

2. Accessing Heaven's Abundance

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Sub-Title: The Law of Sowing and Reaping

- We are currently journeying through our 40 Day Campaign
- We are positioning ourselves to receive more of heaven's abundance
- We are laying hold of God's wisdom to bring us into a whole new level of abundance

Psalm 66:12 (NLT) *Then you put a leader over us. We went through fire and flood, but you brought us to a place of great abundance.*

- God is purposing to take His people to a place of great abundance

Main points from the previous message:

- a) Understanding the Core of the Lord's Prayer
- b) The Blessing of the Lord makes rich
- c) What is the Blessing?
- d) Jesus Christ came to give us Life and Abundance
- e) Jesus became poor that we might become rich
- f) Have you been redeemed from the curse of the law yet?

1. Poverty and Scarcity is NOT God's will

Deuteronomy 8:6–9 (NKJV) *Therefore you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways and to fear Him. 7 For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, that flow out of valleys and hills; 8 a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; 9 a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper.*

- No scarcity - no poverty or misery (have provisions in abundance [DBL])
- In the Promised Land (Canaan) the Israelites would experience great abundance & eat bread without scarcity
- There would be plenty of rain, brooks of water, fountains & springs to make their crops grow by themselves

Deuteronomy 11:10–12 (NKJV) *For the land which you go to possess is not like the land of Egypt from which you have come, where you sowed your seed and watered it by foot, as a vegetable garden; **11** but the land which you cross over to possess is a **land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven,** **12** a land for which the Lord your God cares; the eyes of the Lord your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year.*

- In Egypt, they sowed their seed & then watered it by foot
- It hardly ever rained in Egypt
- Irrigation was done by hard labour, by lifting water from the Nile with waterwheels (sakia) or treadle pumps that were operated with their feet
- As soon as they stopped pumping with their feet, water stopped flowing
- God said: In the Promised Land, you don't have to water your own land
- He said: I will do that for you – I will water your seed

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.*

- God delivered them from Egyptian slavery & from hard labour, to bring them to a land of great abundance where the seed grew by itself
- Work is good & necessary, but overworking, just to make ends meet, isn't God's will
- God wants us to work to "sow our seed", and then have plenty of free time to worship him, spend time with family & friends, etc.
- God wants to deliver N.T. believers from the "waterwheels" of their life
- He wants us to become lenders, not borrowers

2. Abundance under the New Covenant

- We have already established in our first message that Jesus Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law ... that the blessing of Abraham might come upon us as Gentile believers
- We are beneficiaries of the Abrahamic Covenant, which is a covenant of abundance

3 John 2 (Ampl.) *Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in every way and [that your body] may keep well, even as [I know] your soul keeps well and prospers.*

- Apostle John prays for his friend Gaius, the he would:
 - **prosper in every way**
 - [that his body] may keep well
 - that his soul would keep well and prosper also
- We must not spiritualise this or try to explain it away:
 - Health in the body is physical
 - Prosper in every way includes the physical (materially)
 - Although, prosperity of the soul is spiritual

3 John 2 (CJB) *Dear friend, I am praying that everything prosper with you and that you be in good health, as I know you are prospering spiritually.*

- **KJV** ... even as your soul prospers ...
- Even as – just as, or according to ...
- Typically, our soul needs to grasp prosperity before it manifests in the physical realm
- That's why we preach & teach these truths - they cause our soul to prosper

3. The Law of Sowing and Reaping

- The law of sowing & reaping is one of the principles of prosperity
- It demands: We must sow seed otherwise there will be no harvest
- This law is also called:
 - Seedtime and harvest (Gen 8:22)
 - Planting and harvesting (various translations)
 - Giving and receiving (Phil. 4:15)

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

- This is a promise from God that establishes the law of seedtime & harvest for perpetuity

4. The Law of Sowing and Reaping works in all Areas of Life

Galatians 6:6–10 (NKJV) *Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. **7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.** 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. 9 And let us not grow weary while doing good,*

for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

- Notice vs. 7. ... ***whatever*** a man sows, that he will also reap
- This works:
 - in the positive as well as in the negative
 - in the natural as well as in the spiritual
 - with words, attitudes and actions
- (JB Phillips NT) ...A man's harvest in life will depend entirely on what he sows...
- Evidently:
 - Sharing in all good things ... is sowing seed (vs. 6)
 - Sowing to the flesh ... is sowing seed (vs. 8)
 - Sowing to the Spirit ... is sowing seed (vs. 8)
 - Doing good ... is sowing seed (vs. 9 & 10)
- God's Word is clear – for every seed sown, there will be a harvest
- Therefore, we should be very cautious & circumspect in regards to what seeds we sow, and what seeds we will not sow

5. What should I sow, and where should I sow it

a. Sowing our time, energy and skills into the market place

- Abundance is in the market place. As we sow into the market place, from the marketplace we can reap wages, salaries, dividends, profits
- Earlier in life, we work for money, then, we get money to work for us

b. Sowing our finances into the kingdom of God

2 Corinthians 9:6–8 (NKJV) But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. **7** So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. **8** And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

c. Sowing the Word of God by speaking & declaring it

- The sower sows the Word (Mark 4:14 The parable of the sower)
- God's Word releases creative power when spoken
- Let's be consistent with our Daily Declarations of the Word of God