

## Prosperity & Success Is God's Will For All Believers

It is God's will that all believers be **prosperous** and **successful** in every area of our lives. When I use the words: prosperous and successful I am referring to every realm of existence—spirit, soul, body and financially. When most people think of being prosperous and successful—they mostly think of money. Money is a part of God's prosperity, but it is only one part. It is not enough for us to just be blessed financially. God wants us blessed in everything we do, and every part of our existence.

**Psalm 35:27 (TAB):** Let those who favor my righteous cause and have pleasure in my uprightness shout for joy and be glad and say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, Who **takes pleasure in the prosperity of His servant**.

**Joshua 1:8 (TAB):** This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe and do according to all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely and have good success.

**Deut. 8:17 & 18 (TAB):** 17And beware lest you say in your [mind and] heart, **My** power and the might of **my** hand have gotten me this wealth. But you shall [earnestly] remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you power to get wealth, **that He may establish His covenant** which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day

**3 John 2 (TAB):** Beloved, I pray that you may prosper **in every way** and [that your body] may keep well, even as [I know] **your soul** keeps well and prospers.

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*These verses show that it is God's will to prosper us. Why? That we might establish His Covenant (reach others for Jesus) and be a blessing to others in whatever area that they need a blessing as the Lord leads us to bless them.*

*God wants us to prosper, and be successful in every area of life; **but** our success and prosperity is in direct proportion to the prosperity and success of our **soul**. What is John trying to tell us here? He's saying: "If our soul is not prosperous and successful then the rest of us will not be prosperous and successful." What does the Bible say is our soul? How do we make our soul prosperous and successful?*

***Soul**—is the mind, the will and the emotions of a person. It is the part of us that gives of ourselves or **decides to do something**. For example, When we decide to allow God's Word to be the final say for the choices we make. When we decide to make a life long commitment of marriage to our future spouse. These are acts of our will or our soul.*

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### How To Have A Prosperous & Successful Soul

#### 1. Make God's Word The Measuring Stick For All Decisions We Make

**Psalm 119:105 (TAB):** Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

**Psalm 119:11 (TAB):** Your word have I laid up in my heart, that I might not sin against You.

*We need to make a quality, **permanent** decision that God's Word will be first place, final authority for everything we **say, do, see and think**.*

#### 2. Change Our Way of Thinking

**Romans 12:1&2 (TAB):** I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, **to make a decisive dedication of your bodies** [**presenting all your members**

**and faculties]** as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], **but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind** [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].

**Romans 6:11 (TAB):** Even so **consider yourselves** also dead to sin and your relation to it broken, but alive to God [**living in unbroken fellowship with Him**] in Christ Jesus. Let not sin therefore rule as king in your mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies, to make you yield to its cravings and be subject to its lusts and evil passions.

**2 Cor. 10:3-6 (TAB):** For though we walk (live) in the flesh, we are not carrying on our warfare according to the flesh and using mere human weapons. For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God **for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds**, [Inasmuch as we] **refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God**; and **we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ** (the Messiah, the Anointed One), Being in readiness to punish every [insubordinate for his] disobedience, when your own submission and obedience [as a church] are fully secured and complete.

*We need to submit our lives to God to live as He would want us to live. We need to **see ourselves the way God says we are—free from sin.** We also have the power to not allow the enemy to put negative and sinful thoughts into our minds.*

### 3. Change The Way We Talk

**Proverbs 20:24 & 26 (TAB):** Put away from you false and dishonest speech, and willful and contrary talk put far from you. Let your eyes look right on [with fixed purpose], and let your gaze be straight before you. Consider well the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established and ordered aright.

**Proverbs 18:20 & 21 (TAB):** A man's [moral] self shall be filled **with the fruit of his mouth; and with the consequence of his words he must be satisfied [whether good or evil]**. Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it [for death or life].

**Matthew 12:33-37 (TAB):** Either make the tree sound (healthy and good), and its fruit sound (healthy and good), or make the tree rotten (diseased and bad), and its fruit rotten (diseased and bad); **for the tree is known and recognized and judged by its fruit**. You offspring of vipers! How can you speak good things when you are evil (wicked)? **For out of the fullness (the overflow, the superabundance) of the heart the mouth speaks**. The good man from his inner good treasure flings forth good things, and the evil man out of his inner evil storehouse flings forth evil things. But I tell you, on the day of judgment men will have to give account for every idle (inoperative, nonworking) word they speak. **For by your words you will be justified and acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned and sentenced.**

*We need to speak like God speaks. We do this by speaking God's Word instead of and into our circumstances—expecting His Word to cause our circumstances to come into line with the Word of God. (See also: James 3:1-11)*

### 4. Talk With & Listen To The Lord Daily

**Proverbs 16:1-3 (TAB):** THE PLANS of the mind and orderly thinking belong to man, but from the Lord comes the [wise] answer of the tongue. All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes,

but the Lord weighs the spirits (the thoughts and intents of the heart). Roll your works upon the Lord [**commit and trust them wholly to Him; He will cause your thoughts to become agreeable to His will**, and] so shall your plans be established and succeed.

*When we allow God's Word to be first place in our lives, it will change the way we think, and speak. He will cause us to think in line with His will and Word. Therefore, the plans that we have will be His plans and all that we do will prosper and succeed. Our plans are only unsuccessful when they are **our** plans and not **His** plans for us.*

## 5. Allow God's Love To Guide Our Actions

**Matthew 22:36-40 (TAB):** Teacher, **which kind of commandment is great and important** (the principal kind) in the Law? [Some commandments are light--which are heavy?] And He replied to him, **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind** (intellect). This is the great (most important, principal) and first commandment. **And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as [you do] yourself.** These two commandments **sum up and upon them depend all the Law and the Prophets.**

*We need to walk in love—or allow love to teach us how to think, speak and act. Remember that faith works **through love**. We can have all the faith in the world, but if love is not alive in our lives—our faith and words are worthless. They will not produce prosperity and success in our lives if love is not functioning in us.*

## 6. Guard Our Hearts: Where Our Boundaries or Limitations Are Set

**Proverbs 4:20-26 (NKJV):** My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; **Keep them in the midst of your heart;** For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, **For out of it spring the issues of life.**

*The word **issues** means the boundaries (limitations) or the limits in which **we** decide the extent of our prosperity and success. In order to change these boundaries or expand our limitations, we need to see ourselves as prosperous, successful, free from evil, and see ourselves being loving toward others. We can **only** prosper and succeed **to the degree that we can see ourselves prosperous and successful.** **We** are the ones who set the limits on our prosperity and success—not God! The boundaries or limitations for our lives is determined by the limits we have set or allowed to be set in our hearts, and souls.*

**However**, this can all change if we simply begin to follow the 6 points that we have discussed in this message: *God's Word—first place, think like God thinks, speak like God speaks, talk & listen to Him daily, allow God's love to guide us, protect what we allow into our heart and soul.*