

CURSES AND BLESSINGS

Part 1—Curses

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I. Some people feel that they are under a curse. Here are some examples:

- a. They are cursed by their genetics. They are too short, too tall. They have a propensity for being fat (endomorphs instead of mesomorphs). They are not athletic. They have a pear shaped body.
- b. Cursed by their upbringing. They were the middle child. Dad left the family. Mom drank too much. Their childhood was unhappy. Kids made fun of them. They were poor.
- c. Cursed by their race or nationality. They were born black. They were born white. They were born of oriental descent. They are old white guys or gals with white privilege.
- d. Cursed by the words of others. They were nick-named “fatty.” Others said things like: “You are worthless. You are not necessary. You are stupid. You are lazy. You are fired.”
- e. Cursed by what their relatives did. Grandfather was executed for murder. My brother was a thief. Dad ran around. Mom deserted me.
- f. Cursed by their own words. “I hate the way I look; I am a klutz. Bad things always happen to me. I can’t seem to do anything right”.
- g. Actually cursed by a witch or a sorcerer. (It does happen.)

II. An *undeserved* Curse

- a. Prov. 26:2—Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, so a curse without cause shall not alight.
- b. My advice—Do not invite an undeserved curse into your life by giving it a place to rest or alight. Stop repeating it. Forgive the sender of the curse. Tell the curse to shoo away. It has no place with you. It is like a bird trying to land and make a nest in your hair. Shoo it away.

III. The *deserved* Curse.

- a. We are all have deserved curses in our life. Sin is a curse.
 1. Rom. 3:23—For we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
 2. Rom. 5:12—Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.

3. For as many who are under the law are under a curse for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the law, to do them.... (Deut. 27:26).

IV. The Cure for the Deserved Curse

a. When you came to Christ, Jesus took upon Himself the curses that you deserved. In short, Jesus is the **cure** for your curse.

B. The Old Testament picture or type of this was the Serpent put on the pole. You have seen this sign. The Israelites were plagued by vipers. God told Moses that the cure was to make a bronze snake and put it on a pole and those who looked on the snake on a pole were cured by faith. Christ took your sin. He became the curse for you. He was the snake of your sin and only by looking to Christ can our curse be lifted. Nu. 21:6-9 (Of interest, see the medical sign which is the Rod of Asclepius-which is a snake on a pole.)

c. Jesus redeems us by being the curse for us.

Gal. 3:13—Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written “Cursed is everyone who is hanged upon a tree) (Is. 42:1, 6; 49:6) that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

V. While we are on earth, the battle is not over yet.

a. Satan still steals around. Satan is “The Accuser.” Notice the word “curse is hidden in the word “accuser”. Satan still whispers accusations and curses and words of accusation against God’s people just as he did against “Job.” (At our meeting I pointed out how dangerous a wounded lion can be and Janene contrasted how wounded lion wants to take the place of the Great Lion of Judah who is victorious). See also 1 Peter 5:8 and Rev. 5:5.

b. Book of Job and Revel. 12:10 which says: “Now salvation, and strength and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.”

VI. Here are some things that Christ has given to us so that we can fully participate in his victory over Satan.

a. Know in faith that **Christ through his sacrifice on the cross** has taken all the curses and accusations against you to the cross.

Isaiah 54:17 says: “No weapon formed against you shall prosper.” The Blood of Jesus Christ covers all sins and curses.

b. Christ has given you his **Holy Spirit** to remind you of his word and to warn you of the temptations of the enemy. You have the **sword of the Spirit which is the word** of God to cast down vain imaginations. 2 Cor. 10:3-5. We pull down “vain imaginations.” These accusations sometimes build a wall in us. Through the Holy Spirit, like David we can “climb a wall” or “pull down a wall.” (At our meeting Vincent pointed out that God had given Adam dominion over the fish of the sea. Our thoughts are like fish. God has given us dominion over our thoughts to bring them into control).

c. We have been given the **name and authority of Jesus**. What we bind on earth is bound in heaven and what we loose on earth is loosed in heaven. Matt. 18:18. Part of this binding and loosing is done with our mouth. We can bind and loose through prayer.

d. Christ has given you **faith**. By the shield of faith we can quench the fiery darts of the enemy. (Eph. 6:16)

e. Christ has given us **Forgiveness** for our sins but also the ability to forgive. Forgiveness breaks any bonds between you and the enemy . (Prov. 25:22; Rom 12:20)

i. We do not curse others (Rom 12:4; Luke 6:28)

ii. We are so adept at cursing that have a whole category of language called “Curse Words.”

iii. We speak positively, we do not curse others. We do not sow curses. We sow blessings . And in God’s good time we reap blessings.

f. We **speak the word of God**. We confess all of the promises of God to us. Instead of confessing what Satan says, it is time to begin confessing what the word of God says about me.

Some examples: “I am a new person in Christ Jesus. I am rich in Christ Jesus. I am a child of the king. I walk in forgiveness. I am blessed.

g. Dealing with the body and genetic issues.

i. If I am sick, I pray for healing. I also call for the elders of the church to help me pray. I ask for intercession of prayer warriors and those who faith is strong.

ii. I am still getting old; I still gain weight, I was born with a deformity or and may die with a deformity or an issue. The response of Christ may be to heal me. The response of Christ might also be: Your tent will wear out but guess what: “I have a new body for you and it will not have the defects of the old body. It will not wear out”. We are promised a PHYSICAL RESURRECTION. (Phil. 3:21; 2 Cor. 5:17)

VII. God is out to bless you.

a. The Sorcerer Balaam tried to curse the Israelites three times but was unable to do it. (Numbers 22-24) God has determined that when we receive Christ we will be blessed. He has taken our punishment and the curses levied against us. God has blessed us in Jesus Christ.

(Interestingly the word “curse” and “cures” have the same letters only rearranged. Jesus can turn your curse into cures due to his sovereign power.

b. Next meeting we will discuss blessing and how to give a blessing.

NOTE: This study intentionally omits dealing with the resolution of Exodus 20:5-6 and Exodus 34:7 with the Scriptures in Jeremiah 31: 29-33 and Ezekiel 18:20. However the first set of verses make clear that God is lavish in his mercy to those who turn from hating God to loving God. The verses in Jeremiah and Ezekiel make clear that we are each individually responsible for our own decisions to obey or disobey God. God is always ready to receive those who are willing to turn from disobedience to obedience and from hatred of God to love for God. Both set of verses show God as a God of mercy who desires and even makes it easy to turn and obey His commands.