

Hope Ministries
Bible Study Series: {lesson 3}
{Sensitivity in the Spirit}

[The Path to Financial Security]

I Corinthians 2:9-12; I John: 1

Back Ground scriptures: [I Chronicles 12:32; I Corinthians 2:14-16]

Bible Truth: God will reveal Himself to whom-ever yields themselves to Him

Lesson Aim: To become increasingly aware of God's point of view

Hebrews 5:14> *But strong meat belongs to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

Note: *those who are weak and immature in the faith lack spiritual sensitivity and discernment with regard to what is good and what is evil in this life. Mature believers, because of their strong commitment to God and His word, practice righteousness and thereby possess a sensitivity to all that brings dishonor to God. They have learned to righteousness and hate iniquity, their minds are renewed with principles of righteousness, and they are enabled by the Holy Spirit to see things from God's point of view.*

Ephesians 1:17-19> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him;

That the eyes of your understanding being enlightened, that you may know what, is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.

III John 3> *Beloved, I wish above all things that thou may prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospers.*

Note: It is normally God's will that believers be healthy and that our lives be accompanied by blessings, He wants us to prosper, i.e., that our work, plans, purposes, ministry, families, etc., go according to God's will and direction. Thus, God's blessings that come to us through redemption of Christ include both physical and spiritual needs {II Peter 1:3} **"according as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and Godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue."**

Concerning prosperity, both physical and spiritual, scripture teaches the following:

-The word "**prosper**" literally means to have a good journey. According to that meaning, John's primary prayer was that as believers walk the road of salvation, they may abide in God's will and in His truth and enjoy His blessings.

-It is God's will that we earn enough to provide shelter, food, and clothing for ourselves and our families, and have sufficient to help others and to further the cause of Christ **{Philippians 4:15-19}** *The Philippian church was a missionary church that ministered to Paul's needs during his travels, the support of missionaries in their work for the gospel is honored and accepted by God as [an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing] unto Him. Thus, what we give to the support of a faithful missionary is regarded as an offering brought to God, what is done for one of the least of His brethren is done for the Lord Himself (Mathew 25:40).*

-Although we may pray that God will supply all our needs materially, we must recognize the Bible's teaching that there will be times when God allows a true child of His to experience want or lack. This can occur because of the following:

God may allow us to experience times of need in order to encourage us to trust Him more and to develop our faith, spiritual endurance, and ministry.

We may experience poverty due to national or natural circumstances, such as war, famine, drought, or poor economic or social conditions.

We may experience want and need due to persecution and oppression from the world because of our testimony and service to God.

God's presence, help, and blessing in our physical lives is related to the prosperity of our spiritual lives, we must seek God's will, obey the Holy Spirit. Remain separated from the world, love God's word, seek His help in prayer, work hard, trust Him to supply our needs, and live by the principle of seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.