

# Blessed Part 6 2022

ACT LIKE YOUR ALREADY BLESSED

## Central Truth: FAITH Without Action Is Dead

We here we are again.

Throwing open the gates, walking into a Garden where everything thing flourishes, and anything is possible.

Where life can be, ought to be, and will be what God desired when HE fashioned all of this. Before sin ruined the GREAT BIG plan of God.

There is nothing small about God Nothing small about the plans, purposes and pursuits of God and nothing small about his people

Never confine your blessings by saying, "I'm reasonably blessed."

- What's reasonable about the Love of God?
- What's reasonable about the Grace of God?

There is nothing reasonable about your salvation.

You are unconditionally loved, outrageously loved, immeasurably loved,

You are outrageously blessed, immeasurably blessed,

Never limit your love relationship with Christ to the reasonable.

**Let it be outrageous because when it is outrageous then it becomes contagious.**

I know that this teaching has caused some conflict within some of you.

**\*text from RLC member**

*Morning sir! Question. Hard to ask. Am I living up to God's desire for my life  
[REDACTED] I'm drawn closer to Him, which is my biggest  
desire, but, [REDACTED] I have **little** desires or dreams according  
to the world (and I think , sometimes the churches standards)*

*I have no desire to reach nations , to drive a Lamborghini or live in Montebello. Preach or own another business.*

*Am I on target for me? Or am I broken?*

*My joy comes from His Presence and walking in that Joy and Wisdom through my day! And I feel blessed beyond measure, way past where I began!*

*Thanks for listening. I'm in tears as I write. I do not want to let Abba down!*

*I'm going to hit send while I can, and hope the spelling is correct!*

**Conflict: I rejoice to be made aware that my sermons cause conflict within you. They better, because if they don't then I am not doing a good job.**

Without conflict there can be no change. All change involves conflict.

The conflict can be destructive or constructive - it all depends on your response

If you pull back from the conflict to a place of comfort, back to the influence of the familiar then God finds no pleasure within you. (Heb 10:38-39 (NASB) [38] BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM. [39] But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have FAITH to the preserving of the soul.)

But if at that place where we encounter the conflict we are positioned to embrace the change

The answer to the questions "Am I on target or am I broken" are both yes.

All of us have been broken and HE puts us back together. He is our high tower, our place of safety - but HE is also our sender (sent ones). He infuses us and then sends us as diffusers.

When we spend times in HIS presence HE will impart to us a dream so vast, so grand, so large that we won't be able to do it in our lifetimes.

It'll take the next generation building on our foundation to bring it to fruition.

Not about fame, fortune. It'll always be about making the world a better place.

Expect great things from God and attempt great things for God.

## **Central Truth: FAITH Without Action Is Dead**

**To Activate the Blessing ACT as if you were already blessed.**

James 2:14 (AMPC) 14 What is the use (profit), my brethren, for anyone to profess to have FAITH if he has no [good] works [to show for it]? Can [such] FAITH save [his soul]?

One of the greatest mistakes many believers make is to confess their FAITH in the Word of God and at the same time contradict their confession by wrong [no action] actions.

We say that we are trusting God to provide for our financial needs, but at the same time we are worrying about how we're going to pay our bills. There is no corresponding action there.

One minute we confess that the Word of God is true, and the very next moment we abandon everything we say by wrong actions.

Our actions have to correspond with our believing if we are to receive from God.

James 2:14-22 (AMPC)

14 What is the use (profit), my brethren, for anyone to profess to have FAITH if he has no **[good] works** [to show for it]? Can [such] FAITH save [his soul]?

\*Created unto Good Works Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for **good works**, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them. / Mat 5:16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your **good works**, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

15 If a brother or sister is poorly clad and lacks food for each day,

16 And one of you says to him, Good-bye! Keep [yourself] warm and well fed, without giving him the necessities for the body, what good does that do?

\*In order to meet the need we MUST be Blessed - and from what James is writing its apparent that it is expected that the believer will be so blessed as to be able to meet the need every time.

17 So also FAITH, if it does not have works (deeds and actions of obedience to back it up), by itself is destitute of power (inoperative, dead).

18 But someone will say [to you then], You [say you] have FAITH, and I have [good] works. Now you show me your [alleged] FAITH apart from any [good] works [if you can], and I by [good] works [of obedience] will show you my FAITH.

Do you see what is happening here? James was addressing Christians who had lost something special.

They had sunk down to a level where their FAITH was lip service and church attendance but little else.

James hits them hard!

James was no light weight. He was the brother of Jesus (half), as such he had known Jesus his whole life.

He was the pastor of the first church of Jerusalem.

His voice carried authority.

19 You believe that God is one; you do well. So do the demons believe and shudder [in terror and horror such as make a man's hair stand on end and contract the surface of his skin]!

FAITH that never morphs into action, never alters character or conduct is not only worthless its the same "FAITH" that the devil has.

The devil believes, but what he believes doesn't change his behavior.

**The behavior of the devil is not aligned with what he knows about God.**

- He knows that God is love, but he doesn't love
- He knows that God is good, but he isn't good
- He knows that God is merciful, but he isn't merciful.

- He knows that God is quick to forgive, but he never forgives.

Jas 4:17 (NASB) Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Jas 4:17 (TPT) So if you know of an opportunity to do the right thing today, yet you refrain from doing it, you're guilty of sin.

If we say we believe, but it doesn't change our conduct - we are kinda, similar to the devil. BAM!

That's brutal!

Sometimes we need brutal honesty.

20 Are you willing to be shown [proof], you foolish (unproductive, spiritually deficient) fellow, that FAITH apart from [good] works is inactive and ineffective and worthless?

- FAITH without works cannot be called FAITH
- FAITH without works is dead and a dead FAITH is worse than no FAITH at all
- FAITH must work; it must produce; it must be visible / verbal FAITH is not enough / mental FAITH is insufficient
- Verbal FAITH must be there but it must be more; it must inspire your action
- James a half brother of Jesus the pastor of the first church of Jerusalem is not talking about theological FAITH or doctrine of FAITH we're not going to change the world or even our world with hard to understand theology or elaborate doctrine; we must have practical FAITH that works in any environment and at all times this kind of FAITH is what James would call true FAITH / true FAITH always manifest itself
- FAITH endures trials; trials come and go but a strong FAITH will face them head on and become even stronger
- FAITH understands temptations it will not allow us to cave-in to lust or slide into sin

- FAITH obeys the Word it will not merely hear and not do
- FAITH produces doers!
- FAITH tolerates no prejudice / FAITH and favoritism cannot coexist
- FAITH displays itself in good works
- FAITH acts wisely it gives us the ability to choose wisdom that is heavenly to do away with wisdom that is earthly
- FAITH produces and FAITH separates and FAITH stands unchanged
- FAITH controls the tongue
- FAITH is more than your words it is more than knowledge it is demonstrated by obedience and it openly and courageously responds to the promises of God
- FAITH changes our behavior
- FAITH wins
- FAITH makes the truth of God our daily reality

**If we want to experience the blessing, activate the blessing we must act blessed.**

But Pastor isn't that just faking it if I don't FEEL blessed?

What do feelings have to do with. We don't act according to our feelings - we act according to our faith.

We mimic those who lived before us.

Jesus patterned HIS life after HIS model the Father

If you have seen ME you have seen the Father

I don't do anything, say anything less I see the Father do it or hear the Father say it

Then Paul says act like me.

1Co 11:1 (NASB) Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.

Copy my behavior and actions

So I will say it again: If you want to activate the Blessing act Blessed

So how do the Blessed act

1. **Blessed people are passionate about the presence of God** - spiritual apathy leads to natural decline.

Blessed people know where their favor comes from. Throughout the scripture we see a correlation between the spiritual fervor of the people and the material blessings they enjoyed.

If you want to be blessed turn up and tune up your praise.

\* Don't feel hungry. God spoke to me very clearly and said, "hunger is not a feeling it is a decision."

2. **Blessed people are courageous because they are fearless.** - Blessed people are never intimidated. **2Ti 1:7 (NASB) For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.**

- Lions?
- Tigers?
- Bears?

Blessed people know that no weapon formed against them can work, no enemy can succeed and no scheme can stop them.

Actually it is of blessed people that some of our favorite scriptures were written.

**Isa 54:17 (NASB) "No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. ....**

**Deu 28:13 (NASB) "The LORD will make you the head and not the tail, and you only will be above, and you will not be underneath, ....**

**Deu 28:7 (NLT) "The LORD will conquer your enemies when they attack you. They will attack you from one direction, but they will scatter from you in seven!**

All written about and for Blessed people - none of these were written about cursed people.

3. **Blessed people are happy people** - joy is a state, happiness is a choice.

Blessed people choose to be happy because they know that they are blessed.

The blessing is not dependent upon their circumstances - so even when circumstances

Psa 4:7 (NASB) You have put gladness in my heart,...

Psa 92:4 (NASB) For You, O LORD, have made me glad by what You have done, I will sing for joy at the works of Your hands.

Isa 61:7 (NASB) Instead of your shame you will have a double portion, And instead of humiliation they will shout for joy over their portion. Therefore they will possess a double portion in their land, Everlasting joy will be theirs.

Isa 61:10 (NASB) I will rejoice greatly in the LORD, My soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness,...

4. **Blessed people are generous people** - showing a readiness to give more of something, as money or time, than is strictly necessary or expected

Blessed people are always outward focused.

5. **Blessed people are a enterprising, take-charge, energetic, driven, bold, dynamic, motivated, go-ahead people**

Psa 1:3 (NASB) He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

Deu 28:8 (CEV) The LORD your God is giving you the land, and he will make sure you are successful in everything you do. Your harvests will be so large that your storehouses will be full.

6. **Blessed people are winners** - the children never lost a battle, not one, while the blessing was activated in their lives.
7. **Blessed people are healthy** - Psa 105:37 (MKJV) He also brought them out with silver and gold; and there was not one feeble [lacking physical strength, especially as a result of age or illness] person among their tribes.

Exo 23:25 (NASB) "But you shall serve the LORD your God, and He will bless your bread and your water; and I will remove sickness from your midst.

Isa 33:24 (NASB) And no resident will say, "I am sick"; The people who dwell there will be forgiven their iniquity.

8. **Blessed people are rich** - Pro 10:22 (NASB) It is the blessing of the LORD that makes rich, And He adds no sorrow to it.

2Co 9:8 (AMPC) And God is able to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation].

### **Never elevate experience over scripture**

Well my daddy loved the lord and served Jesus his whole life without ever being rich.

I understand that, I appreciate that and no disrespect to your daddy - but the Bible still says what it says

I know of people who died of illness but the Bible still says what it says

If its written our uncertainty is unnecessary

To activate the blessing act passionate, act courageous, act happy, act generous, act like a winner, act healthy, act energetic, act rich.