

Deuteronomy 28:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Analysis

The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. God actively commands blessing - not passive permission but divine decree that prosperity shall attend the obedient. This emphasizes God's sovereignty in bestowing favor.

Blessing on storehouses ensures preservation of harvested abundance. It's not enough merely to produce; the produce must be preserved from spoilage, theft, and pests. God's comprehensive blessing covers both production and preservation.

The phrase all that thou settest thine hand unto extends blessing to every endeavor. Whatever lawful work the covenant-faithful undertake receives divine favor. This isn't limited to religious activities but encompasses all vocational pursuits.

Reformed theology affirms common grace whereby God blesses human endeavor generally, but covenant blessing involves special favor on those in relationship with Him through faith.

Historical Context

Storehouses held grain, oil, wine, and dried fruit - the accumulated wealth of agricultural society. Blessing on storage meant abundance remained intact rather than being lost to decay, vermin, or theft.

The comprehensiveness (all you set your hand to) demonstrated that covenant relationship affected every aspect of life and work.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What does God commanding blessing teach about His sovereignty in bestowing favor?
2. How does blessing on both production and preservation demonstrate comprehensive provision?
3. Why is blessing not limited to religious activities but extends to all lawful work?
4. What is the difference between common grace and covenant blessing?
5. How should covenant blessing on all endeavors shape our view of vocation?

Interlinear Text

יִצַּו	יְהוָה	אֶתְּךָ	אֶת	הַבְּרֵכָה	הַ	בְּאֵסֹמֶי יָדְךָ
shall command	The LORD	H854	H853	the blessing		upon thee in thy storehouses
H6680	H3068			H1293		H618
וּבְכָל ל	מְשָׁלָה	יָדְךָ	וְיִבְרֶכְךָ			
H3605	and in all that thou settest	thine hand	unto and he shall bless			
	H4916	H3027	H1288			
בְּאֶרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	נָתַן	לָּךְ	
thee in the land	H834	The LORD	thy God	giveth	H0	
H776		H3068	H430	H5414		

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 15:10 (Blessing): Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto.

Leviticus 26:10 (Parallel theme): And ye shall eat old store, and bring forth the old because of the new.

Psalms 133:3 (Sin): As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

Matthew 6:26 (Parallel theme): Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Luke 12:18 (Parallel theme): And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

Psalms 42:8 (References God): Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

Leviticus 25:21 (Sin): Then I will command my blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth fruit for three years.

Psalms 144:13 (Parallel theme): That our garners may be full, affording all manner of store: that our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets:

2 Kings 6:27 (References Lord): And he said, If the LORD do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the barnfloor, or out of the winepress?

Haggai 2:19 (Blessing): Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless you.

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