2. God empowered us to get Wealth

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Sub-title: Accessing the Blessing of Abraham

Deuteronomy 8:11–18 (NKJV) Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, 12 lest—when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; 13 and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied;17 then you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.' 18 "And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

- God made a covenant with Abraham & his descendants, and promised to bless, multiply & prosper them exceedingly
- Abraham became very wealthy, so did his son Isaac & grandson Jacob
- (Jacob acquired tremendous wealth over a period of 20 years)
- Jesus Christ redeemed us from the curse, so that the blessing of Abraham can come upon us as Gentiles (non-Jewish) people
- God's covenant with His people is one of prosperity and multiplication
- God gives us power to get wealth, that He may <u>establish His covenant</u> which He swore to Abraham
- God's Covenant of Prosperity is not fully 'established' or 'fulfilled' (NLT)
 until we demonstrate a reasonable level of prosperity in our lives

1. The Blessing of Abraham is accessible to Non-Jews (Christians)

Galatians 3:13–14 (NKJV) Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

- Christ redeemed us from the curse, so that the blessing of Abraham can come on us non-Jewish people
- The blessing of Abraham is only available to:
 - o Abraham's natural descendants the Jewish people
 - o Abraham's spiritual descendants all believers in Jesus Christ

2. The Blessing and the Curse defined

- The curse is a doom towards failure, poverty and destruction
- The blessing is an empowerment to succeed and prosper

3. What is The Blessing of Abraham?

The Blessing of Abraham is:

- a. Righteousness by faith instead of by works (Gen.15:5, Rom. 4:2-3)
- b. Fruitfulness and multiplication (of descendants)
- c. Inheriting land & acquiring wealth & prosperity

Proverbs 10:22 (NKJV) The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.

- The blessing of the Lord is a blessing that God confers on certain individuals and certain groups of people
- The blessing of the Lord makes those people rich!
- The blessing of the Lord was conferred on Abraham, so it is now known as "the Blessing of Abraham"
- This Blessing was extended to Abraham's natural children (Israelites)
- Finally, it was extended to Abraham's spiritual children (Christians)

Galatians 3:29 (NKJV) And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

4. Isaac accesses the Blessing of Abraham

Genesis 26:1–5 (NKJV) There was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines, in Gerar. 2 Then the Lord appeared to him and said: "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land of which I shall tell you. 3 Dwell in this land, and I will be with you and bless you; for to you and your descendants I give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father. 4 And I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; 5 because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws."

- There was a famine in the land in the days of Isaac, Abraham's son
- God appeared to him and told him not to go down to Egypt
- God said: Dwell in this land (Canaan), and I will bless you, and perform the oath that I swore to your father Abraham

Genesis 26:12–14 (NKJV) Then Isaac sowed <u>in that land</u>, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord blessed him. 13 The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous; 14 for he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds and a great number of servants. So the Philistines envied him.

- Despite the famine in the land, Isaac sowed in the land, and reaped a hundred times what he had sown (hundredfold)
- (one sack of seeds sown resulted in 100 sacks of seeds harvested)
- God had blessed him with the Blessing of Abraham, and he:
 - o began to prosper
 - o continued prospering
 - o until he became very prosperous

5. Isaac is re-digging the wells of his father Abraham

Genesis 26:17–18 (NKJV) Then Isaac departed from there and pitched his tent in the Valley of Gerar, and dwelt there. 18 And Isaac dug again the wells of water which they had dug in the days of Abraham his father, for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham. He called them by the names which his father had called them.

- The Philistines were envious of Abraham and his prosperity, so after his death, they closed in the wells of water that he had dug
- Isaac began to re-dig those wells, four in total: (Gen. 26:19, 21,22, 25 & 32,33)
- Each well produced another level of prosperity in Isaac's life
- Its like, Isaac has four streams of income from those 4 wells

6. <u>Isaac blesses Jacob wth the blessing of Abraham</u>

Genesis 28:1–4 (NKJV) Then Isaac called Jacob and <u>blessed him</u>, and charged him, and said to him: "You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan. 2 Arise, go to Padan Aram, to the house of Bethuel your mother's father; and take yourself a wife from there of the daughters of Laban your mother's brother. 3 "May God Almighty bless you, and make you fruitful

and multiply you, that you may be an assembly of peoples; 4 and give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and your descendants with you, that you may inherit the land in which you are a stranger, which God gave to Abraham."

- Isaac had seen the Blessing of the Lord operate in the life of his father Abraham who became very rich
- He had also seen it operate in his own life as he prospered exceedingly
- Now, he pronounces that same blessing over his son Jacob
- A blessing is usually pronounced over a person or a group of people by the "blesser"
- The "person being blessed" receives the blessing by faith, and acknowledges the blessing with the words of their own mouth
- Then, the person being blessed expects the blessing to operate in their life, by faith, and honours God with the tithe of all their income

Deuteronomy 28:12 (NKJV) The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to **bless all the work of your hand.** You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.

As believers in Christ, we are also Abraham's seed (descendants), and heirs to the promise that God made to Abraham.