

TOPIC: FINANCIAL FREEDOM PART 1

SPEAKER: SP Daniel Foo

Date: 4 July 2009

SUMMARY OF MESSAGE

Introduction:

This is about biblical prosperity, not carnal prosperity gospel, not a “name it, get it” approach. The truth of God, when applied, is real. It is of value to the degree we believe and act on it. The focus is on dependence on the grace of God. It is not adhering to the principles as a ritual but as arising out of a relationship with God (1 Cor 15:10).

We can look towards financial freedom because blessings come from the goodness and the love of God for His people. As in Jeremiah 9:24, it is God who exercises loving kindness. When we as His people walk with Him and obey His Word, we will prosper and level up in our spirit, soul and body.

Biblical Principles for Financial Freedom

i. Know that God delights in the prosperity of His children (Psalm 35:27)

Prosperity means having more than enough for the purpose of being a blessing to others (2 Cor 9:8, Prov 11:25). The water pipe that carries the water to others will itself always be wet.

ii. Know that God is the source of all provision and wealth for man (Deut 8:18, Isaiah 30:23)

1. When we fail to acknowledge God as our source of provision, we will begin to lose wisdom and become foolish. Foolishness is the absence of wisdom (Romans 1:21)

2. In the world, man has always attributed his provision and wealth to a source. Many think it is by their own efforts that they have provided for themselves. For others, they look to a source or another such as luck, fate or a force out there.

iii. God not only delights in our prosperity, He will teach us to profit. God Himself wants to teach.

Isaiah 48:17

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, “I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you by the way you should go.”

How?

i) From the WORD. That is where we get directions and broad principles. We need to know the difference between a bribe and a gift, i.e, a bribe that perverts justice or a gift that opens doors.

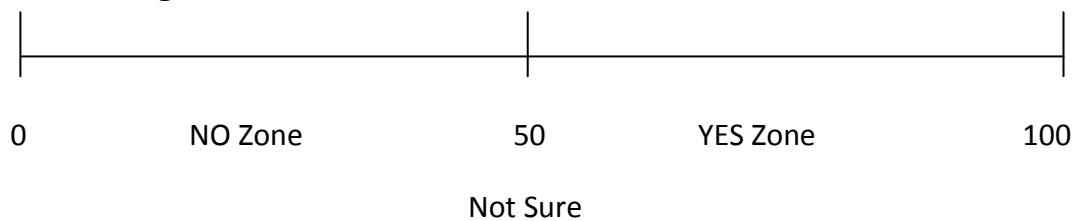
ii) From the Holy Spirit of Wisdom. This is the inward witness (Romans 8:16) of the Spirit of Wisdom dwelling in the believer. He guides us in the following 4 ways:

- a) The Holy Spirit directs us to people in our lives, i.e. to an expert, counselor, consultant, professional, etc.
- b) The Holy Spirit directs us to resources, i.e. seminars, books, sermons, propositions to look into.
- c) The Holy Spirit directs us in specific situations and circumstances, i.e. divine appointments, divine connections, a business deal, sense – gut feel – intuition, discernment, etc.
- d) The Holy Spirit directs us in our thoughts on the decision to be made (2 Tim 1:7). He has given us knowledge, understanding and wisdom. Never abandon our mind. Do our homework.

The Holy Spirit will guide us to

- i) Know the facts (knowledge)
- ii) Analyze – weigh – evaluate the facts (understanding)
- iii) Work in us to be inclined towards the decision (wisdom)

Decision-Making Process



As in Prov 3:5,6, we are to trust God 100% that He is interested in our lives. How do we do that? We do so by acknowledging Him and soaking the matter in prayer. Next, we see to which direction we are more inclined to make the decision. Then by faith, we move on. Romans 14:23 says that whatever is not of faith is sin.

iv) Know the difference between bread and seed (2 Cor 9:10)

1. Bread is for consumption.

2. Seed is for sowing.

a. We always have seed to sow. The seed we have may be in the form of money, time, kindness, volunteering, teaching in KFC, giving tuition in POP Excel, etc.

b. Understand the Law of Sowing and Reaping (Genesis 8:22, Gal 6:7,8)

v) At all times, we must seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33) then we will have all our provision and prosperity. This is a very important principle.

1) His Kingdom. The Kingdom of God is the Reign and Rule of God, i.e. the Lordship of Christ.

2) His righteousness - 2 kinds:

i) Right standing. 2 Cor 5:21 says we are made the righteousness of God.

ii) Right doing – living. Eph 2:10 calls upon us to do good works. Titus 3:8,14, Gal 6:10, 1 Tim 5:8

3) We must seek Divine Wisdom to have the harvest of righteousness.

James 3:17-18

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Prov 21:20

There is desirable treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise but a foolish man squanders it.

4. We need the Anointing, i.e., enabling and empower of the Holy Spirit to do good works. We see this is true of Jesus in Acts 10:38. We need the Holy Spirit or we may be doing out of the flesh.

5. We are blessed to do good works (Eph 2:10). The purpose of our good works is for others to see and give glory to our God (Matthew 5:16)

6. One major area of good works that pleases God is to remember the poor (Psalm 41:1-3)

7. The righteousness (right doing-living) is the one who is generous and keeps giving. Psalm 37:21b, Prov 3:27-28. Consequently, the righteous will never suffer lack.

Conclusion

Do you suffer lack? Do you have sufficiency in all things? Have you been sowing seeds and doing good works for others to know and glorify God?
