

CCF 26 Nov 2017

Blessings and Miracles

## Ps 103: 1-5 (NASB)

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
And all that is within me, bless His holy name.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget none of His  
benefits;  
Who pardons all your iniquities,  
Who heals all your diseases;  
Who redeems your life from the pit,  
Who crowns you with lovingkindness and  
compassion;  
Who satisfies your years (desires) with good things,  
So that your youth is renewed like the eagle.

God's benefits to us come through miracles and blessings.

## Miracles

- “A miracle is a less common kind of God's activity in which He arouses people's awe and wonder and bears witness to Himself” (Wayne Grudem)
- Temporarily suspends God’s created laws
- Draws people to God – particularly non-believers
- Response to a crisis
- Result of fallen creation

God’s creation is controlled by God’s laws, but He can suspend them when He wants (e.g. sun going backwards for Hezekiah (Isaiah 38:8)).

Miracles draw people to Him (And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Mt 10:7,8 NKJV).

Miracles are given in response to a crisis , because we live in a fallen creation.

God’s creation was never intended to need miracles (God saw all that He had made and behold it was very good- Gen 1:31 NASB)

## Manna

- Longest lasting miracle
- Crisis – no food in the desert! (Ex 16:4)
- Unbelief, rebellion and disobedience (Nu 14)
- Miracle continued despite this
- Clothes & shoes did not wear out (Dt 29:5)
- Stopped when they entered the Promised Land (Josh 5:12)
- Miracles are not given because we deserve them but to glorify God (Nu 14:21) and because He loves us (Jn 3:16)

Manna was provided because they no food in the desert – a crisis

Just enough for each day – not abundant

Despite the miracle, the judgement of God prevailed and no one over 60 entered the promised land except Joshua & Caleb

They did not “deserve” the miracle...

Indonesian revival – Mel Tari – miracles at the start but less later

## Blessings

“If you are not in covenant relationship with God, then He is under no obligation to bless you. However, if you are in that covenant relationship, then God is LEGALLY BOUND to bless you providing you keep the terms of the covenant.” (Ron McNeill)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ (Eph 1:3 NASB)

***Blessings are already provided through Jesus !***

Miracles require God to do something. Blessings have already been provided through Jesus' finished work on the cross.

## Blessings

In order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Gal 3 :14 (NASB)

“In you all the families of the earth will be blessed.” Gen 12:3c (NASB)

Jesus has fulfilled the blessing that God gave to Abraham.

## Blessings

“Behold, I have received a command to bless;  
When He has blessed, then I cannot revoke it.”  
Nu 23:20 (NASB)

“The blessing of God is His divine spoken favour,  
and that blessing, if mixed with faith, will  
produce abundance in spirit, soul, and body.”  
(Andrew Wommack)

Blessings cannot be revoked (provided we stay in covenant)

The blessing of Abraham is not things – who wants his 4000 year old tents, clothes and animals? But God’s divine spoken favour.

We access His blessings by:  
Speaking them out loud over ourselves  
Meditating on the Word of God  
Praying in tongues  
Resisting the enemy

## Faith

God has allotted to each a measure of faith Ro 12:3 b(NASB)

Measure – *metron* (Greek) – portion or unit of measurement

That I may be encouraged together with you while among you, each of us by the other's faith, both yours and mine. Ro 1:12 (NASB)

Faith is a gift from God, but we are encouraged to build up each other's faith.



## Faith

So faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah Himself). Ro 10:17 (AMPC)

Faith is built by preaching and sharing testimony

## Blessings

“Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.” Mt 5:17 (NASB)

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Co 5:21 (NASB)

Dt 28:4-14

Because we are righteous in Jesus, all of the blessings in the Law are ours - for example:  
Deuteronomy 28:4-14 Version (NKJV)

4 “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.

5 “Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

6 “Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.

7 “The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

8 “The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

9 “The Lord will establish you as a holy people to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the Lord your God and walk in His ways. 10 Then all peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the Lord, and they shall be afraid of you. 11 And the Lord will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you. 12 The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. 13 And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you

today, and are careful to observe them. 14 So you shall not turn aside from any of the words which I command you this day, to the right or the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

## Blessings from Curses

Christ purchased our freedom and redeemed us from the curse of the Law and its condemnation by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs [crucified] on a tree (cross)” Gal 3:13 (AMP)

Like a sparrow in its flitting, like a swallow in its flying,  
So a curse without cause does not alight. Pr 26:2 (NASB)

There are also curses in the Law – but Jesus has set us free from them!

## Blessings from Curses

For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Ro 8:6 (NKJV)

Death and life are in the power of the tongue  
Pr 18:21 (NKJV)

Letter from hospital to Dad.

Conversation ST

So many times we listen to the logic of the world – we are carnally minded – and we repeat what has been said to us.

The doctor says I'm sick.

My financial adviser says I'm going bust.

The school says my children are out of control.

Aunty Gertrude died at my age – it won't be long for me.

No-one thinks my business will succeed

My marriage is dead

What we say matters

Blessings are Curses are given by speaking them out.

We must repent of being carnally minded.

## Blessings from Curses

The Lord will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke in all that you set your hand to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly Dt 28:20

The Lord will strike you with consumption, with fever, with inflammation, with severe burning fever, with the sword, with scorching, and with mildew; they shall pursue you until you perish Dt 28:22

WE are set free from all these curses. If you have any of these things – Jesus has set you free!

## Blessings from Curses

The Lord will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with tumours, with the scab, and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed. The Lord will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of heart. And you shall grope at noonday, as a blind man gropes in darkness; you shall not prosper in your ways; you shall be only oppressed and plundered continually, and no one shall save you. Dt 28:27-29

## Blessings from Curses

The Lord will strike you in the knees and on the legs with severe boils which cannot be healed, and from the sole of your foot to the top of your head. Dt 28:35

He will bring back on you all the diseases of Egypt, of which you were afraid, and they shall cling to you. Also every sickness and every plague, which is not written in this Book of the Law, will the Lord bring upon you Dt 28:60-61



# Blessings



As you look at this picture, imagine that each of these shoeboxes is a blessing for you that you have not opened yet.

Have you been waiting for a miracle?

Maybe God has already provided a blessing for you to meet that need, and you just haven't opened it.

As you look at this picture – allow Him to tell you what He has for you.

## Rhema

My children, watch and pray.

I desire that you turn from your reliance on worldly provision and seek My provision.

Fix your hearts and minds on My truth.

Nothing is impossible for Me.

I have overcome all things and I have given you the wherewithal to overcome every trial and temptation that you experience

My children I love to bless you.

I have provided abundant blessings for you – yet you have not received them.

You have each chosen the way of the world in some areas of your life, and have not laid hold of My blessings.

Seek Me in every situation.

Meditate on My word and seek My blessings within it.

Declare My blessings over yourselves, your families and all that surrounds you.

Surely I will open the windows of heaven and pour out for you blessings until they overflow.

## Declaration

**“The Lord blesses us and keeps us;  
The Lord makes His face shine upon us,  
And is gracious to us;  
The Lord lifts up His countenance upon us,  
And gives us peace.”**

Based on Num 6:24-26 (NKJV)