Destined for Greatness

Galatians 3:9 (TPT) And so the blessing of Abraham's faith is now our blessing too!

Genesis 12:2-3 (NASB) And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; [3] And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

Those who are of faith are blessed with the blessing of Abraham. Have received Abraham's blessing.

What does it mean to be great?

\$\frac{1}{4}\$ gâdal to grow, become great or important, promote, make powerful, praise, magnify, do great things

First thing to know

- Great people DO great things
- Mediocre people DO mediocre things.
- Average people DO average things
- Lazy people DO no thing.

Ephesians 2:10 (AMPC) For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live].

Living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live is directly connected to the doing of the good works which He planned for us.

To be a Great people who do Great things.

One preacher said, "The people of God ought to expect GREAT things form God and attempt GREAT things for God."

If we serve a mediocre God who makes mediocre promises and has mediocre power then we can settle for living mediocre lives and doing mediocre things. BUT...

If we serve a GREAT God who makes GREAT promises and has GREAT power then we must strive to live a GREAT life doing GREAT things.

Everyone say, "I am Destined for GREATNESS!"

That means that God has arranged for you to life a large life. A big, grand and beautiful life.

Notice the sequence:

- 1. I will bless you
- 2. I will make your name great
- 3. You shall be a blessing

We all know that part of Abrahams blessing had to do with prosperity.

People disagree on what it means to prosper - but prosperity isn't really hard to understand.

Basically it means according to expectation, hopes or plans.

In the ancient days, picture Paul, a trip from one side of the Mediterranean sea / Jerusalem to Ephesus would have taken weeks 7-12 weeks.

So when you left you had to take everything you would expect, hope, or plan to need to complete the journey.

When you arrived you may be asked, "Did you have a prosperous journey?"

If everything went as expected you had a prosperous journey. and you arrived you would be

It means to have enough for your journey

But God wants us to be Great and do Great so its not enough to just make it ourselves.

We need to be able to strengthen our fellow travelers.

So when you come across someone who hit an unexpected problem. Ran out of resources and can't make it through the day.

You have more than enough to add to their not enough and together there is enough for us all to make it through to the end.

See when you help your fellow travelers that is a GREAT thing and when you do GREAT things you reveal yourself to be a GREAT person.

God desires that you are great in life.

Considerably above the normal or average.

That you control life, instead of life controlling you.

*NOTE: God did not say, "I will make you famous." There are many who are great but not famous and there are many who are famous and certainly not great.

Too many folks seek fame and are willing to sell their souls & dishonor themselves to gain fame.

Seek greatness and give no thought to fame.

Jesus told the story of a great man. A traveler who came upon another traveler who encountered unexpected problems.

A priest came by and did nothing

A levite came by and did nothing,

But then this Samaritan came by and did a great thing. So great that to this day we have what is called the Good Samaritan LAW

But can any of you tell me the name of the Samaritan?

He did great but he was not famous.

I was sitting with a Pastor in Belfast and he was trying to convince me to go on television in the United Kingdom.

He said, "If you want to be famous you need to be on TV."

He did not know I have no desire to be famous but with every fiber of my being I want to be great.

A great disciple of Christ

- A great husband
- A great friend
- A great pastor
- A great teacher of scripture

AND I CAN BE CAUSE HE DESTINED ME FOR GREATNESS.

2 Samuel 22:30-36 (NASB) "For by You I can run upon a troop; By my God I can leap over a wall. [31] "As for God, His way is blameless; The word of the LORD is tested; He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him. [32] "For who is God, besides the LORD? And who is a rock, besides our God? [33] "God is my strong fortress; And He sets the blameless in His way. [34] "He makes my feet like hinds' feet, And sets me on my high places. [35] "He trains my hands for battle, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. [36] "You have also given me the shield of Your salvation, And **Your help makes me great.**

David was a great leader, great warrior and great psalmist. He declared that "Your help makes me great."

God wants to help you in the same way that He helped David. His help will make you great.

If we don't believe it we won't pursue it, we won't expect it.

We will settle.

I said this off the cuff last week but it need to be repeated.

If I think little of myself (and I'm a Christian) its because I don't think very highly of my God.

There is no getting around this - it cuts through so much of the religious stuff.

If HE is great and I am in HIM and HE is in me than I can't be average.

I just can't!

If I am re-created in HIS image and in HIS likenessHELLO!

Is HE Great or is He mediocre?

Is HE Magnificent or is HE average?

Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions.

Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great

The great have always encountered violent opposition from the mediocre

But just because we are opposed doesn't mean we give in.

We never surrender great dreams to small people - NEVER!

How did God make Abraham great? He gave him great wealth, great respect and great power.

To become great you must believe that you can.

Mark 9:23 (TPT) Jesus said to him, "What do you mean 'if'? If you are able to believe, all things are possible to the believer."

Daniel 11:32 (AMPC) And such as violate the covenant he shall pervert and seduce with flatteries, but the people who know their God shall prove themselves strong and shall stand firm and do exploits [for God].

Dan 11:32 (TLB) But the people who know their God shall be strong and do great things.

The key to greatness is knowing God and taking action.

If you would attain greatness, think no little thoughts

Oral Roberts had on his desk a plaque that read, "MAKE NO LITTLE PLANS HERE."

"The problem is the size of his god."

When you read through your Bible does it say that God is a GREAT God or does it say God is a mediocre God?

Does it say that HE did GREAT signs and wonders or does it say HE did run of the mill, pretty common every day signs and wonders?

Does it say that HE is a GREAT King or a average king?

Life up your eyes - see what your potential is in HIM, through HIM, by HIM He didn't create you for mediocrity.

He didn't create you for average.

He created you with the capacity for Greatness and Destined you for Greatness.

If you will do what God shows you to do, do consistently you will have a great life, great wealth, great name and great respect.

Your opportunity has not passed you by

Its not too late, you've not made too many mistakes and your destiny has not been aborted.

I'll close with a story

"A YOUNG LADY in Europe ran away from home and traveled across the ocean to Tulsa, Oklahoma, just to talk to Daisy and T.L. Osborne.

From childhood, her parents had told her she was stupid, that she could not learn, that she was unattractive, that she could never get a job, that she could never attract a husband.

The more her parents said those things, the more they were engraved in her subconscious, and the more she acted out the part.

This lady had always lived at home where she was dominated by a negative, destructive atmosphere. She became insecure, timid, withdrawn, and subjected.

Her father and mother had succeeded in making a slave of their own daughter—simply by planting negative, destructive seeds in her mind. She was afraid to go out on the street alone. The only work she ever did was scrubbing floors.

She lived as if she had been as stupid as her parents told her she was,

Dr. Osborne wrote that while he was out for his daily jog "I saw on the trail a battered, beaten penny. It was so scarred by the hundreds of vehicles that had rolled over it that you could hardly identify it.

I picked it up and as I held it in my hand, the Lord whispered to me: "That coin is worth as much as a beautiful, brand new, shining penny. Its value is the same. It is like that dear lady from Europe.Go tell her what I have said to you. Though she is scarred and battered by her parents and acquaintances, tell her she is as valuable as the most beautiful lady in Europe."

I took that coin and placed it in her hands and while she looked at it, I gave her God's message. Then while she held it, she repeated after me:

"My life is like this battered coin. But I am as valuable as the most perfect and beautiful person in Europe!"

She promised to keep that coin with her Bible. She purposed that every time anyone would say anything derogatory to her, she would hold that battered coin and say:

"My life is like this battered coin. But I am as valuable as the most perfect and beautiful person in Europe!"

I don't know what you have been through, some of your scars are external but the real ones are internal.

You are valuable as the most perfect and beautiful person in the world

As we close today. I ask you to stand to your feet. And repeat this with me out-loud.

"I am created in God's likeness. I am somebody important in God's eyes. He believes in me. He loves me and needs me. I am part of His plan. God loves me as much as He loves anyone else."

You are destined for greatness, so decide today to be great.