

GOD, WHAT IS STOPPING MY BLESSING?

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THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

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God has foreordained that we, as His people, should be blessed. He has opened the windows of heaven and poured out His blessings upon us. However, we sometimes stop these from flowing because of things we do that are not aligned with His word.

1. There are four (4) types of God's blessings:

- 1.1 Spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:3).
- 1.2 Material or financial blessings (2 Chronicles 1:12).
- 1.3 Undeserved blessings (Romans 5:8).
- 1.4 Unsolicited blessings (2 Samuel 6:11).

2. What are the barriers or blocks to God's blessings?

- 2.1. Disobedience. Obedience would result in great blessing, but disobedience would result in terrible curses (Deuteronomy 28:15-68). Rebellion against God or disobeying His commands is like a heinous sin abominable to the Lord (1 Samuel 15:23).
- 2.2. Unforgiveness and being in strife with others. An unforgiving spirit hinders the impartation of God's blessing. God cannot give license to the passions of a man's unforgiving heart (Matthew 6:14-15).
- 2.3. Making other things a priority instead of God. We often fall into a rut of doing things and then forget the prioritization of our relationship with the Lord. Not practicing the principle of priority blocks the flow of God's blessing (Matthew 6:33; Psalm 63:1-4).
- 2.4. Not trusting God. If we do not trust God, we cannot expect to be rewarded and blessed. "But a man who trusts in the Lord is like a tree planted by the water that does not cease to bear fruit" (Jer 17:7-8).
- 2.5. Prayerlessness is a sin (1 Samuel 12:23). We are commanded to always seek God in prayer.
- 2.6. Not honouring God with our finances. To selfishly keep the tithe is to rob God. God provides for all our needs. He is just checking the condition of our heart before Him (Proverbs 3:9).
- 2.7. Curse is a blessing blocker (Ecclesiastes 5:4-6).

2.8. What we sow is what we reap. Our way of life will have its natural consequences. If we fail to live righteously, we will not reap God's rewards (Galatians 6:7).

2.9. Bad stewardship. If we have not been trustworthy in handling God's resources, we cannot expect God to prosper us (Luke 16:10-11).

2.10. Serving two (2) masters. God should be our only master. Having other masters (such as mammon) hinders the rewards of pleasing God (Mt 6:24).

2.11. Delaying God's work. God will grant true blessing when we prioritize His house before we busy ourselves with our own panelled houses (Haggai 1:2-10).

2.12. Compromise. We are commanded not to conform with this world; rather, let us continue to progress in holiness, fruitfulness and Christlikeness (Romans 12:2).

2.13. Selfishness. We should be willing to give up our possessions in pursuit of Jesus (Matthew 19:16-22).

2.14. Pride. The Lord despises the proud but gives grace to the humble. If we forget our God, we will be destroyed.

2.15. Not serving God. If we do not serve God, we will not experience prosperity and contentment (Job 36:11).

Conclusion: As believers, God has already blessed us. We have long possessed the blessings that bestowed on Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Genesis 12:10-13). However, God's blessings are conditioned on our faithful obedience (Deuteronomy 28:1-14). The favours and blessings of God shall be upon us and will overtake us if we are obedient to His word.

Reflection: How can you overcome the barriers to God's blessings in your life?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you are the source of all blessings. We ask for your grace and mercy to obey Your commandments, to remove the obstacles, and cause blessings to flow to us according to Your will. In Jesus' Name. AMEN!