

First Baptist Poinciana
Spiritual Warfare Series
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The Demonic Strategy of Poverty

The opposite of a curse in the Bible is a _____

A Curse is when:

Difficulties - Distress - Illness - Shortage - or other negative issue rests continually on an individual or family.

Many families and churches experience this curse of poverty - the spirit of poverty operates by using unexpected shortages to generate fear.

Fear - will often bring other tormenting spirits (demonic presence)

This spirit of FEAR also brings with it: (Detect)

Depression - Because you're always fearing the worse.

Lack of Motivation - You are scared/fearful to move forward

Quarreling - Your fear always wants to spread to others and this leads to arguments and misunderstanding.

Despair - The end of the line is the spirit of despair that comes over the person being attacked by the spirit of fear. Hope seems lost and this is when most will "throw in the towel"

Remember - The strategy of poverty is to generate FEAR.

Poverty is the strategy of Satan to create this fear

Isaiah 41:10 - God is with you, God loves you, God will uphold you, Don't be anxious. Stop trying to do what only God can do.

In this view of poverty - even the wealthy are fearful that they will lose their wealth, so they do not tithe nor give as they should.

The opposite of a curse is a **BLESSING**.

IF GOD HAS BLESSED YOU WITH WEALTH OR WORLDLY POSSESSIONS: (Deactivate)

1. Don't be _____ of your accomplishments. (Deut.8:18, Prov. 10:22)
2. Don't put your _____ in your wealth or your possessions.
3. Trust the "Living God" to _____ for your future.
4. _____ What you Have, but do not hoard.
5. _____ what you have with others.

Freedom (Demolishing) the Spirit of Poverty

Those who feel cursed - whether of shortage or fear of losing what you have, what is the way out? How can the curse be cast down and the blessings come to your life? The answers to these questions can be found in Psalm 112. The responses will stop negative forces of the enemy and release the positive flow of blessings from God.

1. Awe Before the Lord. (Ps. 112:1)

"Praise the Lord! Happy is the man who fears the Lord." Ps. 112:1

- 🌐 Fear is not cringing but a reverence towards the Great I Am.
- 🌐 Are you submitted in reverence to the Lord Who keeps all of His promises, and is the covenant keeping God.

2. Joyful Obedience to the Lord's Commands. (Ps. 112:1b)

"...taking great delight in His commands" Ps. 112:1b

- 🌐 We do not cringe or object to following the Lord's commands
- 🌐 When God says "Thou shalt not" we know from our heart that God is saying "Do not hurt your self in this way, this will harm you"
- 🌐 When God gives positive words it always means blessings and means "Help Yourself to Happiness" - GOD wants you to have a happy and abundant life.
- 🌐 God cannot bless what you will not release to Him.
- 🌐 In the area of tithing and offerings - The book of **Malachi (3:10)** reminds us that when we follow God's command on giving that He will open heaven and pour on us blessings that we will not have room to receive. Tithe literally means 10%. Anything above that is an offering, of which God is well pleased. God has given you all that you have, He is asking for 10% back and this goes towards furthering His kingdom works, Kingdom Hands doing the work, Temple (Facility upkeep), and the training of more people to enter the mission field. By the way. He lets you keep 90%

3. Expect a Better Future - HOPE! (Ps. 112:3)

Wealth and riches are in his house and his righteousness endures forever (v3)

- 🌐 God brings hope - as we seek to please God, through the righteousness of Christ Jesus; our blessings will increase and endure forever.

4. God Guides Us Through Dark Times (Ps. 112:4)

Light shines in the darkness for the upright (v4)

- 🌐 When we are experiencing times of Darkness (fear, curse, etc) God promises wisdom to make the right decisions at difficult moments.
- 🌐 Learn to look to God for this direction - not friends, or even family.
- 🌐 PW paraphrase " Jehoshaphat said - God we don't know what to do, but our eyes are fixed on you" (**2 Chron. 20:12**)
- 🌐 Keep your Eyes on God at all times - He will direct you. (**Pro. 3:6**)

4. Be Gracious and Generous (Ps. 112:4-5,9)

*Light shines in the darkness for the upright.
He is gracious, compassionate, and righteous.
Good will come to the one who lends generously
and conducts his business fairly.
He distributes freely to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.
His horn will be exalted in honor.*

- 🌐 The person is blessed and not cursed by the spirit of poverty because they have a generous / giving spirit.
- 🌐 They lend / give freely to those in need. They give by dispersing abroad to the needy in the Kingdom (community, church, etc)
- 🌐 One of the keys to unlocking Heaven's blessings on your life is:
Give, and it will be given to you; a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over—will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.” Luke 6:38

5. Live by FAITH, not FEAR. (Ps. 112:7-8)

He will not fear bad news; his heart is confident, trusting in the Lord. His heart is assured; he will not fear. In the end he will look in triumph on his foes. (7-8)

- 🌐 The blessed person that is not “looking for the curse by fear in their heart” - does not operate on the -earthly, physical realm- | they are not basing their decisions on the latest news, wall street reports, or even the 6 o'clock news reports.
- 🌐 We refuse to live a life conquered by fear that has been demonically placed on our lives. We refuse to be intimidated by the enemy.
- 🌐 The person living in, and exercising faith in the spirit of blessings NOT curses will not allow anything to block the work of God.
- 🌐 Even when it's difficult to see - we know that no matter what the enemy does, God will turn it for our good. **(Romans 8:28)**

6. Allow God to be Glorified - In all that we do. (Ps. 112:9b)

"...his horn will be exalted with honor" (v9b)

- 🌐 The word **HORN** in this passage represents *position*. It states that our "horn will be exalted, or raised to a higher level" - this breaks the curse of the spirit of fear and poverty.
- 🌐 God will put His glory on the blessed individuals and release on them honor and favor.
- 🌐 It is time to say goodbye to the demonic fear of poverty. To demolish it in our lives and in the life of the church. Fear cannot be a factor where God is in absolute control.
- 🌐 Today we cast down the the spirit of fear, poverty, and all the accompanying demonic forces in this spiritual warfare. We will operate in faith - not - fear from this day forward
- 🌐 Today **GOD WILL BREAK THE SPIRIT OF POVERTY IN YOUR LIFE AND IN THE CHURCH.**

God Gave the greatest gift of all. Jesus!

He gave His son, Jesus for each of us - so that we may live a life of blessing and hope through salvation. (John 3:16)

Salvation is a gift - it is freely given. (Eph 2:8)

To fully experience the blessings of God you must have a relationship with Him - and that only happens as we confess our wrongs, and commit our life to God through Christ Jesus. How? Simple.

Romans 10:9 - we place our trust in Christ - we operate in faith, that He has set us free from the curses of this world and is interceding for us now in heaven.

God wants to change your life. Will you let Him?