I. Exchange at the Cross (Gal. 3:13–14)
   Jesus became the *curse* that we might receive the *blessing* (Is. 53:6)

II. Nature of Curses and Blessings
   A. Vehicles of supernatural power for good or for evil
   B. Words (spoken, written or pronounced inwardly)
   C. Objects of blessings and curses
      1. Cup of communion
      2. Items of occult in possession
   D. Curse—invisible barrier to:
      1. Blessing
      2. Healing
      3. Prosperity, etc.

III. Forms That Blessings and Curses Take (Deut. 28)
   A. Blessings
      1. Exaltation
      2. Reproductiveness
      3. Health
      4. Prosperity
      5. Victory
      6. Head and not the tail
      7. Above and not beneath
   B. Curses
      1. Humiliation
      2. Barrenness
      3. Sickness of every kind
      4. Poverty or failure
      5. Defeat
      6. Tail and not the head
      7. Beneath and not above

IV. Indications of Being under a Curse
   A. Mental and/or emotional breakdown
   B. Repeated or chronic sickness (esp. hereditary)
   C. Female problems
      1. Barrenness
      2. Miscarriage
      3. Menstrual difficulties
   D. Breakdown of marriage/family alienation
   E. Financial insufficiency
   F. Accident prone
G. History of suicide or unnatural deaths

V. Biblical Causes of Blessing and Curses (Prov. 26:2)
   A. Blessing: Hearing and obeying God’s voice (Deut. 28:1–2)
   B. Curse: Not hearing and obeying God’s voice (Deut. 28:15)
   C. Sources of curses
      1. False gods (Ex. 20:3–5)
      2. Idolatry—cult, occult, etc. (Deut. 27:15–26)
      3. Disrespect for parents (compare Eph. 6:1–3)
      4. Treachery against a neighbor (compare Prov. 17:13)
      5. Injustice to the weak or helpless
      6. Illicit or unnatural sex/incest
      7. Anti-Semitism (Gen. 12:3; 27:29)
      8. Depending on flesh (Jer. 17:5–6)
      9. Stealing or perjury (Zech. 5:1–4)
     10. Stinginess toward God (Mal. 3:8–10)
     11. Perverting the Gospel (Gal. 1:8–9)

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C. Sources of curses (cont’d.)
   1. Joshua pronounces curse (Josh. 6:26 [see 1 Kings 16:34])
   2. David re: Mountains of Gilboa (2 Sam. 1:21)
   3. Elisha re: Gehazi (2 Kings 5:26–27)
   4. Saloon in Chicago

VI. Persons with Relational Authority
   A. Jacob re: Rachel (Gen. 31:30–32 [see Gen. 35:16–19])
   B. Other possible examples
      1. Husband over wife (“sick of cooking . . .”)
      2. Father (clumsy or stupid son)
      3. Mother (daughter marrying wrong man)
      4. Teacher (pupil cannot spell, etc.)
      5. Pastor (member who leaves)
   C. Usually a demonic element (James 3:14–15)
      Parable of steaming kettle
   D. Self-imposed curses
      1. Rebekah (Gen. 27:11–13)
      2. Israel re: Jesus (Matt. 27:24–25)
      3. Revoke by a positive opposite (Ps. 118:17)
   E. Unscriptural covenants
      1. Freemasonry, tribal initiation (Ex. 23:32)
      2. Only two basic covenants
         a. Marriage
         b. Body of Christ
   F. Servants of Satan
I. Balaam re: Israel (Num. 22:4–6, 12)
II. Cursing a normal preliminary to battle (1 Sam. 17:43)

G. Objects that are vehicles of a curse
   1. Anything associated with idolatry or occult (Deut. 7:26)
   2. Have nothing in home that dishonors Jesus Christ

VII. How to Be Released/Delivered from a Curse

A. Pattern for release (James 4:7)
   1. Recognize—source of curse
   2. Repent—of anything done to expose you to a curse
   3. Renounce—it has no place in you
   4. Resist

B. Steps to release
   1. Establish scriptural basis for release (Gal. 3:13–14; Eph 1:7; Col. 1:12–14; 1 John 3:8b; Luke 10:19)
   2. Confess your faith in Christ
   3. Commit yourself to obedience
   4. Confess known sins of ancestors
   5. Forgive all other persons
   6. Renounce all contact with occult (by yourself or ancestors)
   7. Get rid of all “contact objects”
   8. Release yourself in the name of Jesus
   9. Confess and expect the blessing of Abraham—administered by the Holy Spirit (Gal. 3:13–14)
10. Abraham blessed in all things (Gen. 24:1)

VIII. To Keep Release/Deliverance

A. Make a “U-turn”—go forward in a new direction
B. Determination
C. Persisting in the right confession

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