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HOW THE LORD TAUGHT ME TO *Prosper*

FOR YE KNOW THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THAT, THOUGH HE WAS RICH, YET FOR YOUR SAKES HE BECAME POOR, THAT YE THROUGH HIS POVERTY MIGHT BE RICH. - 2 CORINTHIANS 8:9

WORD & SPIRIT IN GATLINBURG,TN // GENERATION LIFE YOUTH CAMP

RANDALL GRIER MINISTRIES

HOW THE LORD TAUGHT ME TO Prosper

PATTI, RANDALL, & RANDALL GRIER JR.

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.
(2 Corinthians 8:9)

We must interpret scripture correctly. The above scripture is speaking on finances in this setting, not just spiritual things. Read the scriptures before it and after it and you will see for yourself. Jesus Christ became poor for us on the cross that we might be rich. The word rich means to have an abundant supply. This doesn't mean that every Christian is going to be a millionaire or billionaire. It does mean that the Lord will give us the desires of our hearts and He expects us to have an abundant supply of finances. You also have to manage your finances wisely. You can't buy everything you're little beady eyes look at. That is good advice!

There is another view about finances and ministry that we need to understand. Just because you have the money to finance a program or ministry outreach does not mean it is the will of God. The devil gets many people off course in this area of life and ministry.

Years ago I heard Dad Hagin say the devil will fight you more in the financial area than any other. He has authority in the natural world.

I know anointed ministers of God that are not in ministry today because of the attacks of Satan in their finances. They finally quit the ministry, got a regular job, and went to work. The Bible teaches good work ethics and I agree with the Bible. I also know that a minister must provide for his family and do what is necessary to do so. Satan fights ministers and all Christians in this area. We have authority over him and we can prosper Biblically.

The Lord has dealt with me about finances on different occasions over the years. I will cover some of them in this newsletter to encourage you.

Tithing Behind Prison Bars

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.
(Malachi 3:10)

I came to the Lord on my third escape from prison in Galveston, TX. I turned myself in to the authorities and went back to prison facing life without parole. Most of you know my story and how I received a full pardon later on. My book, "Escape From Hell" will give you the entire story.

My life was gloriously changed when the Spirit of God set me free from sin and demonic influence. One moment I was a cheating, lying thief. The next moment I wanted to pray, read a Bible and worship God. I completely dedicated my life to the Lord Jesus Christ. I later discovered, when I was released from prison, that many do not have that full experience. They mentally agree that Jesus is Lord, but have never truly been changed in their spirit.

This deep committed, new birth experience that I had gave me a great desire to obey the Word of God. I read the Bible and prayed continually. One day I was reading Malachi chapter three and discovered that I was robbing God by not tithing. I immediately began to think about how I could give ten percent of anything I received in prison.

I couldn't have money, checks or anything like that. I could buy postage stamps with money I had in my prison account.

I starting buying books of stamps and sowing them into Kenneth Hagin Ministries through the mail. That is all I knew during those days. I can tell you that the Lord saw and blessed me tremendously for tithing into His work on earth. That started me on a path to prosper financially also.

Some don't believe in tithing, but the Bible teaches it in the Old and New Testaments. Tithe to your local church to support its operations. The person that tithes is demonstrating to God that He is big enough to take care of them. The person that doesn't tithe is telling God that they don't trust Him and they will take care of themselves. I never lacked for anything, even while I was in prison. I was amazed at the supernatural ways that the Lord Jesus Christ provided for me. He will do the same for you.

The Lord Teaches Me To Sow

But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly;and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. (2 Corinthians 9:6)

The Spirit of God spoke to me and told me to go full-time in the traveling ministry on January 1, 1988. I had two meetings scheduled for the entire year. That was a faith adventure! I walked away from a job making more legal money than I had ever made in my life.

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NOW HE THAT MINISTERETH SEED TO THE SOWER BOTH MINISTER BREAD FOR YOUR FOOD, AND MULTIPLY YOUR SEED SOWN, AND INCREASE THE FRUITS OF YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS... - 2 CORINTHIANS 9:10

I had specific direction from the Lord to do so. That doesn't mean anyone else should do what I did unless the Lord tells you to. You will fail if you do it on your on.

The first meeting I had was about two thousand miles round trip. I did not have the money to fly. My wife and I would drive there and back. I didn't ask for anything to come and minister at a church and still don't. The Lord has always seen me through.

We drove to Illinois the first day. There was a meeting going on there that my friends asked me to attend. When I arrived at the meeting, I had a quarter of a tank of gas and forty-two dollars in my pocket. In those days, you could get a full tank of gas for about twenty dollars. I was going to fill it up after the meeting that night and stay with some friends.

When the offering was received in the meeting, the first thing I thought of was how much money I did not have! I reached in my pocket and got one dollar out to put in the offering. I needed the other forty-one dollars to buy gas and get food for the rest of our trip. The Spirit of God said, "In whom do you trust?" I said, "I trust you Lord!" He said, "You trust in that forty-one dollars you have in your pocket. If you trust me, sow, in faith, in this offering."

I started to think about how much money I needed to get to my meeting, which was still about six hours drive. I also thought about how we would get home from the meeting. I debated and finally reached into my pocket and got twenty-one dollars out. My total offering would be twenty-two and that would would leave me with a twenty dollar bill. That is all the faith I had. I sowed it in the offering with faith and prayer!

After the meeting was over that night an usher walked up to me and told me a man had told him to give me an envelope. I put it my pocket and went outside, got in the vehicle and drove away. I thought about the envelope and looked inside and found five hundred dollars! That was a lot of money to us in those days!

My wife and I drove down the road greatly rejoicing at the money we had received! We knew the Lord had proved His Word was true to us and He would take care of us. That was over thirty-one years ago and He is still true to His Word. I am throughly convinced that if I had not sown like I did, I would not have received the five hundred dollars. It requires faith to please God. We sowed in faith and His Word worked. I encourage you to trust the Lord and sow financially if you desire to increase.

Faith And Increase

In the early 1990's, I was directed by the Lord to attend Dad Hagin's meeting in northern California. I had to fly commercial to get there and rent a car to get to and from the meetings. I stayed in a hotel close by. I had very little money and was struggling financially. I faced financial challenges many times during those days. I was about to experience a financial miracle.

I started attending the morning and evening services. One morning, I was getting ready when the Spirit of God said, "Stay here and fast and pray this morning. I want to teach you about using your faith for finances." I was wondering what the Lord would say to me? I obeyed and started to seek God in prayer.

While I was praying, the Lord began to direct me to different scriptures in the Bible about faith and finances. I would get my Bible and read them and meditate on them as I prayed in the Holy Ghost. I was led to speak the scriptures out loud to myself over and over. Then I would pray and praise God for His Word. I continued this way until late afternoon. I was filled with faith and I knew I had a financial miracle.

I did not know how it would come, but I knew it in my spirit. Suddenly, I was inspired to say, "I will give away one hundred dollar bills like they are popsicles!" I want to point out that I did not have any hundred dollar bills. I did not know how it would occur, but I knew it would in my spirit.

I went to the meeting that night full of faith and the Holy Ghost. Some preacher friends of mine asked why I missed the morning service. I told them that I had been seeking God that morning and He told me that I would give away hundred dollar bills like popsicles. They got excited and wanted to be close by so they could get some! We left the meeting that night and went back to the hotel.

The next morning, I was getting ready to go to the service. The Spirit of God said to me, "Go by the bank this morning and change those two twenty dollar bills and that one ten dollar bill into a fifty. Sow it to the first preacher you see in the meeting this morning." It seemed strange, but I obeyed the Lord. When I arrived at the meeting that morning I met a preacher and sowed that fifty dollars to him. He smiled and thanked me.

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I went and set down not knowing what to expect next. During the service, I sat beside a gentleman that was continually shouting and praising God. He was standing up and I was siting down to get out of his way. Suddenly, he turned to me and handed me a wad of hundred dollar bills big enough to choke a goat!! He said, "God told me to give you this." I started shouting and praising God myself! It was the most hundred dollar bills I had seen, at one time, in many, many years! We both began rejoicing together!

I told this man the story of how I was seeking God when He told me I would give away hundred dollar bills. It so excited him to be a part of it he took off running around the church! That day, I started sowing hundred dollar bills just like the Lord said. That has stayed with me all these years. I say this reluctantly as I don't want the left hand to know what the right hand is doing. I am helping people, as the Lord leads me, that you would never expect with hundred dollar bills.

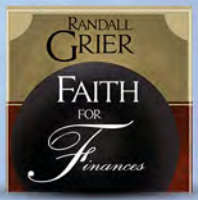
Dad Hagin used to say, "Lord make me a blessing." I picked that up from him and pray and do the same thing. I am blessed to be a blessing to others in every area of my personal life and ministry.

In fact, I pray the Lord will bless me to be a blessing to you, your family, ministry and church. Everything I do, write and say is to be a blessing to others. I know some may not understand because what I say sometimes seems hard, but it is the love of God flowing through me to others. He wants people to know the truth and I do too. There are many partners that have helped me to do this, for which I am forever grateful.

Notice, how the Lord led me and spoke to me so I could prosper. Don't put money ahead of God. He will lead you just like He did me if you will take time to seek Him in this area. Obey the Word and Spirit of God and you will prosper.

There are many other stories, but I don't have space to tell them. I do want to tell that the Lord spoke to me about eleven years ago about my financial supporters. It is the only time He has ever done that in my entire ministry. He reminded me of the scriptures *Acts 27:9-44* where Paul and others where on a ship in a storm. Paul prayed and an angel appeared and told him to fear not and God had given him all that sailed with him. The Lord told me the same thing about my financial partners. He said I have given you all that sail with you financially! I knew He meant that all of my financial partners would be taken care of. My partners will prosper.

PROSPERING GOD'S WAY SPECIAL



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One of the biggest areas in life that a Christian has problems with is in the area of finances. It seems that they devil will attack you more in that area than in any other area. That is because not only does the area of finances have to do with supporting you as an individual, but also the carrying of the Gospel around the world. If you don't have enough money to pay your bills, then you get under great stress and the devil will pressure you to not pay your tithe and especially not to sow above that and give offerings. The enemy can stop the spreading of the Gospel by attacking Christians in the area of finances.

This 3-message series will show you how to use your faith for finances, overcome the devil, and it will be a blessing to you and the Kingdom of God.

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