

SERMON DATE • MARCH 24, 2024

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JIM BAKER

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

MESSAGE THEME

We Have a Generous Father

PRAYER FOCUS

Father, I humbly ask for Your gracious hand of blessing to be upon me. Through Your abundance, I want to convey Your love and compassion to those around me. I'm grateful for Your continued provision, which enables me to fulfill Your purpose for my life. Thank You for Your unending kindness and generosity. In Jesus' Name, amen.

KEY TRUTHS

Jim Baker defines prosperity as follows: "You have no financial debt, and you have more than enough resources to fulfill every divine assignment God has for you and enough left over to help others fulfill theirs."

God desires for us to be healthy and prosperous, but the enemy tries to keep us sick and impoverished. Having a poverty mindset means we only see meager possibilities, and this kind of thinking leads us to feel poor and inadequate. As children of God, we're His heirs, and He wishes for us to succeed. Prosperity starts with *who* we have, not *what* we have. Some believe that prosperous people are selfish. However, true prosperity isn't determined by how much wealth we accumulate but by how much we give away. We can use money to spread the Gospel and provide for those in need, while generosity can also serve as a powerful witness to non-believers.

Our material possessions aren't always an indication of God's blessings, but they can be. Some prioritize wealth and things, while God blesses others to help people in need. To be good stewards, we must first have something *to* steward. We cannot judge someone's harvest without knowing what kind of seeds they've invested in it.

Money is to the natural realm what the anointing is to the spiritual realm; it's a means to produce results. Our security and confidence should come from God, not when we increase our resources. Replacing our need for God with money is not good. We should never confuse the resource with its source. Our Heavenly Father can take better care of us than anyone else. Our motive matters more than the amount we give.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

When we feel anxious, we often imagine and fear that God won't be enough to help us through. However, God is always sufficient to help us in any situation. The next time you feel anxious about finances, remember that God takes care of the birds; they never go hungry or worry about how they'll get by. Are you not much more valuable than they? (Matthew 6:26-27)

REFERENCE VERSES

- Genesis 26:12-13
- Matthew 6:33, 6:24-26
- 2 Corinthians 9:8
- Psalms 67:1-2
- Proverbs 25:22
- 1 Peter 5:7

DECLARATIONS

I don't need greater wealth to gain a deeper understanding of God. I am blessed, and I'm a blessing to others. No one can take better care of me than my Father.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Now it's time to write down anything the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, thank Him, and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.