

The Abundant Life Series #2
Permission To Prosper

Intro: The Fake News –

We looked at **the first part** of **John 10:10** - The thief does not come except to **steal**, and to **kill**, and to **destroy**.

- **John 10:10: is the sign around the devil's neck –**
- **A lie can sound like the truth if you don't know the difference.**
- **A lie cannot have an effect on someone who knows the truth.**

John 10:10 - KJV

∴ **I am come** that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

- This is one of the **"I Am's"** in the gospels.

John 10:10 - NLT

∴ **My purpose** is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

John 10:10 - NIV

∴ **I have come** that they may have life, and have it to the full.

If you were to ask Jesus why He came to Earth and why He robed Himself in flesh and died on the cross of Calvary we would expect Him to say,

- To bring **salvation**.
- To show **the way to Heaven**
- To **forgive sin**.

Lots of different reasons that I am sure are **all correct**.

But according to **John 10:10** Jesus answers that question this way.

I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

So I've titled this message today... **Permission to Prosper**.

King David ***"Scripture reading"***

1 Samuel 16:10-13 - NIV

¹⁰ Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these."

¹¹ So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"

"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."

¹² So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one."

¹³ So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

(Tell story background)

I don't like putting it this way, but **David was considered by his brothers to be the "Runt of the litter"**.

- He just was not appreciated at all.
- Rudy.

His own father didn't think much of him.

- **Never even called him in from the field** when *Samuel* came to anoint one of His sons.
- His father never considered him at all.

But wouldn't you know that **God had a plan for David's life.**

- When no one else thought He was worth even inviting to the meeting,
- **God had him at the top of His agenda.**
- His brothers didn't give David **permission to prosper.**
- His own father didn't give him **permission to prosper.**
- **But God gave David permission to prosper!!!!!!!!!!!!**

And prosper he did.

- Killed Goliath
- Married Saul's daughter
- Became the favorite king of Israel.
- **His son** who became king after him was the **richest and wisest man** in the world.
- All because of ***the prosperity of David*** and all that he **prepared** for him.

David prospered so much, it messed him up for a while.

- But that **did not** keep God from blessing Him **when he got his heart right**.
 - **God had to correct him** a few times in his life...
 - ***By the end of his life***, it was easy to say that **he had come a mighty long way**
 - From tending his father's sheep on the backside of some hill somewhere.
-

Too many Christians believe that **living for God means living defeated** lives

- In **destroyed** homes
- **With no hope** of ever **rising above** the thievery and destruction and death
- **That the enemy has brought** into their lives.

I want to tell somebody here today that God is giving you permission to prosper.

- Your **potential** doesn't have to **stay buried**.
- Your **talent** doesn't have to **stay hidden**.
- Your **spiritual** condition **can improve...**
- In fact, it can improve a whole lot.
- In fact, **God would like to fill you** with His Spirit today.....

You may have spent most of your life hidden by the shadow of other people

- Forgotten by those who should have helped you
- But **Jesus came** to give you **Life and that More Abundantly.**
- **Jesus** is giving you ***permission to prosper.***
- In fact He wants you to prosper.

Now I am not preaching what some call the prosperity gospel.

I think you can go too far with that thinking,

- But I also believe that there are ***some promises in the Word of God*** that are for us today
- And if **we don't recognize that** and **claim those things,** then they will **forever be lost** to us.

We all know that ***God had a much better plan for Adam and Eve's existence***

- Rather than what ultimately happened **because of their sin.**
- **God had a much better plan** for the world before **Noah** was told to **build the ark.**
- Better plan than to have to **destroy** it with a flood.
- **His desire for Israel** was over and over again ***to prosper above the other nations*** and ***to be victorious over their enemies.***

But that's not what happened is it?

- No, and **the reason why** is because **when God was offering to bless them they chose instead to go another direction.**

Sometimes, **our humanity derails itself.**

- We are at times **our own worst enemy.**
- God is offering so much amazing stuff to us, but instead we dislocate from **His promises in our lives** and end up very far **from where He wanted to take us.**

But someone here needs to know that **you don't have to let the Thief into** your home or into your life.

- **"Resist the Devil and He will Flee"**
- You have **permission to prosper** here today.

You know what the difference was between David being a shepherd boy and a king of a great nation?

The anointing of God on his life!!!

Question: "What is the anointing? What does it mean to be anointed?"

Answer: The origin of anointing was from a practice of shepherds. Lice and other insects would often get into the wool of sheep, and when they got near the sheep's head, they could burrow into the sheep's ears and kill the sheep.

So, ancient shepherds poured oil on the sheep's head. This made the wool slippery, making it impossible for insects to get near the sheep's ears because the insects would slide off.

From this, anointing became symbolic of blessing, protection, and empowerment.

Another meaning for the word anointed is "chosen one." The Bible says that Jesus Christ was **anointed by God** with the Holy Spirit to spread the Good News and free those who have been held captive by sin (Luke 4:18-19; Acts 10:38).

After Christ left the earth, **He gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit** (John 14:16).

Now all Christians are anointed, chosen for a specific purpose in furthering God's Kingdom (1 John 2:20).

"Now **He who establishes us** with you in Christ and **has anointed us is God**, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee" (2 Corinthians 1:21-22).

David was ANNOINTED WITH - *The anointing* oil in his life.

- *God's* influence – favor – blessing – protection – blessing –
- *David had Permission to Prosper!!!!!!!!!!!!!!*

Sitting back there tending those stupid sheep, he may not have *thought much of himself*.

- Just another shepherd.
- Just another kid with a stick and a bunch of dumb old sheep.

But *let the anointing oil* be poured out over his head and drip down over his body and *man look out*.

- He's a giant killer.
- He's someone people are going to write songs about.
- He's going to marry a kings daughter.
- He's going to be king himself.
- He'll destroy the enemies of Israel. - He'll prepare the place and materials to build the temple of God.

See, I think *the devil new the potential in David's life*.

- I think that's why he had him pinned down tending his father's sheep.
- That's why he stirred up contention against David from his brothers and even his own father.
- *He knew if the anointing every got on this kids head.....*
- **Giants were going to fall to their knees**
- And the enemy of Israel was going run like scattered dogs.

Someone here today needs to understand that **the reason the devil fights you so much** is because ---

he's afraid of what will happen if you ever get up under the anointing of God's potential in your life.

God wants you to ***prosper Spiritually.***

- He has left us **HIS spirit.** - You can have the **Holy SPIRIT.**
- ***No doubt about it!!!!***
- **God wants to fill you with His Spirit**
- Just like He did those believers in Jerusalem
- Just like He did the believers in Samaria
- Just like He did at Cornelius house
- Just like He did John's disciples on the road to
- ***You have permission to receive the Holy SPIRIT.***

God wants your ***marriage to prosper.***

- I know there's been some stuff happen.
- I know things have been said that hurt like crazy.
- I know there is **mistrust and bitterness**
- **But you need to know that God loves you.**
- And he **loves your spouse**
- And if you have them, **He loves your kids**
- He has some really amazing stuff available for your marriage if only you'd **let His anointing touch your marriage.**
- **Jesus** came to give you **Life more abundantly** and that **includes your marriage today.**
- **You** may not see much **hope** - **Others** may not see much hope
- **But God put His blessing on your marriage** a long time ago and **He hasn't** lifted off.
- There is **hope....** In fact there is ***great hope.... Abundant hope!!!!***
- **Your marriage** has ***God's permission to prosper.***

God wants to bless your finances.

- Pressed down, Shaken together, Running over.

Some people think it's their lot in life to be poor.

- I don't believe that.
- The reason **some people are poor** is because they are lazy.
- Ignorance – Disability - Lack of opportunity
- Race – Sex – Age - Neighborhood you grew up in
- Neighborhood you live in right now
- **Never stopped anyone from being blessed financially.**

The only thing stopping you from succeeding

- at what you want to do in a career, a job, or a business

Is that **YOU STOP TRYING!!!** - You don't have to stay in your situation - You have permission to prosper.

God wants to Bless your Witness to Others!

- You know **what Jesus told** that demoniac of Gaddereen?
- ***“Go and tell other people what I did for you here today.”***
- That demoniac was the first evangelist found in the New Testament.

You think because you've made mistakes that God can't use you?

- You think because so much has gone wrong in your life that **you can't be a blessing** to others?
- You think that because Life has gone so wrong **that your Testimony won't make a difference?**
- **You have permission to prosper!**

You can make a difference in your home and in your neighborhood and on your job and in your school.

God wants to use your life as an example to the world

- We just need to get up under *the anointing oil*.
 - We just need to *let His word get down into our hearts*
 - *Abundance can begin to grow* in *our minds* first and *then into our lives*.
-

You have *Permission to Prosper* in your walk with God.

- Peter was just a fisherman.
- Paul was a murderer of Christians.
- Matthew was a much hated tax collector.
- John was just some young kid that no one thought much of...
- But Jesus gave them *Permission to Prosper*.
- He came to give them *Life More Abundantly*

As a result *their walk with God* went berserk!

- You see them laying hands on sick people and them being healed.
- You see them telling the lame man at the Gate Beautiful, In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Rise up and Walk.
- And the lame man got up and walked and danced and Praise God!

Miracles of every kind happened in these men's lives because –

- Jesus came to give them Life and that more abundantly
- Guess what they did...
They chose Life more abundantly.
- They chose to prosper when the thief tried to kill them
- They chose to prosper when the thief tried to steal from them
- They chose to prosper when the thief tried to destroy them
- But they chose Abundant Life instead.

CLOSE: See you can either let the stuff of life destroy who you are and Kill the God given potential that is inside of you - Or you can choose Abundant Life!!!!

I'm sure David was confused when he showed up to stand before Samuel that day.

- I'm sure he really didn't understand all that was about to happen.
- But he was obedient to God's call on his life.
- When the old man raised that picture of oil, David stood still.
- That's what the Bible tells us to do - "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord."

He didn't run off afraid of the oil.

- He didn't get upset because his hair was getting oil poured all over it.
- They didn't have to hold him down.
- In fact, even though he didn't understand what was going on, I'm believe there was a little something inside of David that said, "I've been waiting on this for a long time."
- "I've needed this anointing in my life for as long as I've been alive."

As that anointing poured out over his life, a confidence came over that boy.

- A peace of God came over him.
- Courage came into his heart.
- Faith came into his heart.
- Abundance began to happen.

Are you ready to come under the anointing?

- Are you ready to let God's Spirit fill you today to over flowing?
- Are you ready to let God have His way in your life so you can experience Abundant Life?