business, profession and contribute to the advancement of civilization will only bring empowerment which will ultimately be passed on as goodwill and blessings for Israel and other Jews. This unwritten law in the heart of all true Jews was branded in them by Elohim through the years, starting to when He gave the Torah in Exodus 19. This is why Jewish communities are tightly knit and prosperous till today.

Having said that, we must now address the fact that every Kingdom has a policy towards economic activities and instruments, including money. The monetary policies of nations and groups of nations vary. The Federal Reserve of America pursues a monetary policy which is opposite that of China. Even among allies such as the United States and United Kingdom, their monetary policies at this present time are worlds apart largely because the various governments at The White House and No. 10 Downing Street are pursuing opposite economic policies. The economic model of the world is based on the concept of economics as the science of managing scarcity. It postulates that the resources of the world are static or diminishing while the population is ever increasing. Consequently, there is a need to study the contrasts between limited supply and ever-increasing demand. This 'scarcity management model' is what triggers off the pristine instincts of man to

acquire as much as he can for self-preservation!

Kingdom economics proposes a contrary concept. Kingdom economics first recognises that Elohim made heaven and earth. Being an intelligent God, He provided sufficient natural resources to sustain human life until Yeshua, Jesus returns to rule and reign over this earth. Flowing from this postulation, Kingdom economics says that Elohim has a specific, tailor-made purpose for all His creation. However, because of the rebellion of Adam, all human beings come into this world with an original seed of that rebellion running in their veins. Consequently, mankind normally tends to what gratifies the flesh and self until he comes into a life-changing acceptance of the gospel of the Kingdom.

### Synopsis

We will cover a broad spectrum of issues which will equip us to understand wealth and apply same to our unique circumstances. In no particular order, we will cover these topics in various lessons:

1. Prologue
2. Introduction
3. Kingdom Economics – the key to understanding positive value of money and deliverance from negative influences
4. Definition of terms – Poverty, Money, Wealth, their pros, and cons. Clean and unclean money.
5. An Old Testament Survey – to establish Elohim’s Promises
6. New Testament Teachings on Blessings, Wealth, Prosperity
7. What is holistic wealth and prosperity?
8. Use and Abuse of Money
9. How was the Ministry of Yeshua financed? Role of Ministry Partners
10. How was the ministry of Paul financed? Role of Ministry Partners
11. The Source of Prosperity and Channels of Blessings
12. Recognising Mammon and keeping him out
13. Dangers of worldliness and Covetousness based living
14. Stewardship of financial and material resources
15. Rewards of the Faithful – in time and eternity

**Assignment:** 1. Please write down 5 key things you are taking away from this lesson. 2. Which of the 14 points in the synopsis are you eager to hear the details?



## CHAPTER 3

### DEFINITION OF TERMS – POVERTY, MONEY, WEALTH, CLEAN AND UNCLEAR MONEY

In this chapter, we will seek to lay a strong foundation for the remainder of the course. We will do a clinical examination of Poverty, Money, and Wealth. A proper understanding will equip us with capacity to proceed further.

#### **Poverty**

The online dictionary defines poverty as “noun the state or condition of having little or no money, goods, or means of support; condition of being poor. deficiency of necessary or desirable ingredients, qualities, etc.: poverty of the soil. scantiness; insufficiency: Their efforts to stamp out disease were hampered by a poverty of medical supplies.”

The online dictionary also provides these synonyms:

1. Privation, neediness, destitution, indigence, pauperism, penury
2. thinness, poorness, insufficiency
3. meagreness, sparseness, inadequacy, shortage, paucity, dearth.

#### **The Causes of Poverty**

Poverty does not just happen. These are some of the causes:

1. **Lack of Understanding of what it is and danger it poses**
2. **Dangerous Theology** which glorifies poverty as evidence of intimacy with the Lord. With that error, people accept their state and do not lift a finger to come out of that state, believing the lie that it

is the will of God.

3. **Laziness/Slothfulness.** This is a state of mind and lifestyle which is lazy, does not value work and basically unable to achieve anything meaningful in life. There is no motivation to climb out of the hole of poverty in lives of the slothful.

Proverbs 12:24 (KJV) 24 The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

Proverbs 12: 27 (KJV) 27 The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.

Proverbs 15:19 (KJV) 19 The way of the slothful man is as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous is made plain.

Proverbs 18:9 (KJV) 9 He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

Proverbs 19:15 (KJV) 15 Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

Proverbs 21:25 (KJV) 25 The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.

Ecclesiastes 10:18 (KJV) 18 By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.

4. **Irresponsible Government.** When Politicians seek power without regard to wellbeing of the people, they create the enabling environment for poverty to be systemic in society.
5. **Irresponsibility** – when saints do not have a sense of responsibility to their nuclear and extended families, they tend to give poverty right of way to remain with them.
6. **Carelessness.** Poverty can arise when saints are careless about direction of their lives and what they need.
7. **Lack of diligence.** Those who are not diligent in their business, employment and ministries may regress into poverty.
8. **Faulty foundation of systemic poverty.** This creates a situation where those born in such families start life in poverty; experience poverty growing up and are overwhelmed with it. By embracing it as a way of life, there is no way out.

9. **Effect of the Fall of mankind** – the fall of Adam and Eve created a new reality. From a life of bliss where they enjoyed the provisions of Elohim, they and their offsprings were condemned to a life of struggle and toil on an accursed earth realm.

Genesis 3:17-19 (KJV) 17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

10. **Operation of Curses** – if curses were pronounced upon an individual by a legitimate spiritual authority, the heavens can be closed, and the earth ceases to yield its best to the accursed one. That authority can be parents, Pastors, or other leaders.
11. **Rebellion or evil speaking against legitimate authority** – Rebellion against legitimate authority can incur an accursed situation whose effect may include Poverty. Even if the person did not know but suffered effects of the rebellion such as instability of the fellowship, the effect can be two-fold. A carnal leader can share with Elohim the pains experienced. A spiritual leader will forgive forward and even bless the offender as the word commands.

Matthew 5:38-39, 43-48 (KJV) 38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: 39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? 47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? 48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father

which is in heaven is perfect.

Romans 12:14-15, 17-21 (KJV) 14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. 15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. 18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

In either case, the leader's heart which bleeds, with pain for what it suffers, there is an unconscious rendering of an evil report of the brother or sister concerned to the Lord.

Hebrews 13:17 (KJV) 17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

12. **Ignorance** – when people are ignorant, they do not know opportunities that are available for their material and financial wellbeing.
13. **Faulty educational systems** – which produce graduates with Certificates and not necessarily skills for life. In this situation, young people earn the beautifully decorated pieces of paper with which to look for employment in the Civil Service or business.
14. **Use of abusive substances** – those who use abusive substances such as drugs and become addicted may go off ramp to the valley of poverty.
15. **Absence of Entrepreneurship** – where people are not enterprising, they may depend on Government jobs. The wages may be low, making them live in poverty.
16. **Cultural** – in cultures where it is okay to sit at home or live in poverty, there may be no motivation to be delivered from it.

### Constraints of Poverty

In practical terms, Poverty can lead to a breakdown of any, some, or all

of these adverse outcomes:

1. Mental instability as a result of worry, anxiety over unmet needs.
2. Psychological issues
3. Low self-esteem
4. Disorientation and loss of ability to concentrate which affect ability of those afflicted to comprehend things.
5. Physical instability and health issues
6. It can affect ability to believe the promises and pray in faith.
7. Loss of hope or hopelessness.
8. Poverty leads to sub-optimization. The individual cannot achieve the full purpose of creation.
9. Poverty may lead some to crime
10. Social sins such as Jealousy, Envy, and malice against those who have.
11. Political and Social Instability in the Nation. This may lead to unrest and possibly civil war or revolution.
12. Suicide or premature death.

Contrary to claims by some preachers, poverty is not necessarily a sign of divine rejection. On the other hand, systemic poverty may signify disconnect from Elohim in His capacity as a benevolent Father who cares for His own.

### **Some benefits of material Poverty**

Interestingly, there are some spiritual benefits of Poverty in the Bible.

1. On a positive side, those who are poor in terms of material things and money tend to be rich in faith.

James 2:5 (KJV) 5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

2. Having nothing else to put their trust in, they tend to be simple and uncomplicated.
3. From the point of view of the Great Commission, those who are materially poor tend to be more open to receive the good news of Salvation in Yeshua, Jesus.

Let us look at it this way: lacking most good things of life, the gospel offers people a ray of hope that at the minimum, they will spend eternity with Elohim rather than suffer His wrath in hell. This makes it easier to receive

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the gospel without debate. There is substantial evidence in the word that the gospel liberates people from yokes of poverty. As a matter of fact, Yeshua was so drawn to the poor that part of His gospel programme targeted at them.

Matthew 11:5 (KJV) 5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

Luke 4:18 (KJV) 18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bound

Luke 7:22 (KJV) 22 Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

When Yeshua encountered people who thought highly about their wealth, He made sure that they understood how much they were captives of the enemy.

Matthew 19:16-22 (KJV) 16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? 17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. 18 He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, 19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 20 The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? 21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. 22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

Matthew 19 23-24 (KJV) 23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into

the kingdom of heaven. 24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

**Money.** The online dictionary defines money thus: noun, plural mon·eys, mon·ies [muhn-eez]. any circulating medium of exchange, including coins, paper money and demand deposits. Gold, silver, or other metal in pieces of convenient form stamped by public authority and issued as a medium of exchange and measure of value. any article or substance used as a medium of exchange, measure of wealth, or means of payment, as checks on demand deposit or cowrie.

The online dictionary provides these synonyms of money: Coin, Cash, Currency, Specie, Change, Funds, Capital, Asset, Wealth, Riches.

**Functional definition:** Money is a means of exchange. Various nations have various currencies for measuring things of economic value. In this regard, money is a mechanism for ascribing value to the worth of assets anyone has. For instance, some nations ensure that their physical money has value tied to the worth of gold. This is called the gold standard.

### **Implications of the definition**

Money cannot therefore be evil of itself. It is when Mammon, the demon assigned by Satan to use money to trap the souls of people, is allowed to use it to seduce people away from Elohim and where it is pursued with all zeal that money becomes an idol, taking the place of Elohim in hearts of the victims that it becomes evil.

1 Timothy 6:10-14 (KJV) 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. 11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. 13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; 14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

### **Money can be clean or unclean**

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The motive with which money is made and the process by which it is acquired can make money clean or unclean. If money is made for its own sake, to secure power over the less fortunate or to secure happiness, it is corrupted by that base motive. In the same way, money is corrupted if acquiring it involves deliberate sins against God and man such as cheating, lying, usury (lending for interests that are exploitative) or paying workers a pittance or withholding their wages just to make more profit!

Psalm 15:5 (KJV) 5 He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (KJV) 6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

James 5:1-6 (KJV) 1 Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. 2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. 3 Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. 4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. 5 Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. 6 Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.

Let us also take note that some types of money such as those mixed up with blood guiltiness and crime is for 'the Potter's field', not the Treasury (using a term popularised by Jewish leaders when Judas tried to return the 30 pieces of Silver)!

Matthew 27:3-9 (KJV) 3 Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and



brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, 4 Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that. 5 And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself. 6 And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said, It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood. 7 And they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. 8 Wherefore that field was called, The field of blood, unto this day. 9 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value;

Pastors must be careful not to put unclean funds like income from iniquity such as Prostitution, Gambling, and clear crimes into their bank accounts. They carry a curse. Individual saints and families must also avoid unclean money which can occasion closed heavens and poverty.

## **Wealth**

The online dictionary defines wealth in this way: “noun a great quantity or store of money, valuable possessions, property, or other riches: the wealth of a city.an abundance or profusion of anything; plentiful amount: a wealth of imagery.

In Economics, wealth is:

1. all things that have a monetary or exchange value.
2. anything that has utility and is capable of being appropriated or exchanged.
3. rich or valuable contents or produce: the wealth of the soil.
4. the state of being rich; prosperity; affluence: persons of wealth and standing.

Synonyms of wealth include these words: Richness, amplitude, fullness, possessions, assets, goods, property, money, opulence, fortune.

Wealth is first and foremost a state of mind which is content with the financial and material blessing 1227of Elohim. With this state of mind, it creates a generous spirit which cares for the wellbeing of others and shares the blessings with them. Because of this disposition, the law of sowing and reaping works in their favour and they tend to be more blessed than those

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who are stingy and narrow minded.

Luke 19:24-26 (KJV) 24 And he said unto them that stood by, Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds. 25 (And they said unto him, Lord, he hath ten pounds.) 26 For I say unto you, That unto every one which hath shall be given; and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him.

**Assignment:** 1. Please give 9 out of the 16 causes of Poverty 2. Out of the 12 constraints of Poverty, please itemise any 7 3. What are some of the benefits of poverty?

## CHAPTER 4

### DIVINE PROSPERITY – IN THE ORIGINAL PLAN AND THE OLD TESTAMENT

In launching a switch blade attack on the Church, Satan has used distortions of wealth and prosperity to sow sufficient confusion. As we saw in chapter 1, the pseudo-holiness movement demonises wealth and money while the pseudo-prosperity movement idolises wealth. Neither is right. The law of first mention establishes a biblical principle that to understand a subject matter, the starting point is to see where the principle undergirding it was first stated. At the dawn of human existence, Elohim clearly established the principle of blessings and divine prosperity in His dealings with Adam and Eve. Curses and Pain were later experiences – after the Fall.

#### **The original picture of Prosperity**

In the very first chapter of the Book of Genesis, Elohim gave us a clear picture of His original plan of prosperity for His children in the earth realm. Nothing can be clearer than this explanation of the purpose of creating humanity and the blessings we are meant to enjoy in pursuit of the divine plan.

Genesis 1:26-27 (KJV) 26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

**Commentary:** Adam and Eve were created in the image of Elohim, after His likeness so that they would represent the Kingdom of heaven in the earth realm.

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. 29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. 30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

### **Mankind was given two foundational blessings:**

1. Exercise dominion over all creation.
2. Enjoy all edibles created by Him in the earth realm.

In the original plan, two things were intrinsically connected:

- Mankind was designed to live on the benefice of a loving Father in Heaven.
- Mankind did not have to struggle or sweat to partake of this inheritance.

In Genesis 2:15, Adam and Eve received the specific charge to ‘dress and keep’ the Garden of Eden. Those two words summarise responsibilities of humankind. In other words, we were created to be stewards, not owners and responsible managers of the resources Elohim places for our benefit in the earth. Let there be no doubt about this summary of what has been said so far: Blessings from Elohim with attendant holistic prosperity were clearly meant to be part of human experience on earth, at the beginning. Curses and pain, including crushing poverty were to come later, with the fall of Adam and Eve.

### **Poverty was a consequence of Sin and Disobedience!**

The intrusion of Sin changed the original plan! By disobeying Elohim and succumbing to the seductions of Satan, Adam and Eve had their blessing withdrawn. Instead of enjoying eternal life and the good of the earth, they

handed their authority over the earth to Satan and were condemned to a life of enduring pain, suffering and sorrow. Those are ingredients of systemic poverty.

Genesis 3:1-8 (KJV) 1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: 3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. 7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. 8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

**Commentary:** By subtlety, Satan took away the mantle of mankind! Sin created a gulf between Adam and Eve and Elohim, making them incapable of enjoying fellowship with their Maker.

17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

**Commentary:** With the Fall, works, hard labour and sweat replaced Grace, blessings, and divine Favour. The earth which hitherto brought forth a rich harvest began to bear thorns and thistles, making cropping a difficult experience. To worsen matters, Adam and Eve were chased out of Eden, lost

fellowship with their maker and were exposed to wild beasts and adverse weather.

If we keep these foundational truths in view, it will be easy to properly understand why the Church needs to be open to the full redemptive mission of Yeshua.

### **Prosperity between the Fall and the Old Covenant**

Despite the Fall, Elohim elected various vessels to enjoy His blessings of Prosperity.

**Noah.** The bible records that in a world where wickedness was rife, Noah found grace in the sight of Elohim.

Genesis 6:1-8 (KJV) 1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, 2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. 3 And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. 4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown. 5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. 7 And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

When the world was destroyed by the Flood, Noah and his family totaling 8 persons were saved. The reality of his being wealthy cannot be doubted for he owned all things which survived the Great Flood.

Genesis 8:15-17 (KJV) 15 And God spake unto Noah, saying, 16 Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. 17 Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle,

and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth. 18 And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him: 19 Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.

Through his singleness of mind to honour Elohim and worship Him as The Supreme Being, Noah procured the first law which governs prosperity: the Law of Sowing and Reaping!

Genesis 8:20-22 (KJV) 20 And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. 21 And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done. 22 While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

**Abraham.** The next person who enjoyed unusual and holistic prosperity was Abraham, the friend of Elohim. The Bible reveals that Divine Prosperity was part and parcel of his covenant relationship with Elohim.

Genesis 12:2-3 (KJV) 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 22:1-3, 9-18 (KJV) 1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. 2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. 3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and

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Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. 10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. 11 And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. 12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. 14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen. 15 And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, 16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: 17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; 18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Let us take note that Elohim specifically commanded us to look at Abraham as a model. He is regarded as the father of Faith.

Isaiah 51:1-2 (KJV) 1 Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. 2 Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.

Isaac and Jacob walked in the mantle of Blessings.

### **Prosperity in the Old Testament/Covenant**

The Old Covenant was essentially sealed on the altar of Blessings for the Obedient and Curses for the disobedient.

Exodus 19:5-6 (KJV) 5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then shall ye be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine. 6 And ye shall be unto me a Kingdom of priests, and an holy



nation. These are the words which thou shall speak unto the children of Israel.

Just like Adam and Abraham, the foundational principle of Divine prosperity is a covenant relationship where obedience to the voice and laws of Elohim guides the life of His people. In sealing the Old Covenant, the awesome Blessings and Curses were set before the people to choose which way they preferred to walk in. The reason is simple: Elohim created us as free moral agents who exercise the power of choice.

Deuteronomy 28:1-13; states the full range of holistic blessings.

Deuteronomy 28:14-63 spells out curses for disobedience!

Deuteronomy 29:9 Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.

Joshua 1:7-8 (KJV) 7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law; which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or the left, that thou mayest prosper withersoever thou goest. 8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shall 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.

### **Prosperity during the Time of the Kings**

Starting from David, the Kings of Israel were decorated with uncommon wealth commensurate with their royal mandates. In clear terms, the quantum of Allocations they received were commensurate for scope of their Assignments. David was very wealthy as Chronicles of the Kings of Israel reveal. Solomon attained the epitome of wealth and prosperity such that Monarchs from across the world visited to catch a glimpse of the splendour around him.

### **Principles of Prosperity were embedded in the Poetic Books**

Psalms 1:1-3 (KJV) 1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not

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wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Psalms 35:27 (KJV) 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

The books of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes are full of principles of prosperity as we shall see in a future chapter. The Major and Minor Prophets outlined principles and precepts that lead to prosperity. The Prophets like Isaiah; Jeremiah and Ezekiel exhorted Israel to live in obedience and enjoy divine prosperity. Joel 2:18-28 documents the reality that Elohim has pleasure to restore all that: locusts, caterpillars, and palmerworms had eaten in lives of saints. The Prophet Malachi closed out the Old Testament with a principle of Prosperity.

Malachi 3:10 (KJV) 10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

**Assignment:** 1. What do you understand from Genesis 1 & 2. 2. Describe consequence of the Fall in Genesis 3:16-19. 3. Summarise the lives of Noah and Abraham in terms of prosperity. 4. Identify two scriptures in the Old Covenant which reveal that Prosperity was provided for in that dispensation. 5. Cite any 3 passages in the Poetic Books (Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes) where Prosperity of saints is promised. 6. Use any search engine such as google or bible gateway to locate 100 references to Blessing(s), wealth, Prosperity, riches between Genesis and Malachi.

## CHAPTER 5

### PROSPERITY, BLESSINGS, AND WEALTH: A NEW TESTAMENT PERSPECTIVE (PART 2)

As we saw in the previous chapter, the first instinct of Elohim on creation morning, was to bless Adam and Eve (Genesis 1:26-30). Religion gets stuck at the story of the Fall of Adam and Eve and consequences thereof. Such consequences as dominion of Satan and Sin and the regime of hard labour in Genesis 3:16-19 are emphasized to the point that many believers hardly understand the liberating power of the Blood. In most funerals, Priests from orthodox denominations love to recite this passage:

Job 14:1 (KJV) 1 Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble.

Religion conveniently forgets that Elohim made definite promises of the assignment of the Messiah.

Genesis 3:15 (KJV) 15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head and thou shalt bruise his heel.

#### **The Kingdom recovery assignment**

It is mind blowing what the Lord Yeshua unveiled in the New Testament about the reality of the Kingdom. Writers of the New Testament texts from Matthew to Revelation reinforce those perspectives.

From a Kingdom perspective, Genesis 1 and 2 is the account of establishment of the earth realm as extension of the Kingdom of heaven with

humankind as ambassadors and regents of the Most High. In this regard, the Fall of Adam was not just an entry of Sin but also of loss of Kingdom dominion and authority which Satan took away by subtility. That is how he become 'god' of this world. In that capacity, Satan has used the need to care for the belly (material wellbeing) and wealth of the nations as a bait to trap the souls of humans.

### **The Dual Victory of Yeshua over Satan**

1. **Temptation in the Wilderness.** In Matthew 4:1-11, Yeshua overcame solicitations of Satan on behalf of all who are saved by His Blood.

In verse 4, Satan tried to use need for food to trip Yeshua over. His response was: "*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word which proceedeth out of the mouth of God*" In verse 8, Satan attempted to use the glory and wealth of this world to derail Yeshua from His assignment. Yeshua prevailed with 'It is written'

2. **At the Cross.** When Yeshua went to the Cross, He decisively, through death, broke the stranglehold of Satan over humanity manifested in sinfulness, systemic poverty, ill-health, and other outcomes of the fallen nature. The outcome was recovery of the original identity and authority of humans who are redeemed by the blood.

Hebrews 2:9-10 (KJV) 9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than angels for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honour, that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man 10. For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Religion tends to focus on deliverance from Sin as the core outcome of the mission of Jesus on the Cross. But the Book of Hebrews gives us the bigger and more strategic picture: the sacrifice of Yeshua at the Cross was the pathway for repopulating the earth realm with sons of Elohim – just like Adam before the Fall. To this agrees the testimony of John the beloved:

John 1:12 (KJV) 12 But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.

Various New Covenant texts combine to prove, without shadow of doubt, that when Yeshua declared 'it is finished', in John 19:30, the following outcomes were achieved:

1. Deliverance of humanity from dominion of Satan.
2. The yoke of Sin that kept humanity captive was broken.
3. Deliverance from the curse upon the earth realm and spirit of poverty thereon.
4. Induction into the Abrahamic covenant of holistic prosperity.
5. Redemption from the curse of the Laws of Moses which came upon those who could not keep all aspects of the Law.
6. Receipt of the promise of Holy Spirit of Elohim to indwell the saved.

Galatians 3:13-14 (KJV) 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; 14. That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through Faith.

It is unfortunate that the religious spirit blindfolds saints not to see the absurdity of living in the shadow of Genesis 3:16-19 when the promise of Galatians 3:13-14 offers a radical change of fortunes!

### **The Teachings of Yeshua about Divine Provisions of Prosperity**

As King of the Kingdom, Yeshua taught His followers great truths about holistic prosperity.

### **Breaking down the New Covenant of Blessings**

In the Sermon on the Mount, Yeshua outlined the concept of true prosperity and blessings for saints.

Matthew 6:19-34 (KJV) 19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! 24 No man can

serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek;) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

**Broken down into actionable parts, that law stipulates these provisions:**

1. Saints are not to lay their treasures in the earth realm which is temporal. This is because, treasures in the earth realm can be decimated and dissipated by moth, rust, and robbers.
2. Wisdom requires that treasures be laid in the most secure vault: heaven, where Elohim dwells.
3. The reason for the above is simple: our hearts tend to stay where our treasure is. As eternal beings, having earthly experience, it makes sense to stack up our treasures where they count most.
4. Verses 22 and 23 are stating an obvious fact: what we focus on will drive our decisions.
5. Verse 24. We cannot submit to and serve both Elohim and Mammon, the principality Satan set over money at the same time. Throughout the New Covenant, this point is stated in various ways. Our devotion is to be to Elohim alone. Out of His beneficence, He

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endows us with various blessings which we receive as an inheritance of Grace, not the strength of our arm.

6. Verses 25-31. True saints are to bring all their needs to their heavenly Father in prayer and trust Him to supply all that is needed. As a benevolent Father, He has responsibility towards His children. If He takes care of birds of the air and flowers of the field, He will certainly take care of us who are redeemed by Blood of the Lamb.

The inability to trust Elohim and cast all cares upon Him drives all distortions of the gospel by the pseudo-prosperity movement. Lacking this degree of trust, many close their own heavens with self-pronounced curses.

Jeremiah 17:5-6 (KJV) 5 Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. 6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.

7. Verse 27. In the Kingdom, worry and anxiety over provisions is a goal which adds no value to life. No one can grow taller or have more weight through worry and anxiety.
8. Verse 32. Quest for wealth, prosperity and provisions is for Gentiles whose lives are separate from the life of Elohim. Therefore, persistent prayers for material things can be potentially harmful to spirituality.
9. Verses 33. summarises the point Yeshua is making we are to SEEK FIRST the Kingdom of Elohim and His Righteousness and trust Him to provide ALL our needs. We come to a place where the governance of King Yeshua over our lives is real. Only those who are truly transformed in their hearts by the Blood and renewed in their minds by the Word can come to this place of walking in the Covenant of the New Covenant. The reason is that it takes real faith to trust Elohim for all our needs.

Hebrews 11:1 & 6

10. Verse 34. Saints should have a mindset to live a day at a time. This will save brethren from worrying about things which may not be real. Worry and anxiety over the future is a vote of no confidence in Elohim and His Word.

### **The Three Bases on which we can trust Elohim**

The Sermon on the Mount is a summary and overview of the covenant relationship between Elohim and His saints based on His Three-fold role in their lives as:

- **Creator.** As Creator, He has responsibility to care for His creation and creatures.
- **Redeemer.** He has responsibility to care for those He redeemed from the hands of Satan, Sin, and the world.
- **Provider and Sustainer.** The Kingdom therefore presents an existential reality: He is the sustainer of His creation as Lamentation puts it.

Lamentations 3:22-24 (KJV) 22 It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. 23. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. 24 The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in Him

Take note of this reality: you can only invest in the Kingdom if you have assets. Yeshua was there in Matthew 6:19-34 showing us the right place to make investments.

### **As our Father, Elohim is our sufficiency!**

Religion presents Elohim as a distant, ever angry God, ever anticipating sin's dominion over church folks. Consequently, people are unable to relate intimately with Him. With this mindset, they grovel before Elohim, pleading and screaming as if He is not willing to hear. In several teachings, Yeshua made a clear case for saints to see Elohim as their Father and sufficiency, because He cares. Saints are not to obsess over their needs or burn their candles on two ends in order to survive as if they do not have a King and provider. Our heavenly Father knows our needs before we ask. In giving us the privilege to pray, it is to enable us to build up the spiritual muscles of Faith.

Matthew 6:7-8 (KJV) 7 But when you pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not therefore like unto them for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask Him.

11. Give us this day our daily bread.



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Matthew 7:7-10 (KJV) 7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

12. If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

**Assignment:** 1. What are the two places at which Yeshua defeated Satan's hold over humanity 2. What are the 6 implications of the statement by Yeshua in John 19:30 that 'It is Finished' 3. Out of the 10 points derived from the Covenant between Elohim and the redeemed in Matthew 6:19-34, which 6 struck you as most significant 4. What are the 3 bases on which believers can entrust all their needs to Elohim?

## CHAPTER 6

### PROSPERITY, BLESSINGS & WEALTH: NEW TESTAMENT PERSPECTIVES (PART 2)

Following from chapter 5, we establish these cornerstones on which saints should neither demonise nor idolise money, wealth, and prosperity.

1. Redemption was not only for our spirit-man but also for the soul and body
2. Those who are redeemed have a Father-son (gender neutral) relationship with the Elohim of the whole universe who owns all things.

Yeshua went to great lengths to demonstrate how intimate our relationship with Yahweh is by calling Him Abba, an affectionate term for a loving, caring Father. If we can catch that revelation, our perspective of Elohim will dramatically shift to perceive Him as one Who is eager to care for our holistic wellbeing and who has no pleasure in our pain. In contrasting assignments of Satan and Himself, Yeshua showed the vivid differences:

John 10:10 (KJV) 10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

The 3-fold assignment of Satan to steal, kill and destroy has been consistent. Unfortunately, because of limited light, religion causes many believers to act like Job who embraced attacks of the enemy, supposing they were acts of God (Job chapter 1). The question then can be asked: what is the abundant life? It is one where:

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- the spirit, soul and body enjoy wholeness and wellness.
- It is one free of lack
- It is one where all needs are met
- It is one where the saint discovers, pursues, and fulfils the divine purpose for creation and redemption

To reinforce this definition, John the beloved disciple of Yeshua declared plainly:

3 John 2 (KJV) 2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

Pastors who ignore holistic wellbeing of their congregations may end up leading dysfunctional folks who are incapable of impacting their spheres of influence and fulfilling the Great Commission! We must not allow the reproach brought to the gospel by those who glorify wealth or their opposites who glorify poverty to make us ignore this critical issue. A careful consideration of the Bible will reveal that citations of Blessings, Prosperity, Wealth are too numerous to ignore. Leaders should intercede for holistic wellbeing of the flock as well as faithfully mine the depths of scripture to teach all truths that will liberate the saints from shackles of poverty, lack and economic dysfunction. Yeshua preached the good news so that hearers would be saved. He also healed the sick, cast out demons so that captives were set free. He had compassion and cared enough for the masses that He did miracles of multiplying bread and fish to feed multitudes.

John 6:3-13 (KJV) 3 And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples. 4 And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh. 5 When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? 6 And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. 7 Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. 8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, 9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? 10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. 11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. 12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples,

Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. 13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

Ever conscious that many people had need, Yeshua did not waste resources from the Father. He asked them to gather the leftovers.

### **Centrality of Devotion to Elohim**

Yeshua established with clarity that saints should not elevate anything including their own selves, relatives, and pursuit of money to a place where Elohim took second place. On the other hand, His doctrine had as cornerstone, the absolute primacy of Elohim as centre and circumference of life.

Matthew 10:32-39 (KJV) 32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. 33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. 34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. 36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. 37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

Matthew 16:24-26 (KJV) 24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

He demonstrated this by His single eyed focus to know and do the will of the Father,

John 4:34 (KJV) 34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the

will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

John 5:30 (KJV) 30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

John 6:38 (KJV) 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

The Lord wants us to embrace the reality that He is the Giver and has the right to direct those He gives wealth on how to spend it. When believers do not get to this threshold, they delay their capacity to handle wealth.

### **How did He live?**

1. In His humanity, Yeshua needed and ate food, drank fruit of the vine. Even in his post-resurrection life, Yeshua ate and drank with the disciples (John 21:12-15).
2. He was content with what the Father provided.
3. He was so simple and uncomplicated that on the day they came to arrest, no one could distinguish Him from 11 other disciples. Judas hands to be hired to ensure positive identification.
4. The Teaching of Yeshua indicated that deliberate investments to care for the poor and those in prison when done in His Name will attract commendation on the Last Day (Matthew 25:31-46).
5. In teaching His disciples that those He sends should depend on Him for provisions and that He can use whoever He ordains to care for them, Yeshua made the point that He Who sends will pay the bills.

Matthew 10:9-13 (KJV) 9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, 10 Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat. 11 And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. 12 And when ye come into an house, salute it. 13 And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you

6. The totality of New Testament truth reveals that every saint has an inheritance of blessings from the Father. Those who embrace this truth and walk in it by Faith will be delivered from the spirit of lack and systemic poverty on the one hand and the spirit of covetousness which idolises wealth and distorts what success is (Ephesians 1:3-7).

This is consistent with the way Elohim dealt with Israel, His covenant people. He did not allow them to suffer lack, even in the wilderness. He supplied them with manna, quails, and water. Elohim reminded Israel that He supplied all their needs and gave them power to get wealth.

Deuteronomy 8:1-19 (KJV) 1 All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers. 2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. 3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live. 4 Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years. 5 Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the Lord thy God chasteneth thee. 6 Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him. 7 For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills. 8 A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; 9 A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass. 10 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee. 11 Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day: 12 Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; 13 And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; 14 Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; 15 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth

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water out of the rock of flint; 16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end; 17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. 18 But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day. 19 And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the Lord thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish.

In the Kingdom, Elohim alone is source of blessings and uses various channels to bless. We will expound on this in the next chapter.

7. Yeshua did not allow fame to distort his vision. After major Miracles, He taught them about the Kingdom. When they wanted to crown Him King, He left them.

John 6:14-17 (KJV) 14 Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world. 15 When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone. 16 And when even was now come, his disciples went down unto the sea, 17 And entered into a ship, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was now dark, and Jesus was not come to them.

8. Yeshua was a responsible member of society. He did not dodge but rather paid tax.

Matthew 17:24-27 (KJV) 24 And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute? 25 He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers? 26 Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free. 27 Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take,

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and give unto them for me and thee.

Matthew 22:15-22 (KJV) 15 Then went the Pharisees and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. 16 And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. 17 Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? 18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? 19 Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. 20 And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? 21 They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. 22 When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.

**Assignment:** 1. Please state with clarity, 7 main things you received from this chapter 2. What shall you do with this lesson?



## CHAPTER 7

### LAWS OF PROSPERITY AND CHANNELS OF BLESSINGS (1)

One of the things that Satan uses to afflict saints is the tendency to cause some to focus on getting rich even at the expense of their souls. On the other hand, he makes some saints unable to pay the price to understand their inheritance, leading to a sub optimised life. At this stage of our study, we will focus on some very practical issues – using a balanced approach - for safety of souls so that no one misses eternal life because of surfeit or lack of wealth.

Matthew 16:25-26 (KJV) 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

#### **The Purpose of Divine Prosperity**

The purpose of divine prosperity and wealth is for to have the full capacity (equipment or empowerment):

1. To serve Him, and give Him glory for the Blessing

Deuteronomy 8:6-18 (KJV) 6 Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him. 7 For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; 8 A land of wheat, and barley,

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and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; 9 A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass. 10 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee. 11 Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day: 12 Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; 13 And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; 14 Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; 15 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; 16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end; 17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. 18 But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

### 2. To support the family

Those who will marry and raise children should prepare to financially support their families.

1 Timothy 5:8 (KJV) 8 But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

### 3. To provide for and support those Elohim assigns as spiritual leaders, Pastors and Teachers to feed us His Word. In the Kingdom, we have obligations to support those who He sets to serve our best interests as leaders.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (KJV) 12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; 13 And to esteem them

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very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

Galatians 6:6 (KJV) 6 Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.

4. To take care of our aged parents. They took care of us in babyhood, patiently nurturing, training, and funding the education of their children. As they live to certain ages, there is a spiritual obligation to care for them. Great blessings follow when this responsibility is undertaken with joy.

Ephesians 6:1-3 (KJV) 1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

5. To provide for and bless other saints who are less fortunate so that all who are in the Kingdom are ultimately provided for by a loving and caring Father.

Galatians 6:10 (KJV) 10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

1 John 3:7 (KJV) 7 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

6. To be good ambassadors of the Kingdom who do good by touching lives of the poor and less fortunate in society, regardless of whether they are saved or not. In so doing, we represent Him well and draw many to Him.

Galatians 6:7-9 (KJV) 7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. 9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (KJV) 17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain

riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

## 7. For expanding the Kingdom

There are specific saints within each Kingdom community that Elohim will supply much more than they need so that through them, He provides all that is needed to fulfil the Great Commission. Such people will function best if they realise that theirs is a special calling; remain under the radar; seek no glory or special recognition and remain humble. The Lord will use such vessels for lifting the heavy burdens on His church. They will gladly buy equipment needed in the Church, build sanctuaries, and sponsor media outreaches, among others.

Zechariah 1:17 (KJV) 17 Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the Lord shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

## Two Preliminary Realities

There are two preliminary realities saints should understand concerning divine prosperity and wealth.

### A. Recognise the Only Valid source: Elohim

Elohim is the Only source of divine prosperity. If it is so, there needs to be a definite inclination of the heart to accord Him, the following:

1. Attribute all blessings to Him and give Him all the glory. In that case saints should treat Prosperity and wealth as instruments of worship.

Deuteronomy 8:18 (KJV) 18 But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

2. Recognise that it is not by power or by might, but by His Spirit.

Zechariah 4:6-7 (KJV) 6 Then he answered and spake unto me,

saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. 7 Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

3. Consecrate all of life to Him and be committed to the Kingdom as a primal pursuit of life.
4. Decline any offer from Satan which requires recourse to sinful thoughts, words, or deeds.

For any one appointed to handle wealth, one thing can be certain: Satan will try to bring his own counteroffer to take us off ramp from divine purpose. In this, we are to emulate Yeshua to vehemently refuse his seductions Matthew 4:1-11 reveals how Satan tried to use Bread (Food) and Authority to rule to tempt Yeshua away from the divine purpose.

### **B. Discern, Understand, Embrace and Walk in the Channels He has approved to use to bless**

As we said before, there is Only One source of divine prosperity/blessings. That source is Elohim Alone. One the other hand, there are various channels through which He provides all the appointed blessings. The channels are bespoke, made to measure. Those who do not understand this will go into the sin of emulation, become copycats, and therefore miss the mark.

1. **Entrepreneurship.** This is the God given grace and wisdom to conceive, start and nurture a business enterprise from scratch till it grows well enough to provide other people a channel for their own blessings through employment, distribution, or supply of needed materials. If this is you, employment will only provide for your basic needs and you will never walk in enough or more than enough.
2. **Downstream connections.** Those who do not have entrepreneurial capacity may have various gifts, dispositions, skills, and wisdom to prosper around certain industries. They can become distributors, resellers; engage in multi-level and network marketing that are consistent with their capacities.
3. **Employment.** There are people who have no capacity for entrepreneurship or downstream connections. Those who know this about themselves will be wasting scarce resources if they start their own business. At some point, the capital is wasted, the individual is drained, and debt can pile up. In that case taking up employment in

the public or private sector may be the best option. If they maintain an excellent relationship with the Lord backed by a life of prayer, study of the word and faith, they can walk in favour to be preferred above their contemporaries. Backed with respect for authority, love of their job, enthusiasm in serving cheerfully, the Lord paves the way for them to rise to the top in a shorter space of time. With a contented heart, and avoidance of wasteful expenditure on non-essentials, their salaries and wages will meet their needs with some to spare for investment. Because of their ordered life, they often have enough time at home to ensure proper upbringing of their children, guiding them into their own destinies. They provide the bulk of manpower in the Kingdom church and are, strangely, better, and more faithful tithers than the entrepreneurs who often play games with Elohim in this area.

4. **Professional Practice.** Those who pay the price to acquire education and professional training such as in Medicine, Engineering, Architecture and the various officially recognised professions walk in definite channels of blessing. Through prayers and faith, they receive cutting age revelation and wisdom. Through the right attitude of service and human relation skills, they are able to attract more patrons and be effective witnesses of Yeshua in their professions.
5. **Skilled workers.** There are many skills that guarantee regular income because they meet specific daily needs of households. The blue-collar skills in many nations are simply wide. Let us pray and advocate for governments to provide skill-based education so that graduates do not roam the streets with beautiful certificates but are unemployable.
6. **Investment.** Another channel of blessing is the capacity to make investments in various kinds of businesses. Shares could be bought and sold in profitable companies and industries. Christians should however note that we are not permitted to be shareholders in companies and industries which dishonour Elohim and lead people onto the broad way. Ethical considerations should guide our decisions. Even if brokers are used, they should be given clear moral guidelines. For instance, saints are not expected to invest in breweries or arms manufacturers or businesses which fuel the abortion industry through use of fetal tissues (aborted babies are the source). The principle is simple: do not invest in an industry or business whose products you cannot use because of your faith.
7. **Financial Trades.** Investments like Bitcoin mining and various crypto currency offers a pathway to wealth for those who are not just rushing to ‘cash in’. Those who patiently study the crypto-

currency market, analyse trends can with prayers, faith and application of revelatory gifts make the right buy and sell decisions. One can start the business with low capital.

8. **Internet/Web based business.** The internet is a huge trade superhighway. Those who patiently study will locate internet-based business which suit their temperament, attitude, and capacity. After analysing the trends with much prayers, faith, and application of revelatory gifts they can make the right platform decisions. Participation in reseller platforms such as Amazon, eBay and related businesses can be started with low capital and a laptop with internet connections.
9. **The Care Industry.** In many nations, there are companies which are contracted to provide social care for the elderly and those who are long term sick. With minimal training, people who are physically healthy can get employment in such agencies. Backed by positive outlook, optimism, and cheerfulness, they can touch lives of those placed in their care.
10. **Domestic services.** In many nations, there are always opportunities to earn income through offering of domestic services to those who are wealthy or even middle-class families who need extra help. The range of domestic services include child minding; house helps; private laundry (washing and ironing); private security/guard duty; private cleaning on weekends; childcare and inhouse care for the elderly. Those who have good grades in their courses can run private tutoring in homes or in community locations. Those who can teach critical courses like English and Math can organise online portals to deliver same.
11. **Room rental.** For those who have good accommodation but are empty nesters, there could be various ways to recoup their investments. Rooms or the whole house can be listed with online renters like Airbnb. Rooms could also be rented out to vacationers and those in seasonal education. Moral boundaries can be set for categories of those who can use the accommodation.
12. **Part Time Ministry.** It is a matter of practical wisdom that those who would like to marry and raise children should not become full time without adequate preparation and when the ministry is not yet positioned to offer compensation. It is not right to hang one's faith on other people, including ministry partners or sponsors. A minister can combine any of the first ten activities which offer the peace of mind and income level to sustain life and family while undertaking ministry. This tent making approach will subsist as long as Elohim permits until He indicates it is time to shift gear into full time ministry.

13. **Full Time Ministry.** Those who are called to full time ministry should answer the call by Faith and trust Elohim to pay the bills, just as He said in His word. It is better to remain celibate and single until there are some divinely revealed channels of blessing to sustain family life. It is not right to spend all the ministry income to sustain a full-time minister while the mission of the ministry remains unfulfilled. Those who are full time ministers should be able to tithe each day to the Lord in prayer and study in order to access the courts of heaven and receive rich spiritual food to feed the people (1 Peter 2:1-2). Those who feed the saints well will be rewarded in time with the spiritual growth and holistic prosperity of the saints. They in turn take their places as pillars of the ministry through who Elohim provides for the ministry and ministers bills.

**Challenge:** Keep an open heart and ready mind prayerfully inquiring of Elohim which of these channels or other ones you can engage in. The beauty of the modern era is that opportunities have exploded in many nations for those who are willing to earn regular income. There is no room for saints to be lazy or complain of lack when there are things they can do, as led by Holy Spirit.

### **Consequences of not discerning and walking in the right channel**

Inability to discern the channels may lead to these consequences:

- i. It may lead saint to be doing the wrong investment and business decisions at the wrong time, expecting much but bring in little or nothing.
- ii. Those called to part time ministry sustained by income from a source Elohim approves will suffer unnecessary lack in their families and bring reproaches to His Name when they cannot pay house rent, utilities bills and hospital expenses.
- iii. It may lead those who Elohim purposed to bless through say full time ministry to go back to their Market place ministry. This was the case with the disciples after the death of Yeshua.

John 21:2-17 (KJV) 2 There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. 3 Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing. 4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the



disciples knew not that it was Jesus. 5 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. 6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes. 7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea. 8 And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes. 9 As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread. 10 Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught. 11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken. 12 Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord. 13 Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise. 14 This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead. 15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. 16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. 17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

There are many ministers and saints suffering a syndrome of running around in circles and never breaking through because they are engaged in what is outside the will of Elohim and which He just cannot bless.

**Assignment:** 1. Please briefly outline the 6 Purposes of Divinely given Prosperity. 2. Who is the sole source of wealth, blessings, and prosperity? Provide two scriptures to back up your answer 3. Kindly outline 7 out of the 13 channels of Blessing/wealth discussed in this chapter (Bullet points).

## CHAPTER 8

### The Laws of Prosperity and Divine Blessings

The Lord does not want His saints to desire Prosperity, Blessings, and success in isolation of the Bigger picture of how He wants His saints to live in the earth realm. The Laws of Blessings, Prosperity and Success represent Kingdom principles He wants us to internalise so that they flow out as obedience and submission to His will. Living within these principles is the key to holistic prosperity.

#### 1. The Principle of Election

Election is the exercise of the Sovereign will of Elohim. As One of the greatest indicators of true holiness is the tendency to know that much as Elohim has revealed many things in the Word, one of the things which makes Him Elohim is the reality that He cannot be questioned by mortals who He created. This supposedly 'hard saying' should be at the base of our relationship with Him, lest we become presumptuous.

Romans 9:9-24 (KJV) 9 For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sarah shall have a son. 10 And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; 11 (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) 12 It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. 13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. 14 What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. 15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. 17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. 18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth. 19 Thou wilt say then

unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? 20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? 21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? 22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: 23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, 24 Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

When this law is at work, all laws are nullified so that the will of the Law giver comes into effect. Lack of capital; inadequate preparation become of none effect.

## 2. The Law of Sowing and Reaping

This omnibus law is what undergirds the life of humanity. First established at end of the Flood, it is so powerful that only Divine Intervention can reverse its effect.

Genesis 8:22 (KJV) 22 While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Galatians 6:7-10 (KJV) 7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. 9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. 10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

One of the ways to live within the ambit of this powerful law is the Golden rule:

Matthew 7:12 (KJV) 12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

3. **A Merciful and Compassionate Heart** attract divine Mercy and Favour in whatever they lay their hands to do.

Proverbs 3:5-7 (KJV) 5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. 7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

Proverbs 19:17 (KJV) 17 He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

Psalms 41:1-3 (KJV) 1 Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. 2 The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies. 3 The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.

Those who are merciful tend to touch the heart of Elohim and walk in His Favour.

4. **The Law of Diligence.** Those who are diligent tend to succeed as they persist in what they do.

Proverbs 10:4 (KJV) 4 He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

Proverbs 11:27 (KJV) 27 He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.

Proverbs 12:24 (KJV) 24 The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

Proverbs 12:27 (KJV) 27 The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.

Proverbs 13:4 (KJV) 4 The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

Proverbs 21:5 (KJV) 5 The thoughts of the diligent tend only

to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.

Proverbs 22:29 (KJV) 29 Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

## 5. Faithfulness

Proverbs 28:20 (KJV) 20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

Luke 16:15 (KJV) 15 And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

Matthew 24:45-46 (KJV) 45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? 46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

Matthew 25:20-30 (KJV) 20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. 21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. 22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. 23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. 24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: 25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. 26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: 27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. 28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which

hath ten talents. 29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. 30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Luke 19:10-11 (KJV) 10 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. 11 If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

## 6. Law of Kingdom Priority

Matthew 6:19-33 (KJV) 19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! 24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father

knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

## **7. The Law of Faith in Elohim and His Word**

Mark 11:22-24 (KJV) 22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Matthew 19:26 (KJV) 26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Jeremiah 32:26-27 (KJV) 26 Then came the word of the Lord unto Jeremiah, saying, 27 Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me.

## **8. The Law of Prayer**

Matthew 7:7-11 (KJV) 7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Mark 11:24 (KJV) 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

**9. The Law of Fairness and Equity towards employees**

James 5:1-6 (KJV) 1 Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. 2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. 3 Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. 4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. 5 Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. 6 Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.

**10. The Law of Right use of the Tongue for Creative and not destructive purposes**

1 Peter 3:9-11 (KJV) 9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. 10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: 11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

**11. The Law of honouring Parents**

Ephesians 6:1-3 (KJV) 1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

**12. The Law of the Word made Flesh through Meditation**

Joshua 1:8 (KJV) 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.

Psalms 1:1-3 (KJV) 1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law



of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

### **13. The Law of Prophetic Impetus**

2 Chronicles 20:13-20 (KJV) 13 And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. 14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the Lord in the midst of the congregation; 15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. 16 To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. 17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you. 18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the Lord, worshipping the Lord. 19 And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice on high. 20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

### **14. The Law of Wisdom**

Elohim created the world by wisdom. Those who receive His wisdom and walk in it will find a way out of every situation. By wisdom a saint can build the home, start and run a business or ministry and prevail over contemporaries in the workplace.

Proverbs 24:3 (KJV) 3 Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established:

While some people focus on money, those who have wisdom will always get ahead in the long run.

Ecclesiastes 7:12 (KJV) 12 For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it.

### **The Law of Trusting the Lord and being led by Holy Spirit**

In the realm of business, it is easy to resort to arm of the flesh which leads to pursuit of ambition, rather than the divine purpose. True success however comes about when we let go and let Elohim by His take over to guide us concerning direction and decisions.

Jeremiah 17:5-8 (KJV) 5 Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. 6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. 7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. 8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

Romans 8:12-16 (KJV) 12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. 15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. 16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

There are other laws which we may outline in other chapters.

**Assignment:** 1. Please discuss any 8 of the 15 laws of Blessings, Prosperity and True Success 2. What shall you do with this lesson?

## CHAPTER 9

### SOME FUNDAMENTAL REALITIES ABOUT POVERTY, WEALTH, AND COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

It is necessary that in discussing issues of prosperity, blessings, and wealth, we do not get carried away by needs of people and ignore the whole counsel of Elohim.

#### **A very inconvenient Truth**

Tough as it is to contemplate and receive, the reality is that Divine prosperity may not necessarily be for all saints, at all times. In other words, not all saints will be rich or have enough at any point in time! No less an authority than Yeshua made the definite statement that there will always be some poor among congregations of saints.

John 12:1-8 (KJV) 1 Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. 2 There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. 3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. 4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, 5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? 6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was

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put therein. 7 Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. 8 For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.

Potential reasons why some will be poor even in 'wealthy' nations:

1. Ignorance. Lack of knowledge and understanding of what the Bible teaches is a dangerous place to be, yet that is the key factor holding many down. In that case, they may cling to the two diversions namely glorify poverty or idolise wealth.

Hosea 4:6 (KJV) 6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

2. A full kingdom community comprises those who are wealthy, those who have their needs met with not much to spare and those who have less than enough. This scenario presents a test to those who have. Will they be indifferent to the needs of their brethren or pretend that they do not see them? If they shut up bowels of compassion, their faith is in vain.

James 2:10-24 (KJV) 10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. 11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. 12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty. 13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment. 14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, 16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? 17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. 18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. 19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. 20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when

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he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? 22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? 23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. 24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

1 John 3:16-21 (KJV) 16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. 17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? 18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. 19 And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. 20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. 21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

This is why the Lord gave His saints some scriptures charging them to care for less privileged and give them a sense of dignity.

Luke 14:12-14 (KJV) 12 Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee. 13 But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: 14 And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

3. In Kingdom communities, the Lord tests our spirituality also by how we can accord those who are poor the respect, dignity and honour they deserve. To be partial against them is to expose social hypocrisy.

Hebrews 2:1-9 (KJV) 1 My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. 2 For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; 3 And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: 4 Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are

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become judges of evil thoughts? 5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? 6 But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? 7 Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called? 8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: 9 But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

We must be delivered from a tendency to look at people suffering from Poverty as people who may have committed secret sins against Elohim. Just like those who have physical infirmity such as blindness, there are some things like poverty which are part of effects of the Fall. No one can be necessarily blamed for being born in a poor family or have a national economic system stacked against a particular race or tribe.

### 4. Poverty can be an instrument of process

There are some saints the Lord will allow to go through situations He knows are best to maintain their pure faith in Him for whom the multiplicity of resources can quickly intrude into their consecration. As Elohim, He is at liberty to know the length of time a saints may be allowed to walk in lack. For some it is part of the process for a short period of time. Thereafter, as they come forth like gold, He visits them with a turnaround of their fortunes. For other saints, the process may be for a longer or even lifetime.

### 5. Poverty can result from laziness/slothfulness

Those who are lazy may end up being poor, even if they inherited wealth. Slothfulness drains away the zest for building up things and wastes them through consumption. As assets are depreciated and not replaced, a day comes when accounts go into the red.

Proverbs 19:15 (KJV) 15 Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

### 6. Poverty can also arise due to unforeseen circumstances. These includes death of the bread winner; break up of family life through divorce or separation that cracks the social security safety net. Loss of job without warning can also cause poverty.

Notwithstanding their estate in life, all believers are required to be content with provisions the Lord.

Hebrews 13:5-6 (KJV) 5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. 6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

However, It is important that those who experience poverty of the systemic type should not accept it as the will of God or a normal experience. Those who do will tend to give up and stay in the valley of despair.

### **Small can be beautiful!**

With the right understanding, such as the range of revelations in this course, a saint can by persistent prayer of faith and positive action, receive Grace to be pulled out to experience a turn around. In terms of action, those who suffer lack should not withhold from using what they have, no matter how small but rather invest them by Faith, trusting that Holy Spirit will breathe life into their ventures.

Zechariah 4:8-10 (KJV) 8 Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, 9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto you. 10 For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the Lord, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

### **Let us turn to some other issues raised in the synopsis.**

What is holistic prosperity?

Holistic Prosperity is a state of sufficiency of the blessings of Elohim which equips those who are so blessed with the capacity to fulfil Divine purpose.

### **Use of Money and wealth**

Those who walk in holistic prosperity are not to live for themselves. As those redeemed by the Blood, God owns them and has the liberty to use them as it pleases Him.

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Romans 14:7-9 (KJV) 7 For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. 8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living.

In other words, they become instruments Elohim uses to meet needs of others and even lift them from state of poverty and lack to that of sufficiency and prosperity. In that case, they walk in these realities:

- i. Holistic prosperity enables them to be whole in spirit, soul, and body, with no constraints to becoming who Elohim purposed them to be.

Jeremiah 1:5 (KJV) 5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Ephesians 1:3-11 (KJV) 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being pre-destinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

- ii. It makes the recipient His showpiece: so that all may see His goodness and desire Him. In other words, true prosperity points to the Source, not the individual.



Ephesians 2:10 (KJV) 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

- iii. Empower your Witness so that your divine assignment is not constraint by the world's economic and financial system. To have breakthrough in finances implies a capacity to function outside constraints of national or global economic systems that are rigged against the poor.
- iv. Elohim uses those who are blessed as channels to minister to the less privileged since they also are His children.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (KJV) 17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

- v. Realisation that wealth comes from Elohim should lead the wealthy saint to be humble, attributing all blessings to His providence. This is the basis of the desire not to touch His glory through pride.

James 4:6-7 (KJV) 6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

### **Abuse of Money and wealth**

Those who do not walk in the principles above will invariably abuse the wealth given by Elohim to do things that are harmful to their eternal lives. Those things include:

1. Danger of lust for more, never considering any quantity as enough. This is the root cause of covetousness which is idolisation of money. The Dangers of covetousness-based living is that it can crowd Yeshua, Jesus out of the heart which develops a coldness that snuffs out zeal for prayer, faith, evangelism, and other spiritual exercises.

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Luke 12:15-22 (KJV) 15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth. 16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? 18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. 20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? 21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God. 22 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.

1 Timothy 6:8-10 (KJV) 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

James 4:1-3 (KJV) 1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? 2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

Colossians 3:5 (KJV) 5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

2. Worldliness – emulating the world on the broad way and seeking to acquire its toys and fancies.

James 4:4-5 (KJV) 4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God?

whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. 5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?

1 John 2:15-17 (KJV) 15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

3. Pride of life

James 4:6-7 (KJV) 6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

4. Oppression. They are tempted to use the wealth to oppress the poorer who Elohim wants them to bless. The case of King Ahab coveting the vineyard of Naboth a commoner to the point of having him killed is a case in point.

1 Kings 21:1-16 (KJV) 1 And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. 2 And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money. 3 And Naboth said to Ahab, The Lord forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee. 4 And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread. 5 But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said unto him, Why is thy spirit so sad, that thou eatest no bread? 6 And he said unto her, Because I spake unto Naboth the Jezreelite, and said unto him, Give me thy vineyard for money; or else, if it please thee, I will give thee another vineyard for it: and he answered, I will not give thee my vineyard. 7 And Jezebel his wife said unto him,

Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite. 8 So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth. 9 And she wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people: 10 And set two men, sons of Belial, before him, to bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst blaspheme God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he may die. 11 And the men of his city, even the elders and the nobles who were the inhabitants in his city, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, and as it was written in the letters which she had sent unto them. 12 They proclaimed a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people. 13 And there came in two men, children of Belial, and sat before him: and the men of Belial witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, Naboth did blaspheme God and the king. Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died. 14 Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth is stoned, and is dead. 15 And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead. 16 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

5. Delusion of Grandeur – a false feeling of security that money can buy anything including loyalty. This is a pervasive tendency within the pseudo-prosperity movement, based on a distortion of this scripture:

Ecclesiastes 10:19 (KJV) 19 A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.

The sad ending of Solomon, forerunner of this cult has not taught adherents anything.

**Assignment:** 1. What is the inconvenient truth described at start of this chapter. 2. What are the 6 possible causes of poverty 3. What are some of the indicators of good use of money/wealth? 4. What are the 5 indicators of abuse of money/wealth?

CHAPTER 10  
PAYING THE BILLS OF FULL TIME MINISTRY:  
LESSONS FROM MINISTRY PARTNERS OF  
YESHUA

There are some often ignored realities about the life and ministry of Yeshua, Jesus during His incarnate state that we need to consider as part of this course. He is the ultimate model Human, and we are blessed when we look unto Him.

Hebrews 12:2 (KJV) 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**A. Yeshua embraced process as a full human.**

In His incarnate state, Yeshua underwent various process before He enjoyed breakthrough. Though the Son of Elohim, He had normal human needs which at times were not available.

Hebrews 5:8 (KJV) 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

For Yeshua, the process of life manifested in the reality that He had a normal human growth.

Luke 2:40, 51-52 (KJV) 40 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him

51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

### **He suffered homelessness at a time**

Matthew 8:19-20 (KJV) 19 And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. 20 And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

He experienced Hunger at a time.

Mark 11:12 (KJV) 12 And on the morrow, when they were come from Bethany, he was hungry:

### **B. Yeshua did not function alone to achieve Ministry success.**

He had some Destiny helpers lined up to assist Him to focus on His core assignment.

1. Holy Spirit- He planted Yeshua in the womb for the incarnation to take place. He filled Yeshua, the Man with Divinity and Power to do all the exploits recorded in scriptures.

Luke 1:35 (KJV) 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Matthew 3:16 (KJV) 16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

Acts 10:38 (KJV) 38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

It was Holy Spirit Who led Yeshua into the wilderness to be tempted of the

Devil.

Matthew 4:1 (KJV) 1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

It was Holy Spirit that raised Him from the dead on the appointed day.

Romans 8:11 (KJV) 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

2. Joseph and Mary - the incarnation, parental care and covering Yeshua needed to live the normal human life for 30 years was provided by this couple.
3. John the Baptist. He was assigned to be the fore runner of Yeshua, and publicly affirm His identity and mission

John 1:29-36 (KJV) 29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. 30 This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me. 31 And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. 32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. 33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. 34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God. 35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; 36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!

4. The household of Mary, Martha and Lazarus who provided him refreshments on a regular basis.

John 12:1-7 (KJV) 1 Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. 2 There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. 3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of

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Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. 4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, 5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? 6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein. 7 Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. 8 For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.

5. The dedicated women who provided supplies of food and funded His ministry.

Luke 8:1-3 (KJV) 1 And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, 2 And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, 3 And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.

Luke 23:27 (KJV) 27 And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him.

Luke 23:49 (KJV) 49 And all his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off, beholding these things.

Luke 23:55 (KJV) 55 And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid.

Luke 24:10 (KJV) 10 It was Mary Magdalene and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

Luke 24:22 (KJV) 22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;

Luke 24:24 (KJV) 24 And certain of them which were with us



went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.

6. Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea - they were secret disciples until the day appointed to do what Elohim wanted done regarding giving Yeshua a decent burial. Joseph had the stature that gave him access to and favour with Pontus Pilate, the Roman Governor

Matthew 27:57-60 (KJV) 57 When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: 58 He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. 59 And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, 60 And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

Yeshua was heir of all assets of Yahweh but chose to be an instrument through which more sons will be brought into the Kingdom and blesses.

Hebrews 2:6-18 (KJV) 6 But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man that thou visitest him? 7 Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: 8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him. 9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. 10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11 For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, 12 Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee. 13 And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me. 14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who

through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. 17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

He sacrificed His esteemed position and wealth so that we can through Him be prospered by the Father. The reality was that Yeshua was rich by inheritance from Yahweh and had access to whatsoever He needed and asked for. Yet, as part of the overall sacrifice, He did not clutch at His stature but poured it out as a sacrifice for our benefit.

2 Corinthians 8:9 (KJV) 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.

Philippians 2:5-11 (KJV) 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Yeshua modelled integrity**

Yeshua needed financial and material resources to sustain 12 full time ministers who lived with Him and took care of countless needy. He organised His ministry in such a way that there was a full time Treasurer, Judas Iscariot who had responsibility for managing the finances.

John 12:1-8 (KJV) 1 Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. 2 There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that

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sat at the table with him. 3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. 4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, 5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? 6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein. 7 Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. 8 For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.

**Lesson:** Do not mix up funds for ministry with funds for family. As soon as the ministry grows and competent people are available, commit to them most day to day financial transactions as the deaconate. But do not place people without vetting them as Acts 6 and 1 Timothy 3 says. They need to have the right qualifications to do a spiritual assignment of managing the finances of ministry.

Yeshua taught on the need for Full time Ministers to depend on Elohim to supply Allocations for their Assignments.

Matthew 10:7-15, 40-42 (KJV) 7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. 9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, 10 Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat. 11 And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. 12 And when ye come into an house, salute it. 13 And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you. 14 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. 15 Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrhah in the day of judgment, than for that city.

40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. 41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. 42 And whosoever shall

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give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Yeshua warned that if saints displace Elohim from their hearts and supplant Him with covetousness, they may not access the Kingdom.

Matthew 19:21-26 (KJV) 21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. 22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. 23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. 24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. 25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? 26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

**Lesson:** Those truly called to full time ministry must place their Faith on He that called, understanding that He is Faithful to provide all that is needed to fulfil their ministries. The issue of Allocations for Assignment is so basic that anyone who does not receive and walk in it will struggle unnecessarily.

In the process of making allocations or resources available, Elohim alone has the prerogative to choose who He wills to serve as ministry partners of His appointed vessels. If they are sent by Him, ministry partners will not try to control or manipulate the minister. They will make their investments as led by Holy Spirit and for His glory.

Colossians 3:17 (KJV) 17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Rather than carnally choosing and chasing people all over the internet and at conferences, such ministers should lay their hands on the plough and continue to serve as faithfully as possible. As they wait on the Lord, He will orchestrate connection with destiny helpers who will serve as ministry partners. If Elohim, does it, the relationship will be solid and no one can entice or pluck them away.

John 10:29 (KJV) 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

Satan may send detractors and evil speakers to confuse them, but they will weather such storms and continue their assignment as unto the Lord Who called them.

**The duty of the full-time minister towards ministry partners is to:**

- Spend quality time praying for them
- Communicate with them to maintain the relationship

Brief them on progress in ministry – using the most convenient and cost-effective platforms such as newsletters, websites, email, messenger, WhatsApp or other platforms. Walk in the consciousness that they will share of the rewards of ministry in time and eternity

1 Corinthians 3:6-8 (KJV) 6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. 8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

To carnally choose people based on their reputation for generosity or external features at conferences or the internet and proceed to bombard them with requests for sponsorship backed by unsolicited photos and videos is to bring name of the Lord to disrepute. Even if you succeed, it will be fleeting. You have to deploy various worldly public relations and marketing gimmicks to sustain their interests. A day will come when they move on, and the ministry seems like collapsing. Faith and trust were placed on humans rather than Elohim. Worse still lies and manipulation of facts can accompany such endeavours. This applies to both full time ministers as well as those in the Market place.

From a Kingdom perspective, wealth is not a central issue. The Central issue is Who occupies centre stage in life of saints. If it is Yeshua, wealth, money and success in material things will come as His Blessing and Inheritance from the Father. Quantum of Wealth acquired or accumulated will not dominate consciousness of saints. All glory will be due to the Giver rather than focus on the Gift. In this setting, the Blessings of the Lord will make rich and add no sorrow.

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Proverbs 10:22 (KJV) 22 The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

**Assignment:** 1. Please state with clarity, 3 main things about Yeshua and his destiny helpers. 2. Kindly summarise what you learnt from the principles of Allocations from Elohim for Assignments of full time Ministers, 3. What does a full-time minister owe the Ministry partners who invest money to support? 4. What shall you do with this lesson?

## CHAPTER 11

### PAUL, THE MODEL FULL TIME MINISTER + MINISTRY COMPENSATION PLANS

For some people, the life of Yeshua may seem very unattainable. In that case, Elohim offers us a full human to look up to. That human is Paul the apostle! There are two main grounds on which we should look up to him and give heed to the word spoken through him: He is the divinely chosen master builder, who received revelation of the New Testament Church like no one else. In that regard, his extensive teachings about money and its uses is still the gold standard for all saints, congregations, and ministries. He practiced the Kingdom principles of ministry in a way no one else did.

**Let us break down these two bases.**

1. He is the appointed Master Builder of the Church who was given the plan from above. Let us take note of this role:

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (KJV) 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

The things he wrote, and instructions given are for our understanding and obedience.

1 Corinthians 11:2 (KJV) 2 Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.

The value of all the epistles of Paul can be understood in this context.

2. He practised the Kingdom principles of ministry in a way no one else did. Paul was and even now is still the epitome of Kingdom Ministry in action. For this reason, this charge is worthy of consideration!

1 Corinthians 11:1 (KJV) 1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

### **Profile of Paul**

Generally, Yeshua did not call lazy, idle folks. Most of those He called were active in their professions or businesses. Peter, Andrew, James, and John were fisher men before He called them to be fishers of men in Matthew 4:17-23.

1. Paul was an active disciple of Gamaliel, the leading Professor of Judaism in his day.

Philippians 4:4-7 (KJV) 4 Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: 5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; 6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. 7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

Acts 22:3 (KJV) 3 I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.



2. Paul was in the Market Place as a tent maker before he went into full time ministry.

Acts 18:1-3 (KJV) 1 After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; 2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. 3 And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.

### **A critical example of Paul**

Paul did not go into ministry with expectations to be generally sponsored by partners and be taken care of by others. When he ministered to carnal minded people like the Corinthian believers, he was determined to avoid their glorying over him or manipulating him because of funding the ministry. In that case, Paul worked to generate income for sustaining the ministry. Paul did not shy away from teaching the saints issues of money/Finance and how to pool funds together to ensure that the Kingdom social safety net was strong enough to care for all.

2 Corinthians 8:1-15 (KJV) 1 Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; 2 How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. 3 For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; 4 Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. 5 And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. 6 Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also. 7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also. 8 I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love. 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. 10 And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago. 11 Now therefore

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perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have. 12 For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not. 13 For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened: 14 But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality: 15 As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack.

2 Corinthians 9:1-15 (KJV) 1 For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you: 2 For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which I boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal hath provoked very many. 3 Yet have I sent the brethren, lest our boasting of you should be in vain in this behalf; that, as I said, ye may be ready: 4 Lest haply if they of Macedonia come with me, and find you unprepared, we (that we say not, ye) should be ashamed in this same confident boasting. 5 Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness. 6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 7 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;) 11 Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. 12 For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; 13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men; 14 And by their prayer for you, which long after you

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for the exceeding grace of God in you. 15 Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

Paul exercised integrity in fund raising. He sent people he could trust to do collections from Gentile based churches for sustenance of the Church in Jerusalem and Judea.

2 Corinthians 8:16-23 (KJV) 16 But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you. 17 For indeed he accepted the exhortation; but being more forward, of his own accord he went unto you. 18 And we have sent with him the brother, whose praise is in the gospel throughout all the churches; 19 And not that only, but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and declaration of your ready mind: 20 Avoiding this, that no man should blame us in this abundance which is administered by us: 21 Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men. 22 And we have sent with them our brother, whom we have oftentimes proved diligent in many things, but now much more diligent, upon the great confidence which I have in you. 23 Whether any do enquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellow helper concerning you: or our brethren be enquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.

On a personal/private level, Paul intentionally embraced celibacy in order to be unencumbered by family to fulfil ministry as indicated in 1 Corinthians chapter 7. Furthermore, he also intentionally lived a frugal life of moderation to the extent that he was content with his estate and did not live under pressure to be wealthy through ministry. In that way, he could handle all situations ranging from lack to plenty.

Philippians 4:10-13 (KJV) 10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. 11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. 12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

In view of certainty of the second coming of Yeshua, Jesus, Paul taught the church to embrace moderation as a lifestyle with minds that are free of negativity.

Philippians 4:4-9 (KJV) 4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. 5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. 9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

### **Paul received ministry of Destiny helpers and ministry funders**

Paul did not rely on his own tent making ministry all his life. Whenever he laboured amongst brethren who were spiritual and understood the principles of supporting their spiritual leaders, Paul joyfully received their support.

Philippians 4:14-19 (KJV) 14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction. 15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. 16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. 17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. 18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. 19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus

Just like Yeshua, Jesus Paul enjoyed the active support of destiny helpers and Ministry Partners whose inputs and support made a definite impact on his assignment. The first three were Ananias, the brethren in Damascus and Barnabas who Holy Spirit used to confirm his encounter with Yeshua.

Acts 9:10-31 (KJV) 10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. 11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, 12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. 13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: 14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. 15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: 16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. 17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. 19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. 20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God. 21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests? 22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ. 23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him: 24 But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him. 25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket. 26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. 28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem. 29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed

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against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him. 30 Which when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus. 31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Barnabas went further to take Paul under his wings as mentee and played a role in launching Paul into the Gentile city of Antioch when he found an open door.

Acts 11:22-26 (KJV) 22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. 23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. 24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord. 25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: 26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

The Bible has record of other specific destiny helpers who joyfully took their place to make His ministry successful. Though unknown by many, they will surely share in the glory of the rewards on the last day. A partial list of such people are listed in some scriptures.

Romans 16:1-15 (KJV) 1 I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: 2 That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also. 3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus: 4 Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. 5 Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Salute my well-beloved Epænetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ. 6 Greet Mary, who bestowed much labour on us. 7 Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellow-prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me. 8 Greet Amplias my beloved in the Lord. 9 Salute Urbane, our helper

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in Christ, and Stachys my beloved. 10 Salute Apelles approved in Christ. Salute them which are of Aristobulus' household. 11 Salute Herodion my kinsman. Greet them that be of the household of Narcissus, which are in the Lord. 12 Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord. Salute the beloved Persis, which laboured much in the Lord. 13 Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine. 14 Salute Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren which are with them. 15 Salute Philologus, and Julia, Nereus, and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints which are with them.

1 Corinthians 13:15-18 (KJV) 15 I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,) 16 That ye submit yourselves unto such, and to every one that helpeth with us, and laboureth. 17 I am glad of the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus: for that which was lacking on your part they have supplied. 18 For they have refreshed my spirit and yours: therefore acknowledge ye them that are such.

2 Timothy 4:11 (KJV) 11 Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.

### **Kingdom Financial Compensation plan for leaders**

Paul was used by Holy Spirit in various parts of the Pauline epistles to outline how full-time ministers ought to be provided what they need in terms of money to meet their material needs. The principles outlined in these scriptures are very critical for fairness and equity in compensation plans for those who invest in building up the work of ministry committed to their trust. Let us take note that the consecration which Paul made regarding the Church at Corinth was a private one, to take away their carnal propensities. The gold standard of compensation for ministers are clearly stated in verses 7-11; Galatians 6:6-9 and 1 Timothy 5:17-18.

2 Corinthians 9:1-23 (KJV) 1 Am I am not an apostle? am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not ye my work in the Lord? 2 If I be not an apostle unto others, yet doubtless I am to you: for the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord. 3 Mine answer to them that do examine me is this, 4 Have we

not power to eat and to drink? 5 Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas? 6 Or I only and Barnabas, have not we power to forbear working? 7 Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges? who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock? 8 Say I these things as a man? or saith not the law the same also? 9 For it is written in the law of Moses, thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen? 10 Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope. 11 If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? 12 If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ. 13 Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? 14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel. 15 But I have used none of these things: neither have I written these things, that it should be so done unto me: for it were better for me to die, than that any man should make my glorying void. 16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! 17 For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me. 18 What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel. 19 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. 20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; 21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. 22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. 23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.



Galatians 6:6-9 (KJV) 6 Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things. 7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. 9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

1 Timothy 5:17-18 (KJV) 17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. 18 For the scripture saith, thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

### **Modern applications**

For Pastors and Overseers of who have sacrificially invested their all to activate, nurture and grow established ministries, these are some obligations the saints they lead and the ministry as a registered corporate entity which generates income owes them. They include and are not necessarily limited to these:

1. Provide them regular income or allowances commensurate with their responsibilities, according to capacity of the ministry.
2. Sponsorship of generous gratuity and pension scheme so that they and their families can be provided for after retirement. The world should not have a better plan for retirees than the Church. We should also avoid a situation where ministers continue to labour actively beyond a reasonable age.
3. Ministers who labour actively should be entitled to paid family vacation once or twice a year.
4. Accommodation in parsonages or rented space should be provided with domestic allowance to take care of hospitality and related expenses.
5. The ministry should take care of Healthcare costs of the fulltime leaders.
6. Parishioners should show their appreciation and love by blessing leaders as Holy Spirit leads. Against such, there is no law.

It is wrong to let cash pile up in bank accounts of ministries while the leaders suffer lack. It is also wrong for rent or mortgages to take precedence over wellbeing of leaders. The Trustees of a ministry should diligently put these

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things in place, even when out of humility and a sense of decency, the leaders concerned do not ask for or make fuss. Taking good care of Ministry leaders is a godly thing to do.

**Assignment:** 1. Please write a brief profile of Paul and mention at least 5 of his destiny helpers/supporters 2. From all the scriptures cited and the last comment, please share 7 key things you learnt concerning ministry compensation plans for full time leaders. 3. What will you do with this lesson?

Psalm 68:11. (KJV) 11 The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.

## CHAPTER 12

### STEWARDSHIP PRINCIPLES

Elohim has been gracious to us by addressing the two errors which have wreaked havoc on saints:

- The False Holiness movement which glorifies Poverty
- The False Prosperity movement which idolises and glorifies wealth

As saints, we are supposed to prepare for return of King Yeshua, Jesus. However, to shun the blessings of the Lord and live in abject poverty is not the way to prepare. Poverty does not necessarily mean that the heart and mind are pure. The gold standard of preparation for return of the Lord is 'occupy, until I come'. We are to occupy with the spiritual and material resources Elohim gives to us. What this course does is to take us back to the bible to see how the Lord wants us to relate with Him concerning His promises to provide all that we need to fulfil His divine purpose. One of the greatest dangers those who Elohim blesses face is the tendency to think what they have is a product of their own ability. To beat that syndrome, these principles should undergird the perspectives and lifestyle of the elect.

1. Attribute all blessings of Prosperity and financial and material blessings to Elohim. Recognising that all that we have is from Him is not a minor issue but rather the main issue.
2. We should use material blessings to worship Him. This happens when we submit Holy Spirit to lead and guide concerning how to spend what He provides. This was why Elohim reminded Israel not to become conceited.

Deuteronomy 8:1-18 (KJV) 1 All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers. 2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. 3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live. 4 Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years. 5 Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the Lord thy God chasteneth thee. 6 Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him. 7 For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; 8 A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; 9 A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass. 10 When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee. 11 Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day: 12 Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; 13 And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; 14 Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; 15 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; 16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end; 17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. 18 But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power

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to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he swore unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

In the New Covenant, certain texts will help saints to embrace this foundational truth.

1 Corinthians 4:7 (KJV) 7 For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?

Romans 9:16 (KJV) 16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

3. For that reason, saints who are blessed financially need to see themselves as stewards, not ‘cooks’ or owners using an analogy from the restaurant business.

Owners can do whatever they want from profits of their business. Cooks prepare the meals and do not have access to the serving floor. Stewards on the other hand simply pick up orders from the customers, take same to the till or kitchen, and pick up the food to serve the customers with humility, courtesy, and smiles. The blessings of Prosperity in the form of Financial and material blessings should be seen as equipment to enable saints to exercise the original dominion mandate in their spheres of kingdom influence.

Genesis 1:26-30 (KJV) 26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. 29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. 30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

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Genesis 2:15 (KJV) 15 And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. In other words, financial resources should be seen as given by the Lord for purpose of occupation, until Yeshua returns

Luke 19:11-13 (KJV) 11 And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear. 12 He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. 13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

The Lord has appointed that all saints will receive allocation of resources for fulfilment of their assignments in the earth realm. In this regard, wealth should be seen for what it is: a very good servant in service of the King and a very bad master. It becomes a master when given space to oppress the individual.

### **What financial blessings are not for?**

The availability of financial prosperity is not an invitation to:

- i. Ostentatious living through acquisition of toys to satisfy wants rather than needs.
- ii. Display of worldliness through imitation of the joneses
- iii. Oppression of the less fortunate
- iv. Pride of life and tendency to get puffed up.

### **The scripture which best describes the stewardship paradigm is:**

1 Peter 4:10-11 (KJV) 10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

4. Financial and Material Resources which are from Elohim will be accounted for in time and in eternity. It will be one of the basis of assessment at the Judgement seat of Yeshua. The Lord wants us to

walk in consciousness that

2 Corinthians 5:10 (KJV) 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

5. Though the power to get wealth comes from Elohim, many miss His blessings because of slothfulness and inability to utilise the wisdom and opportunities He provides.
6. Kingdom wealth is better built up diligently, over a period of time rather than what is called the 'fire brigade' approach. These principles collectively constitute a helpful guide.
- 6.1 Start early: open bank accounts for children from proceeds of baby showers and gifts they are given as children. If parents can tighten their belts and pay the price to set up direct debits into saving accounts for the children consistently each month, you would have given the children a good foundation. Faith does not cancel need for savings and financial planning. Rather, true faith is proved by appropriate works.

Hebrews 2:17-26 (KJV) 17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. 18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. 19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. 20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? 22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? 23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. 24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. 25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? 26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

- 6.2. If you missed the infant state, open savings account for the children as soon as possible and invest something steady, no matter how small for their education

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7. Make further arrangements for wealth creation if you can – Think of home ownership as superior to rental. Get a Mortgage if you can so that over the course of time, home ownership is assured.
8. Plan not to impose undue burden on surviving spouse and children – funeral plans; life assurance policies, etc.
9. Invest in others – be generous giver. Every time you exercise generosity, a seed is sown that will bring forth a harvest in due course. As said in an earlier chapter, saints should distinguish between seed and bread so that they can partner with Elohim for a future of blessedness.

2 Corinthians 9:10 (KJV) 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;)

Those who are generous will experience unusual visitation of blessings.

2 Corinthians 9:6 (KJV) 6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

10. Understand and practice tithing as a Kingdom Principle, not religious obligation.

Malachi 3:5-15 (KJV) 5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts. 6 For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. 7 Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return? 8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. 9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. 10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. 11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of



your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. 12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts. 13 Your words have been stout against me, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee? 14 Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the Lord of hosts? 15 And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.

Genesis 14:14-20 (KJV) 14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan. 15 And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus. 16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people. 17 And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which is the king's dale. 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. 19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: 20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

11. Be Generous towards Elohim and His Household. Place His House first.

Haggai 1:1-14 (KJV) 1 In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying, 2 Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built. 3 Then came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying, 4 Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste? 5 Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. 6 Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not

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enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. 7 Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. 8 Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord. 9 Ye looked for much, and, lo it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house. 10 Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. 11 And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands. 12 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the Lord their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the Lord. 13 Then spake Haggai the Lord's messenger in the Lord's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the Lord. 14 And the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the Lord of hosts, their God,

12. Don't live on credit. Credit is a crafty way through which the world system traps people in systemic poverty. Live within your means, cutting your coat according to your cloth, not your size. Cancel credit cards which fuel irresponsibility which are used for consumptive purposes. The only basis on which credit is permissible is if used for capital goods which can be used to generate enough resources.

**Assignment:** 1 Please share 7 things you are taking away from this lesson 2. What will you do with the revelations in this lesson?

## CHAPTER 13

### PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE OVER FINANCES

At this stage of our study on Kingdom Finances, it should be obvious to all that the two core divergent trends away from understanding and proper use of divine prosperity, monetary and material wealth that afflict the Church are not from Elohim but from Satan. The nefarious assignment of Satan is therefore like a cross bow attack designed to pollute and weaken the church.

1. By making saints to embrace a false humility based on ignorance of what the Word says on the subject matter, the demonization and rejection of money creates these negative effects:
  - 1.1. A weak church which does not have the resources with which to fulfil the Great Commission at the local, regional, national, and global levels.

Matthew 24:14 (KJV) 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Matthew 28:19-20 (KJV) 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Acts 1:8 (KJV) 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me

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both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

For the gospel programme to go forth, it is obvious that financial and material resources would be needed to execute the Great Commission. In commissioning the disciples for a test run of the Great Commission, Yeshua made it clear that there will be people in each city to host and take care of their needs.

Matthew 10:7-11, 40-42 (KJV) 7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. 9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, 10 Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat. 11 And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence

40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. 41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. 42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

- 1.2. A congregation filled with poor, helpless people, mired in systemic poverty may give the wrong image of the Church to its host community. Unable to touch lives of those outside in terms of community impact, it's witness may be blunt blunted.
- 1.3. One of the most ignored scriptures in the New Testament is the commandment that those who are too lazy to earn income should suffer the consequences of their error (1 Thessalonians 5).

### The Alternative

2. On the other hand, Satan has through the false Prosperity movement made a caricature of the Church, in these ways:
  - 2.1. By glorifying money and making it the standard of recognising who is 'blessed', Mammon is elevated to altars of so-called churches for people to worship.
  - 2.2. This display of rank idolatry has created a hollowness of life which

is manifested in absence of heaven mindedness marked by covetousness.

Colossians 3:5-7 (KJV) 5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: 6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: 7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

2.3. The dangers of worldliness are lost to such folks as they put their trust in uncertain riches, rather than Elohim.

1 Timothy 6:17 (KJV) 17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

2.4. The greatest indicator that Elohim is not in the centre of this kind of 'gospel' is the unwillingness and inability of so called 'believers' to part with their money. They do not invest to lift the poor from the pit; stifle wages of their employees and oppress the poor.

### **Consequence of both errors**

As we said before, the two scenarios above constitute a double-edged attack of Satan. By creating a Poverty versus Wealth option, he blurs the mind of saints so that they cannot comprehend what he is doing. On the whole, nothing gives Satan much satisfaction than to achieve two equally bad objectives:

1. Inflict as much pain as possible on believers affecting their wealth, health and holistic wellbeing yet, causing them to wrongly believe that it is evidence that God is using pain to draw them closer. Some may suffer on earth and squeeze into the Kingdom. Others may in spite of their material conditions stake all on eternal life and succeed by literally turning their pain into gain, winning great prizes in the world to come.

For some others, the mindset that Elohim is behind their afflictions, may cause them to sink deeper into financial and health quagmires, unwilling and unable to fight back. This was the case of Job when he wrongly assumed that Elohim was the One Who inflicted him.

Job 1:8-22 (KJV) 8 And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? 9 Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? 10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. 11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face. 12 And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord. 13 And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: 14 And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them: 15 And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. 16 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. 17 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. 18 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: 19 And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee 20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, 21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. 22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

2. On the other hand, those who have enthroned mammon may be worshipping him rather than Elohim even though they 'go to church' and may be even active or have reputation for generosity.

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Matthew 6:19-20, 24 (KJV) 19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Matthew 16:25-26 (KJV) 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

### **The Way forward.**

With the above realities in mind, we can now proceed to present the way forward.

1. Understanding. This course has been an instrument through which we received a balanced presentation of the subject matter.
2. The Lord wants all saints to walk in knowledge of the supremacy of Yeshua, Jesus and reality of their identity in Him. This is the greatest firewall against Satan's attempt to lay hold of the minds and hearts of believers. That He has paid the full price of our redemption from Satan and translated us into the Kingdom is a Truth the enemy cannot contest.

Colossians 1:12-23 (KJV) 12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: 15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he

might have the preeminence. 19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. 21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: 23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

Colossians 2:6-23 (KJV) 6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: 7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. 8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. 9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: 11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. 16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ. 18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, 19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God. 20 Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though



living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, 21 (Touch not; taste not; handle not; 22 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men? 23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body: not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.

3. An additional firewall is to embrace His call for discipleship. A disciple is a believer who has been translated from merely believing on Yeshua for eternal life to one who follows Him in everything. True disciples of Yeshua can handle prosperity and will not be swept away because it is a servant, not a master.
4. Embrace the sanctifying power of the Blood of Yeshua, the Word and dealings of life to walk in true holiness. This is another firewall that guards the hearts of saints from intrusions and attacks of Satan. Holy saints can withstand Him when he has nothing in them.

1 Thessalonians 5:22-24 (KJV) 22 Abstain from all appearance of evil. 23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

2 Corinthians 7:1 (KJV) 1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

In pursuit of true holiness, one of the benchmarks is receiving the grace to be heavenly minded with capacity to forgive others.

Colossians 3:1-7(KJV) 1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. 5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: 6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: 7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

Mark 11:25-26 (KJV) 25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if

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ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. 26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

5. Deepen our relationship with Holy Spirit. Communion with Him will transform the prayer life of the saints to the degree that only the will of the Father is expressed in prayer and spiritual warfare.

Romans 8:26-27 (KJV) 26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Submit to leading of Holy Spirit in all things. He alone call lead us into the mind of the Father in all things. This includes use of money or how to get same.

6. Pray of faith for breakthrough without understanding of the word and plan of the Lord for our lives. In this frame of mind, saints do not fret, worry or are anxious over their needs.

Philippians 4:4-7 (KJV) 4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. 5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Rather, knowing that Elohim is a benevolent Father, saints pray with a trusting heart, asking for what they need.

Matthew 6:7-11 (KJV) 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Matthew 7:7-11 (KJV) 7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Mark 11:22-24 (KJV) 22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Some of the hindrances that believers face is the effect of works of darkness activated by evil humans. Part of prayers of saints should be to deliver them from wicked and unreasonable men.

2 Thessalonians 3:2 (KJV) 2 And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.

7. When saints walk in their identity and press into deeper realms of relationship with the Lord, they can effectively wage spiritual warfare. The reason is simple: he can find no chink in their armour just as he could not find in Yeshua.

John 14:30 (KJV) 30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

They recognise the nature of the enemy and his limited capacity to hinder them from being blessed. This makes them bold in warfare.

- 7.1. They recognise him as the master of lies who manipulates thoughts, feelings, and perspectives as a way to keep believers in captivity.

John 8:42-44 (KJV) 42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from

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God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. 43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. 44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

- 7.2. They know that Satan has no positive value in their lives and \businesses. They are not scared but rest in the reality that though Satan comes to steal, kill, and destroy, Yeshua has come that believers may have abundant life in the now and in eternity.

John 10:10 (KJV) 10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

- 7.3. Saints recognise that Elohim desires them to be blessed

3 John 2:2 (KJV) 2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

- 7.4. Laying hold of the promises, they resist Satan steadfast in the Faith

1 Peter 5:7-9 (KJV) 7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

- 7.5. Saints recognise that limitations to their material and financial blessings may be effects of powers of darkness, wage spiritual warfare with the whole armour of Elohim

Ephesians 6:10-18 (KJV) 10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having

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done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: 18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

2 Corinthians 6:7 (KJV) 7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

The Authority of the Name of Yeshua and Power of the Blood can be deployed by Faith to clear all hindrances to financial and material blessings ordained by Elohim.

Mark 16:17-18 (KJV) 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Philippians 2:9-11 (KJV) 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Revelation 12:11 (KJV) 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

7.6. Through it all, the saints who are to be lifted by Elohim to walk in His blessings need to walk in humility towards Him and other people. Humility is a great asset for handling wealth.

James 4:6-7 (KJV) 6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

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1 Peter 5:6 (KJV) 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

Let there be no doubt about this: the Lord blesses His people! However, He does not want saints to covet wealth, neither does He permit them to despise it. Balance is the key!

**Assignment:** 1. Please share 7 key things you are taking away from this lesson. 2. What will you do with this lesson?

## CHAPTER 14

### REWARDS OF THE FAITHFUL – IN TIME AND ETERNITY

Yeshua promised the disciples that rewards in time and eternity await all who serve Him diligently. There has always been a religious tendency to frame the promises as made to only the 12 disciples. The Bible is clear that while some of the promises are specific to those who walked with Him, Yeshua made it clear that there were blessings for all saints of all generations who dared to pay the price to be His disciples. It is in that regard that both full and part time ministers as well as those who serve fully in the Market Place as business owners, professionals and employees in private and public sectors can validly expect divine blessings in their lifetime and in eternity.

Matthew 19:27-28 (KJV) 27 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? 28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

**Commentary:** The blessings of verses 27 and 28 are specific to all the apostles except Judas Iscariot who gave covetousness space to dominate and destroy him.

29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.  
30 But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

**Commentary:** The blessings of verse 29 are clearly for all who meet the conditions He outlined. There are two conditions of the blessings which are as clear as crystal:

1. They are for those who had forsaken these precious assets that human value highly:

Houses  
Brethren  
Sisters

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Parents (Father and Mother)  
Spouse (wife)  
Children  
Lands

2. They are to be forsaken for His Name's sake.

In other words, it is not enough to give up those benefits. They should be done because He requires them of us! This means that they should be the things we are willing to suffer for His Name sake. This is what the Cross is all about: bending to Him when His will clashes with our will or comfort zone.

Matthew 10:32-39 (KJV) 32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. 33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. 34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. 36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. 37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

### Implications

Some people believe that it is possible to be a good Christian on Sunday, inside the 'church' building and setting, display sanctimonious dispositions and 'praise the Lord' then switch off 'church mode' to 'live normally' like those on the broad way from Monday to Saturday. During this period, they hustle for money and success like other humans, bribing and being bribed, just to 'make it'. This is simply extension of ABC Churchianity (Attendance, Buildings and Cash). It is especially evident in the lives of those sold out to the false prosperity movement which bows to Mammon, the abominable principality Satan uses to compromise and corrupt saints who look for money and wealth at all costs.

Yeshua is challenging us therefore to be who we are as His New Creation anywhere and everywhere including all dimensions of the Market Place! What



we are inside the 'church' building must be who we are at home and in our businesses and workplaces: citizens and ambassadors of the Kingdom. We should gladly embrace righteousness and holy living as our lifestyle. That means we need to emulate Yeshua to actively love righteousness and actively hate iniquity. Therein is the secret of divine blessings and upliftment. Such people will be anointed with Favour above their contemporaries in business or employment.

Hebrews 1:9 (KJV) 9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Saints who live this way cannot bribe their way to get what they want, nor will they give space to be bribed. They cannot lie or make a lie, embellishing truth, just to sell goods to those who can be deceived. They do not cut corners of quality, just to make more profits. Their yes is their yes, and their no, their no. They do not allow wealth to activate covetous propensities, worldliness nor open their members for Sin to enter and take hold. They guard their hearts and minds so much so that they are constantly aware of the Omniscience and Omnipresence of Elohim. They are never too busy to pray or study the word but rather see both as vital as oxygen to their spiritual health. They live by the Golden Rule owing all they relate with nothing but love.

Matthew 7:12 (KJV) 12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Romans 13:8-10 (KJV) 8 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. 9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

They give Holy Spirit right of way to lead and guide them. In other words, they stay on the narrow road less travelled whereas those who want to accumulate wealth, whose god is their belly stay on the broad way.

Matthew 7:13-14 (KJV) 13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction,

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and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Philippians 3:17-19 (KJV) 17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. 18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

In living by the Book (the scriptures), they may be reproached by those for whom Sin is a master.

Matthew 10:24-30 (KJV) 24 The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. 25 It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household? 26 Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. 27 What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops. 28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. 30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Those who live this way are on the cutting edge of eternity, prepared as it were to meet their Lord at any time. These are the wise virgins of the day, for whom the world to come is such a big deal that they are willing to sacrifice the temporal for the eternal.

Philippians 3:20-21 (KJV) 20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

On these kinds of people, neither Mammon nor his master Satan can find no space to dock!

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John 14:30 (KJV) 30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

If Satan tries to entice them with wealth and the dainties of this world, they will follow the playbook of King Yeshua and shut him down with the Word!

Matthew 4:8-11 (KJV) 8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; 9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. 10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. 11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Because they are broken and dead to self, they can handle true wealth and not stagger out of the Kingdom. Kingdom Finance is an asset for Kingdom purposes, not for competition or strife.

John 12:24 (KJV) 24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

As those whose faith has been tried in the fire, they come forth like gold, ready to shine brightly with good works they gladly do with blessings Elohim gives them. People who see such good works are drawn to embrace Lordship of Yeshua, the Giver!

Matthew 5:13-16 (KJV) 13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. 14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

### **The Promised Rewards**

Matthew 19:29 (KJV) 29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or

children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

As can be seen, there are two intertwined dimensions of rewards: In time and in eternity.

### **In time**

A hundredfold of what true disciples forsake implies the capacity to receive all allocations of resources with which to fulfil divine assignments in the earth realm on this side of eternity. Anyone who can validly fulfil the reason for creation and redemption is truly successful. The bullets of their lives are fully discharged by the time they are called home. Before they receive the hundred-fold, there is a guarantee that Elohim will supply all their needs according to His riches in glory! (Philippians 4:19). Saints are to have hearts which trust Elohim and rest in His promises concerning provision of their needs. It is a covenant commitment by the King that His faithful disciples who are led by Holy Spirit will live in Goshen: though in the world, they are not of the world. Their economic needs are guaranteed in the New Covenant.

Matthew 6:19-34 (KJV) 19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! 24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one

of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

### **Inheritance and Blessings of Grace, Not Works!**

Those who are blessed by the Lord do not labour for Money! Wealth, Prosperity come to them as inheritance of the Lord Who owns all things on earth and blessings from Him.

Romans 11:5-6 (KJV) 5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. 6 And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then it is no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

The Lord wants us to make Him our sufficiency. It is when He is seated securely on the throne of our hearts that we can truly live as Kingdom citizens. It is in this state that He becomes Jehovah Jireh, providing all that we need.

John 6:28-40 (KJV) 28 Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? 29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. 30 They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work? 31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat. 32 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. 34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall

never thirst. 36 But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not. 37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Such saints do not burn the candles of their lives trying to make money, sinning in the process and losing the virtues of the Kingdom. Their success is not a function of their 'labours' with arm of the flesh.

John 6:27 (KJV) 27 Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

### **Peace of Mind, Joy of the Lord**

Because of this, their minds are stayed on the Lord, they enjoy His Peace, in spite of the turmoil of the world economic and political system.

Isaiah 26:1-3 (KJV) 1 In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks. 2 Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. 3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

John 16:33 (KJV) 33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

The character of Yeshua is formed in them as they abide in Him and bear abundant fruit of Holy Spirit.

John 15:1-8 (KJV) 1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. 3 Now ye are clean through

the word which I have spoken unto you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

Galatians 5:22-24 (KJV) 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. 24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Isaiah 12:1-3 (KJV) 1 And in that day thou shalt say, O Lord, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. 2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. 3 Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

## **B. Eternal Blessings**

The reality that one can complete the divine assignment while on earth is the basis of looking forward to four tiers of blessings in the hereafter.

1. Just to make it into heaven is worth more than all the riches of this world as Yeshua described the equation.

Matthew 16:25-26 (KJV) 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

2. To participate in the first resurrection of the dead or be part of the rapture on the Day of the Trumpet is an exceptional blessing which nullifies pains on this side of eternity.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 1(KJV) 13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

3. To receive the Overcomers Crown and reign with Yeshua as Priests and Kings in the Millennium is a priceless blessing.

Revelation 1:6 (KJV) 6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 5:9-10 (KJV) 9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; 10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

Revelation 20:6 (KJV) 6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

4. To inherit all things in all eternity with the Godhead is the ultimate reward that all the wealth of this world cannot buy.

### **Investments in wellbeing of others can count in eternity.**

Yeshua spoke, in plain language that through loving investments in the wellbeing of others, saints can pay the price for eternal rewards. By simple logic it can be inferred that those who Elohim blesses as this course posits,



owe themselves a duty to see such as instruments of fulfilling part of their divine callings so that they will receive rewards in eternity. In that case, they allow the Lord to use their vessels to touch lives of other people.

Matthew 25:31-40 (KJV) 31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

This point was also made by Paul in this letter to Timothy we examined before.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (KJV) 17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

### **Profile of those who enjoyed wealth on earth and will inherit eternity**

Abraham was one of the most wealthy in his generation. He made it into eternity, considered by no less a source than Yeshua.

Matthew 8:11 (KJV) 11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham,

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and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.

David was also a man of extraordinary wealth, yet he became one of the human ancestors of Yeshua and made it to the eternal Kingdom. We will end this Course with profiles of two apostles who had the promise of 100-fold rewards on earth but laid it all down – just like their Lord, like Yeshua. The idea was that through their sacrifice, the kingdom would be expanded without limits. It was an option they embraced with joy! The first is Peter, the man whose question spurred Yeshua to make the promise in Matthew 19:27-29. Peter made it clear that wealth was not everything.

1 Peter 4:12-19 (KJV) 12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: 13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. 14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. 15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. 16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. 17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? 18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? 19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

No wonder Peter followed the example of Yeshua in Philippians 2:5-11 in that he chose to lay the promises down, content with the fullness of riches in the world to come. He sealed his testimony in blood with crucifixion (upside down). He did not wince at the thought, but rather embraced it with joy when he was in his 60's.

2 Peter 1:13-15 (KJV) 13 Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; 14 Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. 15 Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

The second was apostle Paul. This extraordinary servant of the Most High had everything going for him. He could have enjoyed any level of wealth if he wanted. But he personally laid down the promises and was able to speak about the world to come and blessings the Lord had reserved for him in a powerful way.

2 Timothy 4:6-8 (KJV) 6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

The reality that we who are to close out the human age have all the Bible and profiles of heroes of faith makes it imperative that we make wise choices that place eternity rightly in our hearts. Divine Prosperity, Wealth, Financial and Material blessings are simply tools of worshipping Elohim and fulfilling His Purpose. Outside that framework, the danger of being swept away by Satan, Mammon and fleeting riches is real. But with hearts that are fixed and minds that are made up, we become overcomers! The Lord has ordained that our generation has an extraordinary portion in the universal gospel programme.

Hebrews 11:13-16 (KJV) 13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. 15 And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. 16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

Hebrews 11:24-27 (KJV) 24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; 26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. 27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

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Hebrews 11:32-40 (KJV) 32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: 33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions. 34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. 35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: 36 And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: 37 They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; 38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. 39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Interestingly Yeshua made a powerful prophetic word concerning the reality that we upon whom the end of the age has come will not suffer any disadvantage relative to those of previous dispensations:

Matthew 19:30 (KJV) 30 But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

**Assignment:** 1. Please share 5 key things you understood from this lesson. 2. What will you do with this lesson? 3. Write a Summary of Course 125: Kingdom Finance and Stewardship containing a minimum of 500 words in 12-point New Times Roman or Arial type face.

## COURSE FEEDBACK

**Lazarous Mbola - Kabwe, Zambia** - This course is an instrument of establishing saints in the area of finances. This course has enabled me to understand that finances are one of the things saints will stand to account for before the Judgement Seat of King Yeshua on the Last day. I did not look at the aspect of financial management as something that we shall give an account for. Saints must view finances as instrument to serve the Lord and other people with. Saints are to view stewardship in this way: Elohim owns everything, He entrusted us with money not for us to be bosses but to be stewards who will be answerable how we managed the funds.

**Ke'Asha Green - Kilgore, Texas** - Father initially wanted to bless us. At first those blessings were taken away because of sin (the fall of Adam and Eve). That is why when Yeshua came and died for us, it gave us that access again. Religion gets stuck there. So, this course goes into detail about how he wants to bless us, the dangers of chasing after money and the Father not being a priority. It also went into details about poverty and how some people accept poverty or over-emphasize wealth. It also went into details about the different areas we are graced in or what the Father calls us to. The course has extended my knowledge and understanding a lot. There were many nuggets I took away from this course. One important thing that I took away is how Elohim loves and cares for us. Just hearing how he doesn't like or has no pleasure in seeing our pain. I also took away how we are all graced in different areas whether that be full time, marketplace, or hybrid. I also learned about how everyone isn't graced to be an entrepreneur or rather that isn't what the Father has for them. I also learned some people are not even graced with Downstream Connection. A regular job may be what the Lord has for them. So, this really opened my eyes and made me understand we all have different areas in ministry, and everyone isn't made to do the same thing that we do. Three biblical truths gleaned from this course which I understood from a Christian Religion or Churchianity perspective prior to this course is with the Fall of Adam and Eve how the Father's heart was/is meant and wanting to bless us. Religion makes it seem that we are still bound to those things that were cursed to the earth. It makes us think we are still supposed to labour and struggle. I also learned that when Yeshua redeemed us, we are NO longer Satan's. He rescued us back to him. Religion keeps us bound and makes us think and feel as though Satan still has power or victory over us. I am a new creature transferred from darkness to light. The Lord loves me and wants to have that close intimate/ real personal relationship with me. He wants me to walk close to him and talk to him about everything. I guess realizing that he

is actually a sensitive God, who longs and cares for us. We are to hold everything with open hands, not clutching at anything. We are also to view finances as allocations for our assignment that the Lord has ordained for us. He gives us wealth to expand his kingdom to complete the great commission. All that we have and own is from Elohim. In that, we worship him by submitting to his will and the guidance of Holy Spirit for him to show us what he wants us to do with it. He's the one who gives the wealth, and it's just not for us but for others, freely as he leads.

**Edah Milos – Johannesburg, Gauteng** - This course has two extreme positions that are part of the baggage saints acquire in two broad strand of Christianity religions and its variant churchianity and their impact and on the believers. The two extremes are the pseudo holiness movement and its disdain and demonization of money and the pseudo prosperity movement and its idolization of money. In this course we cover kingdom economic system, poverty, money and wealth root causes and effects, divine prosperity in the original plan and the Old Testament and New Covenant perspectives of prosperity blessings and wealth. We understand that Elohim is a responsible father.

**Definite Masarakufa - Harare, Zimbabwe** - Kingdom Finances and Stewardship touches and demystifies issue about finances and wealth. It unmasks the ugly doctrine that demonises money and also that of the idolisation of wealth. The course clearly brings out the truth that Elohim desires us to be blessed holistically and touches on issues that can bring one into poverty and also brings out how one can set him\herself for blessing. The course has broadened my understanding of how deep Elohim's desire for us to prosper holistically is. I have come to understand how deep His love for us is. I have come to understand how poverty can really come to be and how I can overcome it. Before this course I had limited understanding of the reason why Elohim desires to enjoy the good even today. I didn't have understanding as no one had taught me in that area. From being born again I only thought that poverty was a result of some decision from Yahweh. The course has opened my eyes to many reasons of poverty. I also had a perception that many blessings promised in the Bible where all promised to some other people of old, yet they are for all Saints who abide in Yahweh. Saints are to view Finance as a tool to advance the Kingdom of Yahweh. Saints are to see Stewardship from a Kingdom perspective that remains in the knowledge that Yahweh is the source of everything and that we are only Stewards where everything belongs to Elohim

**Alice Oteba – Nairobi, Kenya** - This course is about Kingdom Finance and stewardship. It expounds on pseudo-holiness movement and Pseudo-prosperity movement. The extent in which the course has extended my knowledge and understanding of Kingdom Finance and stewardship is that I won't demonise money anymore and I won't worship Mammon and elevate it above Elohim who is the creator. I have learnt that Elohim has given me all that I have so that I may occupy till He comes. The three Biblical Truths I gleaned from this course: (1) Money is the root of all evil. (2) The parable of the rich fool (Luke 12:13-20). (3) The Rich Young Ruler (Luke 18:18-24). Saints are to view Finance from a Kingdom perspective and not from Religious perspective. Saints should view Stewardship as a mandate given to them by Elohim and should be done by all integrity for, they will give an account.

**Tecla Dhliwayo - Harare, Zimbabwe** - The course teaches about the correct way of viewing money and material blessings. Money should neither be idolized nor demonized, there should be a balance. It also explains the different callings and what their dispositions towards money should be like. The course also outlines the causes and effects of poverty, the purposes of divinely given prosperity as well as channels of blessings. It articulates laws governing blessings, prosperity and true success and indicators of both good use and abuse of money. It also defines clearly what those who serve Yeshua in ministry are entitled to as well as the rewards both in time and eternity. The course has greatly extended my understanding of Kingdom Finance and Stewardship. The 3 biblical truths I take away are: It is wrong to either demonise or idolise money, there should be a balance, Elohim is able to provide for those He calls to ministry, they should look to Him as their Source. Divine prosperity is not for all saints at all times. Finance should be viewed as a servant used for occupation in the fulfilment of our assignments in the earth realm. Saints should view stewardship in terms of understanding that all we have belongs to Elohim and should be used to glorify Him.

**Victor Oduko - Benin, Ireland** - Kingdom finance and stewardship is different from the world. Despite that Yeshua has made everything possible for us to use in the earth, we use our own intellect and greediness to use the wealth given to us. Yeshua wants us to use His wealth as a kindness to all human and nature. This course will open our eyes to what Kingdom finance represents and how to use it as a stewardship to Yeshua. The course has made me to know that the Pseudo prosperity and Holiness are not from Yahweh, and this will blindfold some people of faith. We are to be wealthy as Yeshua is wealthy and use it to advance the course of Yeshua. We should not think

that holiness is to not have riches and die in poverty. Money is to be used for gospel. The love of money is what brought evil to people. Money answereth all things, but many seek wealth for their private gain. Christian Religion/Churchianity has brought people into Pseudo prosperity. ie. If you are not rich, you do not belong, and use the wealth to brandish themselves. Pseudo holiness, where some have been taught that having wealth will take them to hell. They are all wrong. Saints are to view finance as God provision to use for the Kingdom wealth to promote the Kingdom of God in the earth and help one another. Finance is to make possible entrance of people to the knowledge of God and heavenly conscious and binding. Elohim makes us to be rich. Saints should see and view stewardship as to use for the vessels of God. Stewardship is working for Yeshua as He came to serve us, we have to serve one another as He said to the Disciples.

**Phineas Fusire - Harare, Zimbabwe** - The course is all about money and prosperity who we should regard it in a holistic way, how we should use it as blessings from Him the giver of wealth. Three biblical truths I take away are: not all saints are Blessed with wealth at a certain time, saints can be poor by many things, like Laziness, use of drugs, carelessness and it was not the original plan of Elohim for us to struggle with his resources He created. Saints are to review Finance as the blessing from the creator and should be blessing to others not to use it as a tool to oppress the less advantaged d)as better custodians of God given wealth

**Patience Weyimi-Oboyo – Kildare, Ireland** - Elohim made heaven and earth and gave man authority and blessed us to enjoy, fruitful and multiply. Elohim God has provided sufficient natural resources to sustain human life until Yeshua Jesus returns to rule and reign over this earth. There are two movements. 1. The Pseudo-Holiness Movement and its contempt and demonization of money 2. The Pseudo-Prosperity Movement and its idolization of money. In the beginning, Elohim has made provision for His saints, to realise that Elohim is a Faithful, responsible, and benevolent Father who cares for the holistic wellbeing of all His creation to depend on Him to do what is best for providing for our needs in the journey of His work. Elohim pays attention to every detail of the lives of those who are His children to ensure that they receive His blessings as an inheritance of Grace. Divine prosperity may not be for all saints, some saints will be rich, and some may not have enough. Yeshua made it clear that there will always be some poor among congregations of saints. Understanding that wealth comes from Elohim should lead the wealthy saint to be humble, attributing all blessings to His providence. Saints are to view that those Elohim called to full-time ministry, He is faithful to provide for them their need to fulfil their



assignment and have faith in Elohim. Saints should ascribe all blessings of Prosperity and financial and material blessings to Elohim.

**Telitha Courmier - Texas USA** - Satan has worked hard to split the church in half with 2 completely wrong theologies. One being the Pseudo Holiness movement which sees money as being evil, the other is the Pseudo Prosperity Movement where money is idolized causing Christians to serve self rather than Elohim. This course is designed to Debunk these theologies and bring a Saint to a healthier understanding of money and its function in the lives of the believer. Before this course I have carried a lot of shame and fear with the amount of prosperity my husband and I have worked hard for. This fear has caused me to back track with lots of decisions and monetary moves with the thought that if I even enjoyed some of it for our family that I would be that camel going through the eye of the needle. To go through this course and realize that some people are allowed to have prosperity and as long as they are in tune with the Holy Spirit and are being guided by Him as to what are Seeds to be scattered and what is bread to be enjoyed by my family brings a peace of mind. With that being said, I now have a better understanding of this calling as well as the other 3 types of callings to be on better lookout if Elohim calls me into another type of calling so I am Alert to serve as He says. For the Love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. (this verse has been a verse cherry picked to exclaim how money is basically Satan himself, however the evil comes from those who begin to idolize the money and worship Mammon as their god resulting in sorrows. With responsible Stewardship and Elohim's guidance and sole focus on Him our lives can be saved of these sorrows spoken about. Depending on our assignment will determine the amount of Allocations to be given on earth. Before the Fall of mankind, Elohim blessed Male and Female telling them to multiply and have dominion over every living thing. This is not a teaching that I can recall ever being taught growing up, it was looked over by the curses and shame that it brought. These teachings paired with money being the root of all evil as well as it being hard for a rich man to get into heaven as a camel through the eye of a needle are the main teachings that have made me scared to have a large amount of money. Genesis 1:28 really helped me to wrap my head around the Elohim I actually serve and not the man-made image that was fed to me growing up. He is far more of a Good Father than I ever realized. From a saint's point of view would be to seek Elohim for wisdom and guidance on what belongs to us first. From there we are to be smart with our money for this will be the basis of our judgement at the white throne of judgement. Our money should not be for binge buying and "trying to keep

up with the Jones". We should invest and seek channels of wealth if capable, save for our children, pay for funeral costs ahead of time, tithe, invest in others, don't be bound by credit debt, be generous especially to Elohim and His household. Have a generous attitude with money, Stewardship is a way of looking at the blessings you have received from Elohim as if they did not belong to you. You would simply be the middleman of where they would go and to whom they would go to. By taking the ownership off of your mind Elohim can decipher to you what is bread for you to eat and what is Seed to Disperse. Doing this is how you worship Him with your resources.

**Moses Mutale - Kabwe, Zambia** - I can describe this course as a timely course to me because finances and how to manage it has been a challenge to me, so this course is a guide and a map to live a life that is transparent in ministry without question marks. Have reached the extent that I no longer desire to do ministry to enrich myself but to do everything because Elohim has called me to do ministry and that only him will take care of me and my household which in ministry. Sowing and Reaping: This happen to be the way that mankind has to live in because it happened after floods and since then mankind has to sow and the reap. Faithfulness: Faith is the substance that comes with a seed of blessing and only faith can change or move mountains and only faith can bring good things. Prayer: Prayer stands as the best conversation with Elohim, and it is out of our talk to Him in prayers we obtain blessings and favor. How saints are to view finances are in such a way that they don't take it as their God but as something Elohim has blessed them with in order to sustain their ministries and families, and for this reason saints has to know that finances are been given to them for the purpose of sustaining their ministries. Saints are to be ready to be good stewards and should be ready to do everything for Yeshua and to pray for their destiny helpers. So in this regard saints are to take stewardship as a calling and not something to use in blackmailing others.

**Dan Tlhabane – Pretoria, South Africa** - The course started on an excellent standing, describing the 2 extremes of Saints in viewing money, being the Pseudo-Holiness and the Pseudo-Prosperity movement. It shows how the two have ripped apart scriptures to satisfy their own desires and motives. God Elohim has through His calling, giving others the capacity to preach the Word, whilst others are used as vessels to enable those without financial resources to provide these resources as stewards and not owners, with Elohim being the owner. The course went on to touch on causes of poverty, effects of poverty and benefits of poverty showing that the poor are usually rich in faith, a point I concur with. The course is heavily laden on

Genesis 1:26-29. Throughout the Old and the New Covenants Elohim has remained constant with regard to wanting to prosper His people. Proving that money in itself doesn't corrupt but should be used to further God's Kingdom on earth, by carrying out the Great Commission without hindrances of lack. Laws of Prosperity and Divine Blessings also form part of the course. Because Satan is always against that which belongs to Elohim, Saints need to wage a spiritual warfare to restrain Satan from averting Elohim's plans and purposes. Towards the end, it touched on rewards of the faithful, both in time and in eternity. In all honesty, I felt like a rookie, realizing how little knowledge and understanding I had on the issues. I began by emptying my vessel to receive as much as I could take in. It was a wise move, as I really needed the capacity to consume the new information and different understanding presented in this course. God is the giver of all blessings. The earth and all in it, belong to Him and Him alone. He chooses whom to give to in what measure. Having designed us, each being a different member of the Body, we each should perform different tasks as the Body requires. His wisdom is revealed daily in our lives, with this course opening our eyes to this awesome truth. Had certain individuals possessed everything without needing others, would have been disastrous to the Kingdom. Stewardship is the responsibility assigned to some saints to be His vessels or conduits through whom He channels money and other financial resources to those He gave the responsibility of preaching to all nations, yet do not possess the capacity to carry out this function. Pseudo-Holiness is the movement of those who teach that money is evil, and they embrace poverty as a way to enter heaven. Pseudo-Prosperity Movement is led by those who view money as the answer to everything. They have moved away from preaching the gospel and they idolise money to such an extent that God doesn't feature anymore in their hearts.

**Nancy Mugabe - Harare, Zimbabwe** - The course outlines how all finances in the Kingdom come from Elohim. He is also the provider for allocations for every assignment. True kingdom saints are those who gone out of world systems to embrace their full identities as citizens of Elohim's kingdom. Kingdom economics recognizes that Elohim made heaven and earth. He provided sufficient natural resources to sustain human life until Yeshua, Jesus returns to rule and reign on the earth. Poverty and all its causes are not from Elohim but from Satan and our own doings. In the old and new covenants Yeshua provided for His creations. Those who obey Elohim will be blessed. Satan's hold over humanity was defeated by Yeshua on the cross and when He was tempted in the wilderness. Yeshua finished the work of setting man free on the cross. Do believers can entrust their needs to Yeshua. Redemption is for the spirit man, body and soul. Yeshua came that we might

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have an abundant life. One where the body, soul and spirit is holistic. This is possible by following the law of trusting Holy Spirit and the law of prophetic impetus, the law of word made flesh, the law of honoring parents the law of right use of tongue for creative and not destruction. Yeshua provides destiny helpers for those called to full time Ministry. The authority of the name of Yeshua and power of the blood can be deployed by faith to clear all hinderances to financial and material blessings ordained by Elohim. This course has explained in detail where kingdom finance comes from and how to use it. I also learnt that poverty is not from Elohim, however Satan uses it to destroy believers. The three truths I learnt from this course are: Elohim is the creator. Elohim is the King who is the sustainer of everything. He is our redeemer. Saints are to view Finance as allocations to pursue kingdom work. Saints are to view Stewardship as occupying and taking care of kingdom work until Yeshua returns to rule and reign in the earth realm.

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### COURSE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. Briefly summarize the two extreme positions saints acquire through Christian Religion and Churchianity regarding fiancé and stewardship.
2. True or False: Elohim is a responsible father.  
True  False
3. Which is not one of the four types of people Yeshua called to different dimensions of ministry requiring certain dispositions to wealth?  
 Those called with assignment requiring capacity to handle wealth and power  
 Those whose hearts are tested to ensure idols are located and rooted out.  
 Those who are self-called to ministry  
 Those called to pulpit ministry requiring channels through which Elohim provides blessings
4. Explain the difference between personal consecration and doctrine
5. True or False: When the distinction between consecration and doctrine are not made a good deed done as unto the Lord may become an instrument of error and satanic deceit, if presented to others as a compulsory experience for all!  
True  False
6. Fill in the Blank: Personal Consecration of a leader or a specific sacrifice which the requires of a leader should \_\_\_\_\_.
7. True or False: When the distinction between personal consecration and doctrine are not made the leader can end up producing clones of themselves, not disciples of Yeshua  
True  False
8. Which of the following explains Kingdom Economics?  
 Kingdom economics is knowing Elohim provides sufficient natural resources to sustain human life until Yeshua, Jesus returns  
 Kingdom economics is managing scarcity  
 Kingdom economics is the instinct to acquire as much as you can for self-preservation

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9. Briefly explain the following often ignored realities about the life and ministry of Yeshua, Jesus during his incarnate: Yeshua embraced process as a full human. Yeshua suffered homelessness at a time.
10. True or False: Yeshua did not need financial and material resources to sustain 12 full time ministers who lived with him and took care of countless needy.  
True [ ] False [ ]
11. True or False: Those truly called to full time ministry must place their faith on He who called, understand that He is faithful to provide all that is needed to fulfil their ministries.  
True [ ] False [ ]
12. True or False: From a Kingdom Perspective wealth is not a central issue. The central issues is who occupies centre stage in life of saints.  
True [ ] False [ ]
13. Paul the Apostle is a human example we can look to regarding full time ministry calling. Explain how he walked out Kingdom principles using at least 2 scripture references to support your response
14. Select one of Paul's destiny helpers: Ananias, the brethren in Damascus, Barnabas and explain how they supported the ministry
15. For pastor and overseers who have invested their all to activate, nurture and grow established ministries. which of the following is not one of the Obligations the saints they lead owe them.  
[ ] Regular income or allowances commensurate with their responsibilities, according to capacity of the ministry.  
[ ] Paid family vacation once or twice a year  
[ ] The ministry should take care of Healthcare costs of the fulltime leaders  
[ ] The ministry should not provide accommodation in parsonages or rented space
16. True or False: The gold standard of preparation for return of the Lord is 'occupy, until I come'.  
True [ ] False [ ]
17. True or False: The blessings of Prosperity in the form of Financial

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and material blessings should be seen as equipment to enable saints to exercise the original dominion mandate in their spheres of kingdom influence.

True [ ] False [ ]

18. True or False: The Lord has appointed that all saints will receive allocation of resources for fulfilment of their assignments in the earth realm.

True [ ] False [ ]

19. Understanding and practicing tithing as a Kingdom Principle, is not religious obligation

20. Explain the two conditions of blessings Yeshua promised the disciples

21. Explain the two dimensions of rewards

22. True or False: Inheritance and Blessings of Grace, Not Works!

True [ ] False [ ]

## HOW TO BE INVOLVED

If you would like to be part of the elect who Elohim will use to impact and transform the Church world-wide with this revelation, there are various ways you can be involved, depending on your skills:

- i. Promote these revelations to the wider Body through electronic or print means or via Facebook and other Social Media platforms.
- ii. Be part of those who will use revelation in this course to train other leaders and saints within your loop of Kingdom influence – on and off Facebook
- iii. You have the skills/capacity to edit or proofread these materials
- iv. You can support in any other way: Financially or otherwise. Please send a note to: [visionarymail7@gmail.com](mailto:visionarymail7@gmail.com)



## MASTERCLASS CURRICULUM

The curriculum includes 41 modules and is divided into five courses consisting of basic and advanced courses. The basic courses are foundational Christian doctrines and beliefs, based entirely and completely on the bible as well as practical principles and practices concerning Ministry and how to fulfil same.

### **Course 1. Systematic, Applied Kingdom Theology (Study of the Godhead) - 4 Modules**

Module 1. Course 100: Constitution of the Kingdom

Module 2. Course 101: Understanding Elohim

Module 3. Course 102: Understanding Yeshua Ha Maschiach

Module 4. Course 103: Holy Spirit: Who He Is and What He does

### **Course 2: Systematic Applied Kingdom Culture (Identity and Life of Saints as Kingdom Citizens) - 9 Modules**

Module 1: Course 104: The 16 Fundamental Glorious Truths

Module 2: Course 105: The 9 Fundamental C` s

Module 3: The Ultimate Three: Faith, Hope and Charity

Module 4: Course 107: Grace

Module 5: Course 113: Spiritual Gifts: What, Why, How.

Module 6: Course 120: Personal Spiritual Growth and Maturity

Module 7: Course 136: Divine Perspective of Purpose

Module 8: Course 138: Legacies of Yeshua

Module 9: Course 124: Kingdom Culture in Marriage

### **Course 3: Systematic Applied Kingdom Leadership Studies - 9 Modules (Leadership in the Church from Kingdom Perspectives)**

Module 1: Course 108: The Church

Module 2: Course 109: Kingdom Oriented Church Growth

Module 3: Course 110: The Church of His Vision

Module 4: Course 111: The Kingdom of Elohim

Module 5: Course 114: Leadership in the Household of Faith

Module 6: Course 115: Authority

Module 7: Course 117: Ministerial Ethics

Module 8: Course 135: Priesthood and the Kingdom Church

Module 9: Course 140: Strategic Kingdom Leadership

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Module 1: Course 116: The Great Commission

Module 2: Course 118: The Call, Cost and Rewards of Discipleship

Module 3: Course 119: Ministry: Discover, Pursue and Fulfilling

Module 4: Course 112: The Fivefold: Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers

Module 5: Course 121: Market Place Ministry

Module 6: Course 122: Women in Ministry

Module 7: Course 123: Rewards of the Faithful

**Course 5: Systematic Applied Kingdom Dominion Mandate - 7 Modules**

Module 1: Course 125: Kingdom Finances and Stewardship

Module 2: Course 127: Signs, Wonders and the Miraculous

Module 3: Course 128: Understanding the Human Nature

Module 4: Course 129: Critical Adversaries

Module 5: Course 130: Prayer, Fasting & Spiritual Warfare

Module 6: Course 134: Apostasies, Heresies, Errors, and the Pseudo-Gospel

Module 7: Course 125: Finances and Stewardship in Elohim's House

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Module 1: Course 131: Dispensations, Seasons and Times

Module 2: Course 141: Understanding the End Times

Module 3: Course 137: 7 Letters from Heaven

Module 4: Course 143: Apocalypse Decoded

Module 5: Course 139: Completing the Unfinished Reformation

The curriculum is released free of charge to saints worldwide who are willing to utilise the courses to empower other saints by training them to function as the Royal Priesthood after the Order of Melchizedek. In some parts of the world, Bible Schools have requested and received the curriculum which they use for training. A great company of saints have been trained and ordained through the process worldwide and serve as mentors to saints participating in the Master Class

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    The Holy Spirit: Who He is and What He does  
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    Personal Spiritual Growth and Maturity  
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    Kingdom Leadership  
    Kingdom Culture in Marriage & Family  
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    Dispensations, Seasons, and Times  
    Understanding the End Times  
    Priesthood and the Kingdom Church  
Completing the Unfinished Reformation  
7 Letters from Heaven: Interim Assessment  
    Strategic Kingdom Leadership  
    Divine Perspective of Purpose  
    Prayer & Spiritual Warfare  
    All that Yeshua Jesus Said and Did  
Kingdom Oriented Church Growth  
    Constitution of the Kingdom

# *Kingdom Culture* **FINANCE** and **STEWARDSHIP**

For several centuries, the Church has been rocked by two winds of negative doctrine which combine to limit its ability to receive and walk in the full measure of resources to fulfil the Great Commission:

- The False Holiness movement which demonises wealth and success and projects poverty as evidence of righteousness.
- The False Prosperity Movement which idolises wealth and demonises poverty as evidence of dis-favour with Elohim.

Kingdom Culture Finance and Stewardship provides a balanced, biblical exposition and shows with clarity that Elohim is pleased to supply all the Allocation of resources with which His saints can fulfil all facets of their Kingdom Assignments in the earth realm. Read, be set free and empowered to ask what Elohim has already procured for you!

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Study, apply the principles and share the link to download same with others:  
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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Apostle George and Pastor Grace Akalonu are products of the Grace, Mercy and Favour of Elohim. Divine election enabled them to be His vessels of honour for downloading high quality resources which ministries and ministers worldwide are using to empower multitudes for ministry.

The Teach, Train, Equip, Activate and Release paradigm of ministry training they developed called Global School of Ministry is a curriculum freely available to all saints at [www.kingdombooksclub.com](http://www.kingdombooksclub.com) and [www.gsomonline.org](http://www.gsomonline.org). They are visionaries of International Ministers Fellowship, the Global Advanced Mentorship Program, Global Missions Board and the Global Prayer and Spiritual Cabinet. The videos of this teaching are among over 1,200 free videos at the True Kingdom Live Channel on YouTube.

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