



THE PROFILE OF A PROSPEROUS BELIEVER

Dr. Stephen Smith, 27 June 2014

The Body of Christ is in intensive training. God is preparing a Church that will truly believe in Him and who will walk in total victory, no matter what the devil throws at the Church.

JOSHUA and DAVID

To step out in this end-time-faith-adventure, we have to have the spirit of faith like Joshua and David. We must have spiritual courage and the know-how to step out in the *profile* that God has given us as His children which we are called for.

Joshua:

Have not I commanded you? Be strong, vigorous, and very courageous. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

David:

David was confident because he had confidence in his covenant with God. Deep in his heart he had God's profile of him.

SEE WHAT GOD SEES - THE PSALM 112 PROFILE

Psalm 112 gives us a good overview of the profile of the believer - a picture of who we are supposed to be and what God expects of us.

¹ ***PRAISE THE Lord! (Hallelujah!) Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) is the man who fears (reveres and worships) the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments.***

² ***His [spiritual] offspring shall be mighty upon earth; the generation of the upright shall be blessed.***

³ ***Prosperity and welfare are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.***

⁴ ***Light arises in the darkness for the upright, gracious, compassionate, and just [who are in right standing with God].***

⁵ ***It is well with the man who deals generously and lends, who conducts his affairs with justice.***

⁶ ***He will not be moved forever; the [uncompromisingly] righteous (the upright, in right standing with God) shall be in everlasting remembrance.***

⁷ ***He shall not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is firmly fixed, trusting (leaning on and being confident) in the Lord.***

⁸ *His heart is established and steady, he will not be afraid while he waits to see his desire established upon his adversaries.*

⁹ *He has distributed freely [he has given to the poor and needy]; his righteousness (uprightness and right standing with God) endures forever; his horn shall be exalted in honour.*

¹⁰ *The wicked man will see it and be grieved and angered, he will gnash his teeth and disappear [in despair]; the desire of the wicked shall perish and come to nothing.*

Psalm 112:1-10(Amplified)

1. He Is Blessed.

Any man or woman who reveres and fears God will be happy, fortunate, to be envied, blessed and prosperous.

A store of wealth will be in his house (Message). It cannot be said more clearly. Prosperity and wealth is part of our covenant.

But you shall [earnestly] 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.

Deuteronomy 8:18

2. He Sows Generously.

It is well with the man who deals generously and lends, who conducts his affairs with justice (verse 5).

3. His Covenant Is An Everlasting Remembrance!

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance (Verse 6).

Where he speaks of *the righteous*, he does not speak of *our righteousness*.

I'm putting my rainbow in the clouds, a sign of the covenant between me and the Earth (Gen. 9:13). The rainbow will be an eternal remembrance of that covenant. The rainbow will be in the clouds, and when I see it, *I will remember the everlasting covenant between Me and all the living on the earth (v. 16).*

There was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald to look at (Rev. 4:3).

Where ever God looks, He sees an eternal remembrance of the covenant - the **rainbow covenant** and Jesus as the **eternal covenant** who became our **righteousness**.

The prosperous man is a perpetual memory in the heart of Almighty God!

4. His heart is firmly fixed, established and steady.

⁷ *He shall not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is firmly fixed, trusting (leaning on and being confident) in the Lord.*

⁸ *His heart is established and steady, he will not be afraid while he waits to see his desire established upon his adversaries.*

Psalm 112:7-8

And He has put all things under His feet and has appointed Him the universal and supreme Head of the church [a headship exercised throughout the church],

Which is His body, the fullness of Him Who fills all in all [for in that body lives the full measure of Him Who makes everything complete and Who fills everything everywhere with Himself].

Ephesians 1:22, 23

The psalmist now concludes the profile of a prosperous man by repeating how this man generously sows, and then puts the emphasis on the honour he received because **he gives to the poor**.

In contrast, the wicked see it and are grieved; He gritted his teeth and melt away.

Psalm 112:10

HOW IS YOUR IDENTITY?

The devil goes out of his way to convince us that God's profile is not for us. To discredit God, His Word and to bring dishonour to God.

Then Satan answered the Lord, Does Job [reverently] fear God for nothing?

Have You not put a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have conferred prosperity and happiness upon him in the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has, and he will curse You to Your face.

Job 1:9-11

FIVE WAYS THE DEVIL PUTS PRESSURE ON US

Mark 4:14-19:

1. Tribulation
2. Persecution
3. Cares and anxieties of this world
4. Deceitfulness of riches (you start believing in wealth as your supply)
5. Craving and passionate desire for other things.

God sees you as a fellow-heir of the Anointed One, Jesus. He sees the blood of Jesus around you like a wall. He sees the windows of heaven open over you.

As long as we retain God's Word, we will be prosperous and have a profile of guaranteed success - in any situation!

FIND YOURSELF IN THE FAMILY ALBUM

There are no favourites or failures in God's covenant, only undeveloped ability in the Word of righteousness.

I press on toward the goal to win the [supreme and heavenly] prize to which God in Christ Jesus is calling us upward.

So let those [of us] who are spiritually mature and full-grown have this mind and hold these convictions; and if in any respect you have a different attitude of mind, God will make that clear to you also.

Only let us hold true to what we have already attained and walk and order our lives by that.

Philippians 3:14-16

It is a constant, steady, persistent pressing through faith, putting pressure on the promises of God's Word (covenant) which we know is ours.

⁸ **Be well balanced (temperate, sober of mind), be vigilant and cautious at all times; for that enemy of yours, the devil, roams around like a lion roaring [in fierce hunger], seeking someone to seize upon and devour.**

⁹ **Withstand him; be firm in faith [against his onset-rooted, established, strong, immovable, and determined], knowing that the same (identical) sufferings are appointed to your brotherhood (the whole body of Christians) throughout the world.**

¹⁰ **And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace [Who imparts all blessing and favour], Who has called you to His [own] eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will Himself complete and make you what you ought to be, establish and ground you securely, and strengthen, and settle you.**

1 Peter 5:8-10

Stand therefore [hold your ground]; Fight the good fight of the faith (Eph. 6:14; 1 Tim. 6:12). Run hard and fast in the faith (Message).

After "standing" for some time in faith, even the most difficult situations eventually give in. Why? The pressure we exert is always greater than that of the devil. All his weapons are of the world. Not ours! **For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds (2 Cor. 10:4).**

The key then is to focus our thoughts on God and to hold on to His promises. Do not for one moment look back. Meditate on God's profile for you. Do not call yourselves anything other than what His profile says you are.