

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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2/18/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
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Salvation Perspectives

God's Perspective

- Salvation from sin

Man's Perspective ("tenses")

- Positional (from penalty of sin)
- Experiential (from power of sin)
- Ultimate (from presence of sin)

Sanctification Perspectives

God's Perspective

- Sanctified (set apart for Him)

Man's Perspective ("phases")

- Positional (imputed R+ / judicially)
- Experiential (imparted R+ / daily)
- Ultimate (completed R+ / eternally)

Grace

You were PREDESTINED to suffer for Christ's sake.

Grace

You were PREDESTINED to prosper for Christ's sake, only the prosperity emphasized in the Bible is eternally weighted (Pr 16:11; Jn 4:36-38; Ro 6:20-22; 1Ti 6:6-21; Rev 3:18-21).

Prosperity Testing

How will you "do business" with God's grace? Will you keep the "minas" for yourself, as if you've earned them (1Co 4:7), or will you "regard one another as more important than yourselves" (Php 2:3-4)?

Prosperity Testing

Do the blessings you believe you have make you feel good about yourself or God???...do they glorify you and your labors to "receive" them or do they glorify God?

1Co 4:7 [Message]

For who do you know that really knows you, knows your heart? And even if they

did, is there anything they would discover in you that you could take credit for? Isn't everything you have and everything you are sheer gifts from God? So what's the point of all this comparing and competing?

"wisdom and knowledge and joy"

Who does God give these most precious divine prosperity gifts to? - Answer: "to a person who is good in His sight."

"the task of gathering and collecting"

Who does God curse with the pain of losing worldly prosperity? - Answer: "to the [habitual] sinner."

Divine Wisdom Regarding Prosperity

In order to possess true wisdom regarding prosperity, you MUST first reconcile your life with the likes of Ecc 2, 5; Ac 20:35; 1Co 4:7; Php 2:3-4; and especially 1Co 2:16!

Divine Wisdom Regarding Prosperity

Challenge yourselves right now to see if the "mind of Christ", the very heart of Christ as revealed IN SCRIPTURE, has anything whatsoever to do with you "gathering and collecting" unto yourself. Look for the PURPOSE of prosperity in the Bible...what is it, really???

The Purpose of Prosperity

- Purpose: God gives grace to glorify Himself
- The Passed Test ("The Giver"): man "does business" with His grace by living for others ("good in His sight" - Ecc 2:26)
- The Failed Test ("The Keeper"): man does business for self by living for self ("[habitual] sinner" - Ecc 2:26)

2Co 9:8 [Amplified]

And God is able to make all grace [every favor and earthly blessing] come in abundance to you, so that you may always [under all circumstances, regardless of the need] have complete sufficiency in everything [being completely self-sufficient in Him], and have an abundance for every good work and act of charity.

2Co 9:9 [Amplified]

As it is written and forever remains written, "He [the benevolent and generous person] scattered abroad, he gave to the poor, His righteousness endures forever!"

2Co 9:10 [Amplified]

Now He who provides seed for the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your seed for sowing [that is, your resources] and increase the harvest of your righteousness [which shows itself in active goodness, kindness, and love].

2Co 9:11 [Amplified]

You will be enriched in every way so that you may be generous, and this [generosity, administered] through us is producing thanksgiving to God [from those who benefit].

2Co 9:8-11 [Message]

God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that you're ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done.

2Co 9:8-11 [Message]

As one psalmist puts it, He throws caution to the winds, giving to the needy in reckless abandon. His right-living, right-giving ways never run out, never wear out.

2Co 9:8-11 [Message]

This most generous God who gives seed to the farmer that becomes bread for your meals is more than extravagant with you. He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way, producing with us great praise to God.

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Prosperity Always Has CONTEXT!

The "prosperity" and "abundance" that Paul speaks of in Php 4:12 must be understood in context. Paul is not implying he ever strove for abundance, rather when he did possess it, this same man would give it away as a way of gracing out others (2Co 8:7-15; 9:5-15).

Wisdom

The more spiritually mature you are, the more likely you are to "do business" for Christ, not just in word, but in deed (1Jn 3:18). This implies grace, which means giving, for that is the greater blessing, after all (Ac 20:35). The less mature don't understand this; rather, they are stuck living for self in the world's economy (currency = creature credit).

"proper clothing" (during worship service)

"Modestly" (from aidos) means avoiding anything that would cause shame.

"Discreetly" (from sophrosune) means a woman is to be moderate in her dress.

McDonald on "discreetly" (1Ti 2:9)

On the one hand she will not seek to attract attention to herself by expensive, conspicuous fashions. These might tend to provoke admiration or even jealousy from those who should be worshipping God. On the other hand, she should avoid attracting attention to herself by wearing clothes that are drab...the scriptures seem to teach a moderate, middle-of-the-road policy in regard to clothing.

"but rather"

Literally means "instead of", which implies no coexistence of these things. In other words, worshipping women cannot propose to "offset" their lack of modesty and discretion by "doing good". One supplants the other in the heart of the

humble woman.

"making a claim to godliness"

It is "proper" (from prepo = becoming, befitting) for a godly woman to do "good works" by dressing moderately to facilitate fellowship and be an example to others to do the same. Contrarily, a woman who doesn't do such good works has no claim to godliness.

Prosperity Testing

Prosperity is a multi-faceted test that includes not just one's own struggle with lusting it, but also one's consideration of those without it and the possibility of making them stumble.

A Woman's Teaching Ministry

Biblically speaking, women are encouraged to teach children (2Ti 3:15) and younger women (Tit 2:4), but they are not to have public teaching ministries, especially ones that include men.

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