

Deuteronomy 7:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he swore unto thy fathers to give thee.

Analysis

God's blessing encompasses comprehensive flourishing: relational ('love thee'), spiritual ('bless thee'), numerical ('multiply thee'), and material prosperity (agricultural abundance). The Hebrew *barak* ('bless') means to endue with power for success and prosperity. The detailed list—womb, land, corn, wine, oil, cattle, sheep—shows God's care extends to every area of life. This is covenant blessing, not prosperity gospel—obedience brings flourishing, but suffering may also serve God's purposes. The land 'which he swore unto thy fathers' grounds blessing in God's covenant promise, not human merit. In Christ, believers inherit spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:3) and experience God's provision (Philippians 4:19), though material prosperity isn't guaranteed in this age.

Historical Context

Ancient Israel's agricultural economy made fertility, crop yield, and livestock productivity central to survival and prosperity. Canaan was 'a land flowing with milk and honey' (Exodus 3:8), capable of abundance when blessed by God. However, the land's fertility depended on rainfall (not river irrigation like Egypt), making dependence on God's blessing more immediate. The promised abundance would be fulfilled during Solomon's reign (1 Kings 4:20, 25), demonstrating God's

faithfulness. Later disobedience brought drought, famine, and agricultural failure as covenant curses (Deuteronomy 28:23-24).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How should you understand material blessing as both gift from God and test of your heart's priorities?
2. In what ways are you seeking God's blessing while neglecting covenant obedience?
3. How does the New Testament expand your understanding of blessing beyond material prosperity?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵה בָּרַךְ	וְיִבֹרֶךְ	וְהִרְבֵּה בָּרַךְ	וְיִבֹרֶךְ	וּפְרִי		
And he will love	thee and bless	thee and multiply	thee and bless	and the fruit		
H157	H1288	H7235	H1288	H6529		
בְּטֶנְךָ	וּפְרִי	הָאֲדָמָה	דָּג נָךְ	וְתִירֹשְׁךָ	וַיִּצְהָרְךָ	
of thy womb	and the fruit	in the land	thy corn	and thy wine	and thine oil	
H990	H6529	H127	H1715	H8492	H3323	
שִׁגְרֹךְ	אֶלְפֵי יָךְ	וְעֶשְׂתָּרֹת	צֹאן בָּרַךְ	עַל	הָאֲדָמָה	אֲשֶׁר
the increase	of thy kine	and the flocks	of thy sheep	H5921	in the land	H834
H7698	H504	H6251	H6629		H127	
נִשְׁבַּע ע	לְאֲבֹתַי יָךְ	לָתֵת	לָךְ:			
which he swore	unto thy fathers	to give	H0			
H7650	H1	H5414				

Additional Cross-References

John 14:21 (Love): He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

John 15:10 (Love): If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

Job 42:12 (Blessing): So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.

Proverbs 10:22 (Blessing): The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

Exodus 23:25 (Blessing): And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

Matthew 6:33 (Parallel theme): But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

John 16:27 (Love): For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

Deuteronomy 28:11 (Parallel theme): And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

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