

Prospering in all seasons

Prosperity is not a place or simply a season. If it were, then we would all have to be in that one particular place or season in order to experience prosperity and thriving.

What is prosperity? It is not just financial: It is simply completeness, soundness, welfare, peace—Spiritual, emotional, and physical—wealth and health. If you do not want the financial side of prosperity, then give it all away and move into a bridge.

And if it is a place or a season, which season is it? Fortunately, **prosperity is not a season or place—it is a person or byproduct of a relationship with Jesus**. If you do not have a relationship with Jesus, you cannot prosper—you are not truly prosperous.

We all know of or have been one of the people who have NOT experienced success and prosperity during the Chinese virus time—YET many people have prospered. There is a reason for that—not just a physical, but a spiritual reason.

God's will for you does not fluctuate based on some season. It is the same in winter, summer, spring, and Fall.

Main Text:

A. Psalm 35:27 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.

One thing that is plain in the Word of God is **His desire and will for us to** *not* **only prosper, survive but thrive in all seasons—regardless of the season.** God is not an average God.

I want to challenge and stir you up to believe God to prosper and thrive in every situation—in all seasons. You were made to prosper and increase in all seasons.

a) There is **no season God created for failure, loss, defeat, trash, lack, or misery.** We should and can prosper and thrive in all seasons and places. We were created for more than many of us are experiencing. For greater and bigger things.

- b) If all hell broke loose, we could still excel and prosper.
 - i) The countries have been shut down, but not the kingdom of God.
 - ii) The Kingdom of God is not closed. It is open for business.

This is **below** not believing God and your situation won't change without your cooperation. You won't prosper.

- c) Some people think thriving is just for a few seasons. "When all is well, I will thrive."
 - i) Some have been speaking death over our business and lives because of COVID.
 - ii) Some have accepted loss and settled for less than God has intended for them. Some people have accepted this season as a wash. Where is it written?
 - Why? They do not believe they can thrive in this situation. They have considered it dead (Romans 4:19).
- d) Some folks have accepted the loss and the status quo. We have settled for less than what God intended for us citing COVID.
 - i) The lazy folks love this season because it gives them an excuse why they have not prospered.

I believe that I have prosperity in all things in my DNA. I live it, breath it and I look like it, because it is true. I have the anointing of prosperity on my life.

You can take to any country in the middle of the pandemic or plandemic and I will prosper. You can take me to hell, and I will rise, prosper and thrive in the midst of it. This ought to be the attitude for all of us—at least believers. I believe this about myself and it works.

If you do not believe this, it will not work for you.

Children of Israel in a season of captivity

1. Jeremiah 29:4-7, 11, 28 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, unto all that are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon; Build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and

not diminished. And seek the **peace of the city** whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace. 11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. 28 For therefore he sent unto us in Babylon, saying, This captivity is long: build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

- a) This was a letter written by the prophet Jeremiah to the children of Israel in captivity, encouraging them to have a right attitude so that they could begin to prosper even during a season of captivity. Typically, during a season like this you forget about prospering, but that is not so for believers.
- b) Again, this was slavery, yet God wrote through Jeremiah to encourage them to move forward and prosper. He told them to build houses, plant gardens, eat their fruits, marry, and have children so that they would increase and prosper.
- c) He also told them to pray for the peace of the place where they were so that they themselves would experience peace. God wanted them to prosper, so He gave them some instructions on how to do so, but the critical point is that they were prospering, or encouraged to bloom, in such as season where many have given up.
- d) When the children of Israel were taken into captivity, that was not at all their desire, but the Lord still prospered them in that season. Many probably thought they were doomed to die and never to prosper, thrive, but we see that God prospered them while they were there.
- e) I have heard and know folks that are convinced that if it were not for the Corona Virus times, we have lived through, they could have prospered. They are basing their ability to prosper in some season. Wrong!!

There is no perfect time to prosper. You can make any season a season of prosperity.

Joseph

- 2. And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. Genesis 39:2
 - a) Joseph did not choose to go to Egypt. He did not want to be a slave. Life and circumstances got him there, but he prospered more than all the people of Egypt.
 - b) Notice this verse says that Joseph was a prosperous man. He had nothing physically to prove his prosperity, yet God called him prosperous.

- c) Joseph was a slave, probably naked on the selling block, yet while he had nothing, God called him prosperous.
 - i) True Prosperity is not material things. It will eventually produce things, but it is not things. Prosperity starts from a heart level. It begins with a relationship with Jesus. This relationship will then generate wealth, health, peace, and long life. A man with all these things is not prosperous, even though he might have many physical possessions, if he does not have Jesus.

Daniel and the three Hebrew friends

How do we prosper in all seasons?

Of course, the list I'm about to share is not conclusive.

Psalm 1:1-3 **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. **But his delight is in the law of the LORD**; and in his law doth he **meditate day and night.** 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.

1. The Word of God has to be in the center of your life if you are going to prosper and thrive.

No matter the season you are in, do not neglect or remove yourself from the Word of God. In it lies your key to prospering in all seasons.

- a) You are blessed not only by what you do, but also what we do not do.
- b) The counsel of the ungodly is any opinion or attitude that goes contrary to the revealed Word of God.
 - i) This includes things like it is not God's will for you to prosper—certainly in this season.
 - ii) Everyone is struggling and you need to struggle with those who struggle and sin with those who sin. That's from the men's inspired translation.

This is a counsel of men, not God.

c) Your delight ought to be in the Word of God, how? By mediating in it day and night.

One of the reasons we do not meditate in the Word is because we do not delight in it. **Delighting in it will lead to us meditating in it.**

Your success is tied to the Word of God and your relationship with it.

- i) Joshua 1:8 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.
- d) There is not season that we are exempted from bringing forth fruit.
- e) In other words, no matter the seasons if we are planted by the rivers of water (Spirit of God) and are meditating (imagine) on the Word of God, we are destined to prosper in all seasons and everything we do.

Habakkuk 3:17-18 Although (Even though, No matter or regardless what happens) the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: [18] Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the **God of my salvation**.

- a) In chapter I and 2 God showed Habakkuk of the destruction that was coming the way of the children of Israel. Here in chapter 3, Habakkuk is praying and mentions one of the most profound statements in the word.
 - i) Although Corona Virus... or another wave and another wave... Even though there were no vaccine. BTW, some of us an immune to sickness. I give off healing.
- b) There was going to be a destruction and devastation like never see before. It was going to be ugly. These verses are painting one of the worst situations of loss, yet Habakkuk said he was going to be discouraged or give up or give. He was not going to embrace the status quo.
 - i) There will be seasons or times that will try to stop you or hinder you from surviving and thriving in all seasons. Bad times will come but we can survive and thrive.

If he believed he could not prosper and it was all over, his response would have been different. He could not have rejoiced in the Lord if He knew the Lord couldn't not have done anything to turn things around. The man was in faith as he rejoiced.

2. Pre-decision— "Although"

- a) There will be times when the "fig tree does not blossom."
 - i) This is a reality of life. Like during Corona Virus time, not every fig tree blossoms.

- b) One thing is outstanding, about what Habakkuk did—a man in the Old Covenant. He chose to rejoice in the midst of turmoil. We have a choice as to how to respond in any season we encounter.
 - ii) **Notice that disaster had not happened yet**. A decision to what you will do such as rejoice must be made **prior** to the opportunity. Choosing to rejoice right in the middle of it all is way harder.
 - iii) Many of us know this but few of us know that you have to make a decision to rejoice in any situation before the situation itself.

You cannot wait to until you are in a tragedy to make up your mind. It could be too late. You have to do that before such.

You have to make a **pre-decision of how you will act.** Habakkuk decided to rejoice before the tragedy.

3. Attitude

- a) Our attitude during a season of this kind determines if we will survive, prosper, and thrive. This attitude comes from a relationship and fellowship with the Lord.
 - i) No one can just lay hands on you impart that.
- b) Keeping a right attitude is crucial during a difficult season.
 - i) You need an attitude of rejoicing not complaining which is the right attitude to survive, prosper and thrive even more in difficulty seasons.
- 4. Rejoicing in the Lord—Rejoicing is a choice. You choose to rejoice.

Because you are in **the Word meditating in it**, you will have a good **attitude** during a season of challenges will propel you to **rejoice in the Lord**

- a) Habakkuk was not hopeless no matter how bad it was going to be.
 - i) Rejoicing and hopelessness are two opposites. He did not sit there and plan to leak his wounds.
 - ii) For both Habakkuk and us all, there is light at the end of the tunnel. I am here to tell you that your situation is not hopeless.

- iii) You have never been alone and without hope. The Hope of Glory has never left you. You have never been without Him—not one time. **Do not let your situation steal your hope.**
- b) You can rejoice **IN THE LORD**—not in **things or other people**. This means that rejoicing is not depended on how things around you are going nor on a person.

All born again believers can rejoice. We are wired to rejoice more than any individual in the Old Covenant.

- For your joy or rejoicing to be constant, it needs to be anchored in the Lord—
 not things or people. If you are looking to people or things you will have
 temporal joy.
- ii) Galatians 5:22-23 clearly teaches that those that have been born again have the fruit of the Spirit which includes JOY.
- iii) Because of who is with you, in you and for you, ladies and gentlemen; you can hope and rejoice. We rejoice because God is with us. We rejoice in God

5. Nature of God—God of my Salvation

Why did Habakkuk choose to rejoice? The next verse tells us. "Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the <u>God of my salvation</u>."

- a) Salvation means quite a lot— deliverance, safety, **prosperity**, Verse 19 says the *Lord God is my strength*.
- b) You cannot rejoice while looking at your problems at the same time. You have to be looking unto the God of your salvation.
- c) When you begin to **rejoice**, **you will receive strength**. One of the ways Strength is released in our lives is through rejoicing (Nehemiah 8:10). If you are lacking in strength your "Joy meter" is either broken or not working.

6. Sowing in famine

Some people will never go hungry. Why? They have plenty of seed in the ground.

Genesis 26:1-3 **And there was a famine in the land**, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar. 2 **And the LORD appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:** 3 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee,

and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father;

Genesis 26:12-14 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him. 13 And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great: 14 For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

- a) Isaac sowed in the land and reaped 100-fold—during a famine. This is not to say sow blindly. No, you have to hear from the Lord. God's instruction to Isaac is not necessarily His instruction to you.
 - i) Isaac did not just sow, the Lord had appeared unto him. He heard from the Lord. This is was key to him sowing and reaping 100-fold.
 - ii) You cannot just be mimicking bible characters. You have to hear from the Lord.
 - iii) Same year—This is more than January to December. This could also refer a season or time.
 - iv) Isaac did not have possession of *cockroaches* or *feathers*. He was a prosperous man. He had flock, had and bunch of servants.
 - Poverty could not have caused the people to envy him. I doubt that.
 Oh, how I hate poverty.
- b) If your prosperity (Spiritual, emotional, and physical—wealth and health) is not envied by others, you have not prospered yet. You have not "waxed great and very great."

Restoration on the horizon

Rejoicing was valid because not only was it in God, but there was also restoration on the way.

- a) Regardless of the eventual destruction that was coming upon Israel, there was hope for the future.
 - i) Regardless of what you have gone through because of the interesting times we live in there is hope on the other side.
 - ii) Even though it was going to be, or it is ugly, there was hope. The LORD was going to bring about **restoration**. This was one other reason for rejoicing even in the midst of such a disaster.

b) No matter what loss you have suffered, God wants to bring about restoration to you. IT IS NOT TOO LATE. You can still prosper.

Do not make an excuse not to prosper in all situations. No matter who is president, come hell come hot water, take me to hell and I shall prosper. No matter what you do to me—if I have Jesus, walk backward as you watch. I will prosper.

- i) Example: Fernando loss of about \$5000.
- ii) 5.7 Million Uganda Shillings

Conclusion and Salvation and Holy Spirit Baptism call

True success and thriving in all seasons are impossible without a relationship with Jesus. Everything I have shared with you will not work well unless have a relationship with the Thriving King.

If you are here or you are live streaming and you have never given your life to Jesus, you can do that right now. Maybe you are not sure you are born again. We want to help you be sure.

If you have been born again but have not been **baptized in the Holy** Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, you are missing out big time this supernatural divine enablement to live a victorious Christian life.

We are going to have some people pray with you—or I can do that now for those who are livestreaming.