

The Blessing

Author: Moses wrote the Book of Deuteronomy, which is in fact a collection of his sermons to Israel just before they crossed the Jordan.

Purpose of Writing: A new generation of Israelites was about to enter the Promised Land. This multitude had not experienced the miracle at the Red Sea or heard the law given at Sinai, and they were about to enter a new land with many dangers and temptations. The book of Deuteronomy was given to remind them of God's law and God's power.

Deuteronomy 28:8 - NIV – BLESSINGS FOR OBEDIENCE vs 1-14

⁸ The LORD will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.

Notice that in verse 2 the blessing is plural or numerous!

Deuteronomy 28:2 NIV

² All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God:

Vs 8 notice that it is narrowed down to Blessing – The Lord will command The Blessing to come into your life.

- 1.) **The Blessing is** the Quality of life, Favor, Abundance, Whatever field you are in at this point of life is going to command The Blessing.
- 2.) If you listen to Him & do what He Commands, ***He will bless you*** in season and out of season and even in a downturn economy!
- 3.) God has ***commanded the blessing*** upon your life?

Four Biblical Storehouse Levels that you can live in life.

***** God has greater days & greater blessings if you believe & obey! (This is the Key)**

I. Bag Level – Not enough – He's your God of not enough.

Haggai 1:6 NIV - ⁶ You have **planted much**, but have **harvested little**. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it."

***** Get all I can and Can all I get mentality.**

- 1.) The threads on your bag are wore out and your bag is full of holes, we become a hoarder, stingy, and have the hold on to it mentality!
- 2.) You sure take it in, but it goes right back out & is never enough.
- 3.) He who holds onto decreases but he who gives increases in the Kingdom.
- 4.) It's mine and I'm my source, not God attitude.

***** Don't forget Judas carried the money bag for Jesus!!!!!!!!!!**

Matthew 26:6-16 NIV

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

⁶While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, ⁷a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table.

⁸When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. "Why this waste?" they asked. ⁹"This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor."

¹⁰Aware of this, Jesus said to them, "Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ¹¹The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me.

¹²When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. ¹³I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

¹⁴Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests ¹⁵and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty silver coins. ¹⁶From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

- 1.) Judas was very **un-happy** with the wasteful woman.
- 2.) **This mentality will grip you** & God can not release the Blessings He has for you.
- 3.) This is truly the acid test in testing God; it's **thru your finances and giving.**

*** Do not forget that Judas had another Bag show up in his life with 30 pieces of silver in the bag, **see he was cursed.**

- Some people stay here in the **Bag blessing** for along time, then they all of a sudden are forced into trusting God a little and He shows up and Moves them to the next level which is a **Barrel blessing.**

II. Second Biblical Storehouse Level is – The Barrel Level – or The **Just Enough Level**

1 Kings 17:10-16 KJV (Elijah Fed)

¹⁰So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

¹¹And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

¹²And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an **handful of meal in a barrel**, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

¹³And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

¹⁴For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, **The barrel** of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.

¹⁵And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, **did eat many days.**

¹⁶**And the barrel of meal wasted not**, neither did the cruse of oil fail, **according to the word of the LORD**, which he spake by Elijah.

See the widow was ready to make her last meal and die with her son.

- But the prophet challenged her to **trust and see if God would provide, has you faith been challenged to trust God?**
- She from then on had just enough, which is a lot better than not enough. It took faith!
- End of the month and we just made it, **give God praise for the barrel.**
- **God shall supply all of my needs!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**
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III. Third Biblical Storehouse Level – The Basket Level – **More than Enough**

Deuteronomy 28:5 KJV - ⁵Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.

John 6 - Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

¹Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ²and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick.

³Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples.

⁴The Jewish Passover Feast was near.

⁵When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?"

⁶He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages^[a] would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

⁸Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up,

⁹"Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

¹⁰Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them.

¹¹Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹²**When they had all had enough** to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are **left over**. Let nothing be wasted."

¹³So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

See the little guy came to Jesus with his lunch in a basket –

- Jesus blessed the basket and fed the multitude of 5000 people + (about 20,000).
- **See Jesus blessed his basket and gave the increase.**

Don't you know that there was 12 baskets full left over

- Each disciple probably picked a basket up and took it home to the boys house.
- **God of more than enough!**

**** See God will bring you from Not Enough – to just enough – to more than enough.

- Blessing the whole community – feeding the poor – reaching out to the least of – **we've got the money, God has prospered us!**
- When you become conduit god will flow it thru you,
- He wants' us to be a bridge and not a dam.

**** Thank God "My Church" doesn't have this attitude of Bag mentality, we feed them, we go to them, and we reach out as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ to a lost world!

IV. The fourth level or biblical storehouse – **The Barn Level –**

Exceedingly, abundantly, above all and more than we could ever ask for.

Genesis 41:39-57 NIV

³⁹ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. ⁴⁰ You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you."

Joseph in Charge of Egypt

⁴¹ So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt." ⁴² Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his finger and put it on Joseph's finger. He dressed him in robes of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck. ⁴³ He had him ride in a chariot as his second-in-command, ^[a] and men shouted before him, "Make way ^[b] !" Thus he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt.

⁴⁴ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, but without your word no one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt." ⁴⁵ Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-Paneah and gave him Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, ^[c] to be his wife. And Joseph went throughout the land of Egypt.

⁴⁶ Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh's presence and traveled throughout Egypt. ⁴⁷ During the seven years of abundance the land produced plentifully. ⁴⁸ Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities. In each city he put the food grown in the fields surrounding it. ⁴⁹ Joseph stored up huge quantities of grain, like the sand of the sea; it was so much that he stopped keeping records because it was beyond measure.

⁵⁰ Before the years of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph by Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On. ⁵¹ Joseph named his firstborn Manasseh ^[d] and said, "It is because God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father's household." ⁵² The second son he named Ephraim ^[e] and said, "It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering."

⁵³ The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end, ⁵⁴ and the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in all the other lands, but in the whole land of Egypt there was food. ⁵⁵ When all Egypt began to feel the famine, the people cried to Pharaoh for food. Then Pharaoh told all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph and do what he tells you."

⁵⁶ When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt. ⁵⁷ And all the countries came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe in all the world.

There was a famine in the land **but thru testing and trials Joseph held onto his integrity** and there was a day when he was given the keys to granary or Barn.

- Joseph sent grain down the river and **fed the world.**
- **If you're faithful with a little He will give you much.**

*** See God will NOT take you from the **Bag** straight to the **BARN.** –

- He watches the Bag and when he trusts you He move you to the barrel or a little bigger blessing.
- Then the **basket**, then the **barn.**
- Which is Exceedingly, Abundantly, above all that we can ask for, recession proof is our God!

*** If you just keep sewing! Your tithe and blessing will grow!

CLOSE:

Isaiah 58:7 NIV

⁷ Is it not to share your **food** with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with **shelter**—
when you see the naked, to **clothe** him,
and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

*** Are we going to build bigger barns and store up our treasures here?

*** My dream is to feed the hungry, meet people where they are with the love of **Jesus**, then feed them spiritually into the love of Christ!

We look at our needs and cut back when we need to look at **what God needs out of us** or what he needs us to do.

If we pass on what God is calling us to do, **we then pass on the next level that he is preparing for us.**

*** I believe our greatest days are ahead! From the pulpit we are in line with what god wants of us.

***There will be a magnetic force come upon you **as god moves you to the Barn Level Blessing and Commands the Blessings upon you and your life!**

*** If we will just give **we will see the greatest harvest ever right here!**

*** Raise your hands up now – get your faith up – God is going to command a blessing in the middle of the recession, in the middle of the highest un-employment rate ever, in your toughest times **and when we have lost everything but faith in Him!**

1. **The Bag Level** – Not Enough – He’s your God of not enough.
2. **The Barrel Level** – The Just enough Level.
3. **The Basket Level** – More Than enough.
4. **The Barn Level** – Exceedingly, Abundantly, Above All More than we could ever ask for.

This portion of the book ends with a clear choice set before Israel:

“I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing.” God’s desire for His people is found in what He recommends: **“choose life”** (30:19).