

PROSPERITY – DON'T TOUCH THE ACCURSED THING

Chuck Clayton

Joshua 6:16-19 – (16) *And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout: for the Lord hath given you the city. (17) And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the Lord: only Rehab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. (18) And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. [Bring calamity] (19) But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the Lord: they shall come into the treasury of the Lord.*

Accursed, devoted in destruction, for His service, as the sacrifices, for its destruction as an idol. A doomed object, extermination, "devoted", the first Canaanite city that was captured, was devoted by Israel as first-fruits to God, as a token that Israel received all the land from Him. Everything was either to be destroyed or consecrated to the Lord. Because the Lord had given Jericho into hands of the Israelites, they were to consecrate it to Him as a ban, as a holy thing belonging to God which was not to be touched by man, as being the first-fruits of the kind of Canaan. Verse 18, "*But ye, keep altogether from the devoted portion, lest ye covet and take some of the devoted portion, and place the camp of Israel in the devoted status, and thus bring trouble upon it.*"

Verse 19, And therefore cannot be put to any private use, but must be first molten, and then serve for the Tabernacle. Which involved their utter destruction or their consecration to religious uses. [by the power and through the anger of God]. Whoever took to himself anything that had been id under the ban, exposed himself to the ban, not only because he had brought an abomination into his house, as Moses observed in Deuteronomy 7:25, in relation to the gold and silver of idols, but because he had wickedly invaded the rights of the Lord, by appropriating that which had been laid under the ban, and had not only violated the ban itself. Either the thing should not have been devoted, or having been devoted, it was their duty to abstain from it. Any such appropriation of what had been laid under the ban would make the camp of Israel itself a ban, and trouble it, [ie. bring trouble.]

Now the river must part to give them an entrance into the land, and now again the wall of the town must fall to make an opening to a fortified place. Two such decisive proofs of the cooperation of Jehovah, even to the most sensual, that the same God was with them who had led their fathers so mightily and so miraculously through the Red Sea. Numbers 14.

The Lord would give His people the first and strongest town of Canann, as the first-fruits of the land, without any effort on their part, as a sign that He was about to give them the whole land for a possession, according to His promise, in order that they might not regard the conquest of it as their own work, or the fruit of their own exertions, and look upon the land as great possession which they could do as they pleased with, but that they might ever use it as a gracious gift from the Lord which he had merely conferred upon them as a trust, and which He could take away again, whenever they might fall from Him, and render themselves unworthy of His grace. Without God intervening it was impregnable. Desert people had never seen anything like this.

When the trumpet blew they knew God was moving. From bondage to deliverance. God gave them a foretaste of the blessing to come.

Malachi 3:9 – “Rob” – to cover, spoil, to deceive. We circumvent, deprive God of opportunity.

We must recognize people who carry the message of financial solutions.

What you respect will move toward you.

What you don't respect will move away from you.

What you talk about increases.

What you think about becomes larger.

Your mind and your mouth are magnifiers of anything you want to grow.

Matthew 22:21 – “*Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's*”

“Render” - to give away, that is over, back; deliver again, give again, repay, recompense, restore, yield, reward.

Proverbs 8:18,21 – “*Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness. That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance, and I will fill their treasures.*”

The tithe will protect you financially.

Your integrity will position you financially.

Your seed will increase you financially.

He permits you the privilege of returning it to Him as proof of your confidence in Him. Give God a chance to cycle you through the seasons of nothing until you can begin to see a harvest in your life.

A son wrote a letter to dad from college -- no mon - no fun - your son!

Dad wrote back -- too bad - so sad - your dad

Dollars and demons. Prosperity is a God idea. The American poverty devil may have a different accent, but he's got the same agenda - to rob from the people. “I hope he's not going to give us another long offering message.” “He's taking all of our money and spending it on himself.” “Why is the preacher always talking about money?” Many of us have heard these malicious arguments before. Unfortunately, they are all designed to spread suspicion toward our leaders, stymie church finances and rob us from living a victorious life. Solomon was known for seeking wisdom from God and acquiring wealth as a result.

PROVERBS 10:15.

The rich man's wealth is his strong city, the destruction of the poor is their poverty.

1. The rich will see wealth as an object of self-confidence.
 - a. The rich man stands thus independent; changes and adversities cannot easily overthrow him, they think their wealth, as their “strong city”, will keep them safe from all evil. It should give time and opportunity for acquiring wisdom, making one free and independent and free in action.

2. The poor will see poverty as an object of terror.
 - a. The poor are so overwhelmed by poverty as to fear “destruction” by it. They are crushed, exposed to of kinds of evil, moral and material, by their want of means. Inability to help one's self.

What is behind the anti-poverty cult on earth?

- a) They are not anti-money.
- b) They are not against you having money.
- c) They are against you expecting any money from God.

I choose to be a provider instead of a parasite of society.
Money makes you a Burden-Bearer, instead of a burden.
Provision is your choice.

God never responds to need, only faith. Faith is the magnet that attracts the Supernatural. It is only when the teaching on prosperity focuses on our responsibility that we become intimidated

Twelve saw the grapes, but ten feared the giants. Giants never defeated the Israelites. Fear within them conquered them. We need to stop our victim vocabulary.