

Deuteronomy 29:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.

Analysis

Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do. The exhortation keep...the words of this covenant demands careful attention to covenant obligations. Prosperity depends on covenant faithfulness - obedience and blessing are inseparably linked in the Mosaic economy.

The dual command keep...and do connects knowing and doing, hearing and obeying. Mere knowledge of God's requirements without obedient action is insufficient. James later teaches that faith without works is dead.

The purpose that ye may prosper in all that ye do promises comprehensive success to the obedient. This is not health-and-wealth gospel promising automatic prosperity, but covenant blessing promising that faithful obedience results in flourishing.

Reformed theology maintains that while believers are not under Mosaic covenant, the principle that righteousness leads to blessing remains true spiritually and often temporally.

Historical Context

Deuteronomy repeatedly connects obedience with blessing and disobedience with curse. This covenant operates on conditional blessing principle - do this and live.

Israel's history validated this - faithful kings (David, Hezekiah, Josiah) experienced prosperity; wicked kings brought disaster.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does the connection between keeping and doing teach about genuine faith?
2. How are obedience and prosperity linked in covenant framework?
3. What is the difference between covenant blessing and prosperity gospel?
4. How does the principle that righteousness leads to blessing apply to Christians?
5. Why is comprehensive success (all that ye do) promised rather than selective blessing?

Interlinear Text

פֶּתַח אֶת שְׁמַרְתָּה מִזְבְּחָתִים

Keep

H853

therefore the words

H1697

פֶּתַח יְהָוָה

of this covenant

H1285

פֶּתַח אֶת

H2063

and do

H6213

לְמַעַן אַתָּה מִתְּשַׁקֵּילוּ

H853

H4616

them that ye may prosper

H7919

אַתָּה כָּל אֶת

H853

H3605

אַתָּה כָּל אֶת

H834

and do

H6213

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 4:6 (Parallel theme): Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all

these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.

1 Kings 2:3 (Word): And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:

Luke 11:28 (Word): But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

Joshua 1:7 (Word): Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

Deuteronomy 29:1 (Covenant): These are the words of the covenant, which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, beside the covenant which he made with them in Horeb.

Psalms 25:10 (Covenant): All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Jeremiah 50:5 (Covenant): They shall ask the way to Zion with their faces thitherward, saying, Come, and let us join ourselves to the LORD in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten.