

BLESSINGS AND CURSES

Some Christians fail to understand why in spite of everything they do their children turn against them and against God and walk straight into destruction. Others accept the Lord gladly, grow spiritually for a while, then find they are no longer able to maintain a close relationship with the Lord. They seem to be unable to read and study their Bibles or pray, and eventually they give up interest and fall away. Still others struggle their whole lives with an on-again, off-again walk with the Lord never able to establish and maintain a consistent walk with Him.

Then there are those believers who battle year after year with all sorts of illnesses and catastrophic accidents. No matter how much they pray, believe, or attend healing services, nothing changes or improves in their lives. The conflict just continues without any resolution or any revelation from the Lord as to the reason for the lack of victory.

Countless families are plagued by conditions such as mental illness, suicides, alcoholism, addictions such as drugs, physical illness, divorce, incest, and poverty. Often, even those who come to the Lord are unable to break the endless cycle of devastation within their own families.

These discouraging situations may result from a number of factors, but a frequently overlooked reason is a curse on the person's life or family that has never been broken.

The Word has a lot to say about blessings and curses. As an example, in Deut. 28 God gives us a list of blessings and curses. The first 14 verses of the chapter give us the blessings that would come on us and our families when we are obedient to His Word. From verses 15 through 68 He gives us a list of curses that would come on us and our families when we are disobedient to His Word.

I have heard it said many times, "why did God do this to me or my loved one?" We are blaming the wrong one. John 10:10 tells us that the thief comes to rob, destroy and kill but I (Jesus) came that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Most of us don't realize the reason for blessings and curses that God put in His Word. Consider the following Quote:

THE PURPOSE OF A CURSE FROM GOD IS TO PROTECT THE TERMS OF HIS COVENANT WITH HIS PEOPLE BY EXPRESSING THE PENALTIES THAT WOULD BE EXACTED ON THEM IF AND WHEN THEY VIOLATED THE COVENANT.

We do it to ourselves by the decisions that we make that determine our destiny.

Now, I know we are under a better covenant with better promises and I know Jesus made provision for curses to be broken (Gal. 3:13-14) but just as salvation is not automatic the breaking of curses is not automatic but the provision is there as we enter in by faith.

I believe, we, whether we are Christians or not, when we follow the doctrines of the god of this world (world system) we can come under a lot of bondage that keeps us from being all that God would have us be.

In counseling I am aware of a need to check myself out quite often to keep myself a clean vessel. I know that I am vulnerable just as most of you.

We, the body of Christ, have a tremendous opportunity and responsibility to fulfill the plans and purposes that He has given to each of us.