

# CURSES INTO BLESSINGS - BLESSINGS INTO CURSES!

Deut.23:5 "...the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loves you." The Lord can turn curses into blessings, but Man can turn blessings into curses!

## 1. HOW CAN MAN TURN A BLESSING INTO A CURSE?

### A) THE PRODIGAL SON

Luke 15:11-13 Then Jesus said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living."

-By insisting on getting his inheritance before he was mature enough, his wealth led him into sinful living and ruin.

Proverbs 20:21 "An inheritance gained hastily at the beginning will not be blessed at the end." The Prodigal's inheritance was a blessing that became a curse!

### B) BY FORGETTING GOD WHEN HE BLESSES US

Deut.6:10-12 "So it shall be, when the LORD your God brings you into the land of which He swore to your fathers, to give you large and beautiful cities which you did not build, houses full of all good things, which you did not fill, hewn-out wells which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant—when you have eaten and are full— then beware, lest you forget the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage."

God's blessings should make us thankful, not proud or independent!

Some people are faithful to seek God when they have troubles- but forget about God when life is going good!

### C) DURING COMMUNION

2 Corinthians 11:27-30 "Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you..."

Communion is to be a blessing, but if we partake in an unworthy manner, it can become a curse!

We are told that we need to "discern the Lord's body."

### D) BY FORGETTING TO USE OUR BLESSINGS TO HELP OTHERS

Ezek.16:49 "Behold, this was the sin of Sodom: She had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy."

Sodom had become a very wealthy city. Instead of using it to help others, they grew proud, lazy, and sinful. In the middle of their blessings, fire fell from heaven!

## 2. WHAT CAN BRING CURSES?

Curses can be of many types: poverty- repeated failures- sickness- family troubles- mental & emotional oppression- any type of evil! But what can bring a curse?

Proverbs 26:2 says, "Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, so a curse without cause shall not alight." There is always a cause for a curse!

### A) DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD CAN BRING A CURSE

Deut.11:26-28 "Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today; and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today."

(But the opposite, obedience, will bring God's blessing)

### B) IDOLATRY CAN BRING A CURSE – TO 3 and 4 GENERATIONS!

Exodus 20:4-5 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations..." Beware of idols, statues of Buddha or "Saints" in your home.

### C) CURSING OTHER PEOPLE CAN BRING YOU A CURSE

Psalms 109:17 "As he loved cursing, so let it come to him; as he did not delight in blessing, so let it be far from him."

### D) NOT TITHING CAN BRING A CURSE

Malachi 3: 8-9 "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me."

(If we tithe then we will qualify for a blessing: "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes.")

E) STEALING CAN BRING A CURSE Zech.5:4 "I will send out the curse," says the LORD of hosts; it shall enter the house of the thief."

### F) FOOLISH WORDS CAN BRING A CURSE

Jacob's wife, Rachel, had stolen her father's valuable idols before they left. When Jacob was accused of stealing the idols, he said in Genesis 31:32, "With whoever you find your gods, do not let him live." Rachel died a short time after this in childbirth.

### G) GOING TO SATAN (OR ALBALARIOS) FOR HEALING

In 2 Kings a king of Israel was sick. He sent messengers to the god of Ekron to ask if he would be healed. In 2 Kings 1:2 the Prophet Elijah met the messengers of the king and said, "Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the God of Ekron? Therefore, thus says the Lord: "You shall not leave your bed, you shall surely die."

### 3. HOW CAN GOD TURN CURSES INTO BLESSINGS?

#### A) GOD CAN MAKE BAD THINGS BRING FORTH GOOD RESULTS!

Deut.23:5 "...the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loves you."

Genesis 50:20 Joseph said to his brothers, "As for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive."

Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

#### B) CURSES & JUDGMENT CAN BRING US TO REPENTANCE AND SALVATION

Luke 23:39-43 "Then one of the criminals on the cross next to Jesus blasphemed Him, saying, 'If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.' But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly suffer, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said to Jesus, 'Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.' And Jesus said to him, 'Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.'

Suffering brought the Prodigal Son to repentance: In Luke 15:15-18 we read, "But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 'I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you..."'"

#### C) CHRIST HAS TAKEN OUR CURSES ON THE CROSS, TO GIVE US HIS BLESSINGS!

John 1:21 "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!'"

Galatians 3:13-14 "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus."

### BY GOD'S GRACE, LET US TURN CURSES INTO BLESSINGS!

The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 5:44-45, "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven."

Deut.30:19-20 "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him."

### PRAYER POINTS:

- \* Ask God to forgive you for any disobedience or sin. Renounce and reject it!
- \* Ask God to remove any curse placed on your life as a result of disobedience.
- \* Ask God to remove any curse placed on your family line as a result of the sins of the past generations.
- \* Declare, "I bless those who have cursed me and spoken wrongly of me. Forgive & bless them, Lord."
- \* Declare, "Let all curses issued against me be changed to blessings, in the name of Jesus."

Every curse of mental and physical sickness

Every curse of failure and defeat

Every curse of poverty

Every curse of family break-up

Every curse of oppression

Every curse of bad reputation

"Let these all be changed to blessings, in the name of Jesus."

\* Declare, "I command that any evil spirits attached to any curse will depart from me now, in the name of Jesus."

Deut. 28:1-6 "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God: Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out."

**Psalm 128:5 "The Lord bless you out of Zion."**

## D) CURSES & SUFFERING CAN PRODUCE CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER: HUMILITY & OBEDIENCE

David developed humility because of those who cursed him. In 2 Samuel 16:5-12 we read of when King David was retreating from the army of his rebellious son, Absalom:

“Now when King David was retreating through Bahurim, there was a man there from the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei. He came out, cursing continuously as he came. And he threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David. Shimei said when he cursed: ‘Come out! Come out! You bloodthirsty man, you rebel! The LORD has brought upon you all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned; and the LORD has delivered the kingdom into the hand of your son. So now you are caught in your own evil, because you are a bloodthirsty man!’”

Then Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king, ‘Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Please, let me go over and take off his head!’ But the king said, ‘Let him alone, and let him curse; for so the LORD has ordered him. It may be that the LORD will look on my affliction, and that the LORD will repay me with good for his cursing this day.’”

1 Peter 2:21-24 “But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the cross.”