

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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1/28/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
45

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).

Divine Prosperity

Wisdom is among the greatest forms of prosperity. Her "fruit is better than gold" (Pr 8:19). Any other form of prosperity in the absence of divine wisdom is fruitless.

Divine Prosperity

We must learn to LEARN first! The things we build for ourselves are like houses awaiting their own destruction (Pr 14:11-14; cp Mt 7:26-27). God may be patient with us, but judgment is always carried out eventually. God hates false prosperity and self-sanctification.

Divine Perspective

God's scale of values is completely different than the world's (Pr 16:11; Is 55).

Pr 16:11

*A just balance and scales belong to the LORD;
All the weights of the bag are His concern.*

Isa 55:8-9

*"For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD.
"For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways
And My thoughts than your thoughts.*

Divine Perspective

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Divine Perspective

What Satan has done to frustrate your deliverance is insert the world's scale of values into your minds (often at a very young age) and then impose a sense of

unrelenting urgency to "get going" before someone else beats you to the punch!

False Urgencies

The fruit of unrelenting hurriedness is anxiety. If you're consistently hurrying to achieve "prosperity", chances are something is wrong. It's quite possible you don't understand God's definition for prosperity or how He imparts it.

Discerning End Goals

If you've got marketable talent in this world, it may just be easier for you to go out and achieve worldly wealth and just call it prosperity from God. This is a tremendous, subtle test for people in a prosperous nation, where education/training is a "right".

Discerning End Goals

An achievement-oriented society breeds a certain kind of arrogance towards God. It's tendency is to superimpose its definition of prosperity over God's. By establishing a perverse end-goal, the only thing left to do is execute the means. If the end-goal is perverted, then how will the means ever NOT be???