



From the Pastor's heart



Wealth Procurement

<u>Deu 8:18</u> But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

"Money does not grow on trees" is often a statement retorted in indignation when one is being told off about over spending. The truth is, God is the one who causes us to get wealth. Wealth as described by the Bible speaks of material and financial prosperity. There is nothing wrong with having wealth (assets) or money. The only two problems with them are; it can cause you to forget God and secondly become greedy and selfish and make it your God.

Yet, God ordained wealth as a good thing. It provides for our natural lives as promised by God to have in abundance through Jesus. That abundance is available to all who believe and appropriate by faith. Faith produces supernatural abundance that natural methods can never produce. The secret is in hearing God and obeying His commandments. One woman was given a word of prophecy that she would invent something which would help her to gain much wealth. She received the invention in a dream and appropriated what she had dreamt. She ended up making millions out of that invention. Others have spoken of doing what God has told them to do and have been blessed financially in a supernatural way. I have a hundred stories of God's provision that was beyond any imaginable way that I could have made that money. I actually was made redundant from a good job because I did not suck up to the boss and then cast into the world of business that never worked for me. In the end, I set out on a faith life that produced more than all the jobs and salary I had ever had or earned and is even till today my Abrahamic blessing.

I encourage you to trust God in your financial situation. You may be going through some lack or not having enough to make ends meet but I know that my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus just as He has faithfully done for me. Financial prosperity is made out to be a great thing to have and people have lost their way and many times their hope in life because of it. This is what God was warning Israel about. *Deu 8:17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth.* One of the reasons for wilderness periods in our lives is, to bring us to that place where we understand that man does not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. So, it is imperative that we hear the word of God that will lead us out of the wilderness and into prosperity, sufficiency and abundance. The Jews went from bondage to freedom and then complained because they did not like living within the sufficiency of God. Yet, they had been given a promise of a great future in the Promised Land where milk and honey flowed and where they would not have to do anything to achieve wealth and success. *Deu 6:3* Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.

Our lack is an opportunity for the glory of God to be seen in His provision.

He is Jehovah Jireh our Provider

When we see people in the world progressing and amassing wealth or even just doing well and we are not, it makes us want more. We seek to have more because we can buy more and enjoy life more because we think that it brings satisfaction. Eventually, we find as time goes by, some have become worldly and money minded. Others have become scroungers, hoarders, mean, nasty or greedy about money. Others live life as though money has no value and can waste it without a thought about the suffering in this world. One major negativity of having money or not is, it always makes a person want more. It has an insatiable attraction to human reasoning. Can one live without money in a modern world? The answer may surprise us. I think money in any form is a lure to join this world system and a deterrent

of Godly pursuits. People shudder at the concept of living by faith. Yet, they would love to exercise faith and even boast about it in other areas such as preaching, healing and deliverance.

I think it is easier to trust God than money or man. 1Ti_6:17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy. The certainty of God is a far better thing than the uncertainty of riches and a life in the flesh. The falsity of stability that money suggests have brought nations down. It has done so regularly but we still do not get it and continue to pursue money and wealth as though it is the answer to life. In trusting God, we must seek peace about our state of being and be content with what we have. Luk_3:14 And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages.

Any further blessing of money and wealth to what we already have would be for the glory of God in using it wisely for His kingdom. Wisdom about the accumulation of wealth is important as much as anything else is. However, I say, it is how you are called by God. I have seen very rich people blessed of God with no effort on their part. I have seen others with little or nothing and happy with what they have in this life as their portion. I think it is time that the Church realised that wealth and prosperity are the gifts of God. If God sees it fit that we should have it, then it will come our way. I could do more with more money but if I do not have it, it does not diminish my efforts to trust God for greater works. I have heard of great faith endeavours by people who have stepped out and trusted God for money especially for projects concerning His Kingdom and they have been given what they need, even in the millions. I believe there is a place for faith in the breakthrough for finances. Without faith it would be impossible to walk in that kind of prosperity. Imagine walking into riches already prepared for you. That would be awesome. Yet, it has to be appropriated by faith.

I believe God has a store house of much to give us but I also believe He has to trust us first. Many have been entrusted with money but have failed God just like in the parable of the talents. That is a sad story. I for one do not want to end up finding myself short changed of my reward in heaven because I pursued worldly things. I believe I am a better manager of myself now than I have ever been, only by the grace of God. Having made terrible mistakes with money, I am now hopefully wiser. God is wisdom in every area of our lives. Money can be a ruler if you allow it to be. It is very subtle and causes much grief and sorrow to those who do not know how to hold it in their bosom. When you rule money you can use it wisely and it will be your servant not the other way around. We were made to rule not be servants to the world. Let us rule money and bring it into subjection and cause it to produce for us and multiply even as it has been blessed to us through Jesus Christ. It is often quoted in preaching circles that the wealth of the wicked will become the wealth of the righteous. I am yet to see it happen the way people preach it. Many preachers preach it as though it is going to become an en-masse phenomenon. I think the key word here is "righteous". Pro 13:22 A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just. I rather believe in a God who can supply all my needs and who allows me the blessings of what I need in ministry and personally. The day is coming when we will enjoy greater wealth among the heathen but I rather have what I need now than wait for that day. It is available now to the righteous. This way, I can be about what has to be done for the Kingdom's sake instead waiting for wealth transfer.

God has all that we need. The question is; do we have the faith?

The day of reckoning is drawing near and all that is of the world will perish with the world. Let us live well with no strings attached to anything that is worldly even though it has been given to us. Wealth and money are tools for God's glory. Don't let it rule you or occupy your life so much that you leave out mercy. *Mic 6:6 Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Mic 6:7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? Mic 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?*

My friends, the hour of God's prosperity is always in the taking of it by faith. By faith Abraham received the promise that brought the wealth and the blessings unlimited. We are blessed with faithful Abraham *Gal 3:9* So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

Lots of love Pastor Noble 12/02/2017