

Keys To God's Abundance

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— Study Note Outline —

GA1

Three Tape Series

4071 *The Promises*

4072 *The Conditions*

4073 *The Purposes*

The Promises

4071

I. Introduction

A. Jeremiah 33:6—God's abundance can be apprehended only *by revelation*

B. Review of related words

1. Positive

a. Rich, riches

b. Wealth, wealthy

c. Prosper, prosperous, prosperity—indicate success (3 John 2)

d. Abound, abundant, abundance—not in want, lack or frustration

2. Negative

a. Poor, poverty

b. Want, need, lack

c. Fail, failure

II. Five Basic Principles

A. God's provision in His promises (2 Peter 1:2–4)

1. Through Jesus (v. 2)

2. All things have *already been given* (v. 3)

3. Contained in the promises of His Word (v. 4)

4. We are enabled to partake of God's own nature (v. 4)

5. We are delivered from corruption due to lust (v. 4)

B. The promises are our inheritance

1. Under the Old Covenant God brought Israel into a Promised Land (Joshua 1:2–3)

2. Under the New Covenant God is bringing the church into a Land of Promises (Joshua and Jesus are two forms of the same name)

C. The promises are the expression of God's will

1. God never promises anything contrary to His will

2. 1 John 5:14–15—Knowing God's will gives confidence in prayer

D. All of God's promises are now available to us through Christ (2 Cor. 1:20)

1. *All*—not some

2. *Are*—not were or will be

3. *In Him*—Jesus is the only channel

4. *To the Glory of God*—Appropriating the promises brings glory to God (Rom. 4:20–21)
 5. *By Us*—not some special group
- E. The fulfillment of God’s promises does not depend upon our circumstances, but upon our meeting God’s conditions

III. Two Specific Promises

- A. Psalm 34:9–10; Psalm 84:11
1. Three conditions:
 - a. Fear the Lord
 - b. Seek the Lord
 - c. Walk uprightly
 2. Then God will not withhold *any* good thing. But we must distinguish two ways in which a thing may be good:
 - a. Is the thing good in itself? (absolute)
 - b. Is the thing good for us in our situation now? (variable)
 3. Apply this to the subject of riches, wealth, prosperity and abundance
Is it good in itself?—Yes
 - a. Revelation 5:12—“Riches” are included in seven things which are essentially good
 - b. 1 Chronicles 29:12—God is the ultimate source of riches and honor
 - c. Deuteronomy 8:18—God gives power to get wealth and thus fulfills His covenant
- B. Deuteronomy 28:1–14
1. Obedience to God brings prosperity and abundance
 - a. How do we qualify to be the people of the Lord? By listening to His voice (Jer. 7:22–23; John 10:28)
 - b. As a result, His blessings overtake us (Deut. 28:2)
 2. Disobedience brings failure and a curse: Deut. 28:15–69
 - a. Not prospering is a curse (v. 29)
 - b. God’s will is that we serve Him in joyfulness and gladness of heart for the abundance of all things (v. 47)
 - c. The opposite condition is absolute poverty: hunger, thirst, nakedness, want of all things (v. 48)

The Conditions

4072

I. Introduction

- A. The curse was dealt with on the cross (Gal. 3:13–14)
1. On the cross there was a divinely ordained exchange: Jesus took the evil due to us that we might receive the good due to Him
 2. By faith we become children of Abraham and receive the blessing of Abraham:
 - a. All things (Gen. 24:1)
 - b. Through the Holy Spirit—the administrator of the blessing
- B. On the cross Jesus *exhausted* the poverty curse: hunger, thirst, nakedness and want of all things (Deut. 28:48)

- C. 2 Cor. 8:9—By grace, it can never be earned. Jesus is the only channel. He became poor that we might be rich.
- D. 2 Cor. 9:8—By grace, abounding in all things. We cannot earn abundance, but we must meet the conditions to receive it.
1. Our motives and attitudes must be right
 - a. It is wrong to make wealth our God (Col. 3:5; 1 Tim. 6:10)
 - b. It is wrong to seek wealth by wrong means (Prov. 28:8; Jer. 17:11)
 - c. It is wrong to trust in wealth (Prov. 11:28, Jer. 9:23–24)
 - d. It is wrong to use wealth selfishly (Prov. 11:24; Luke 12:16–21)
 - e. We must have proper attitude toward the poor
 - (1) It is wrong to despise the poor (Prov. 21:13; 22:16; 29:7)
 - (2) All believers are required to show mercy to the poor (Prov. 14:21; 19:17; 28:27; Dan. 4:27; Gal. 2:10)
 2. Faith is essential (Rom. 1:17; 14:21)
This means acting before we receive what is promised
 - a. Luke 6:38—Give *first* and it shall be given
 - b. 2 Corinthians 9:6–7—Sow *first*, then reap
 - c. Malachi 3:8ff—Tithe *first*, then blessing will come
 3. Giving is a scriptural way to show honor
 - a. Proverbs 3:9–10—Honor the Lord
 - b. Matthew 15:4—Honor parents
 - c. 1 Timothy 5:17–18—Honor spiritual leaders
 4. Right thinking, speaking and acting
 - a. Joshua 1:8
 - (1) *Meditate* in the law of the Lord
 - (2) *Speak* the law of the Lord
 - (3) *Act* on the law of the Lord
 - b. Psalm 1:1–3—*Five* conditions for successful living:
 - (1) v. 1—Negative
 - (a) Do *not* walk in the counsel of the ungodly
 - (b) Do *not* stand in the way of sinners
 - (c) Do *not* sit in the seat of the scornful
 - (2) v. 2—Positive
 - (a) Delight in the law of the Lord
 - (b) Meditate in it day and night
 5. Let God add in His way and His time
 - a. Deuteronomy 28:2—Blessings shall overtake you
 - b. Proverbs 10:22—Don't seek riches, qualify for the blessing
 - c. Matthew 6:33—Seek first the kingdom of God; the “things” will be added

The Purposes 4073

Review

Purpose for abundance

2 Corinthians 9:8b—Abundance is provided for every good work—not just for our selfish enjoyment

I. One Specific “Good Work”: To Provide A Dwelling Place For God

- A.** God has always asked for this from His covenant people, but He has also provided them with all the needed material.
- B.** Two examples from the Old Testament
 - 1.** Tabernacle of Moses
 - a.** Genesis 15:13–14; Exodus 12:35–36
When Israel were redeemed from slavery, they were brought out with great wealth
 - b.** Psalm 105:37
They were redeemed in all areas—spiritual, physical, material
 - c.** Exodus 35:4–19
Free will offerings out of the abundance which God had provided were to be used for making the tabernacle
 - 2.** Temple of Solomon
 - 1 Samuel 16:11ff; 1 Chronicles 29:2ff
 - a.** David had a humble beginning—at his death left a huge fortune for the Temple.
 - b.** Under David the nation’s prosperity increased many times, providing the means to build God a fabulously costly dwelling place.

II. God’s Provision For His Dwelling Place In Our Day

- A.** 1 Corinthians 3:16–17—We are the temple—each of us a living stone. Reaching all nations with the gospel will cost countless millions of dollars.
- B.** Haggai 2:6–9—A great shaking is coming. Wealth of the nations will fill God’s house. *Silver and gold is God’s*. The glory of the latter house will be greater. That house *is His body* (John 2:18–21).
- C.** Isaiah 60:1–5—Darkness is getting darker; but light is getting brighter. God’s glory is on His people and *nations* shall come to their light. The abundance of the sea and the wealth of the nations will come to God’s people.
- D.** God is providing the means to complete His dwelling place by reaching all nations with the gospel of the kingdom (Matt. 24:14).