

Grace And Peace Be Yours

“Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in His ways. You will eat the fruit of your labour; blessing and prosperity will be yours. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots round your table. Thus is the man blessing who fears the Lord.” (Psalm 128:1-4)

How beautiful it is to live in a home full of love, joy, peace, blessings and prosperity. Living in a secured atmosphere is the optimum of everyone for his own personal life or within the context of his family. But, is it attainable?

When we speak about a family living in peace, success and prosperity, we only imagine the fiction story that we see in movies; a family of husband and wife and their children who are living with abundance and everything in order. The intellectual husband is the one who supplies all the needs for the house, his wife and children. His job is stable and his diligence is honoured. The beautiful wife enjoys the love of her husband, and she is respecting him and submitting to him. She is caring for the children, looking after them, cooking best food; clothe them with linen and wool, teaching them good manners and overseeing their education. In the same family we find the children obeying their parents, loving each other, obeying every rule at home, smart in their studies, polite and decent to everyone. The family is living without debts and they don't borrow or enslave by loans. They are not only stable economically but they are physically fit and upright. They are all healthy and have high resistance for sickness. They live in peace with everyone in the neighbourhood and build good friendships.

What is the way to reach this ideal family life? How can we be happy and have peace and prosperity in this world while troubles and problems are passing in front of us? How can we reach stability while living in an unstable world? Can we have it if we earn much money? Is the family honoured because the husband is well educated and the wife is beautiful and the children are smart?

This is a famous statement: *“No God, no peace!”* To achieve a life of peace and prosperity we need the Prince of Peace and the God of blessing and grace. We need the Lord Jesus Christ who says, *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14:28)* We need to have the Lord Jesus in our lives and take Him as Master and God for our homes in order to have a life full of abundant blessing, amazing grace and real peace. *All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God.* (please read Deuteronomy chapter 28 from your Bible)

1. “You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.” You and your family will be stable and will be settled comfortably in the city. You will not be threatened to move from one place to another or tempted to find greener land. You will be contented with your living in the place and country the Lord has given you.

2. “The fruit of your womb will be blessed.” You will be happy with other children. The obedience and decency of your children will be reflected by your obedience to God. You will be blessed by their success in their studies, career, and future family life. They will continue to walk in the path of righteousness as you taught them to be obedient to God.

3. “The Lord will grant you abundant prosperity in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground.” The work of your hands will be fruitful and whatever you do, you will prosper. *“The Lord will open the heaven, the storehouse of His bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands.”* As you delight to God, He will support your work with enough resources and continuous provision.

4. “You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none.” You will be free from inadequacy. The Lord will always sustain you, and more than you need you will have. You will not go and beg others or ask men to support you. You will be a blessing to others and your presence among them will please them.

5. “Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed.” Food will always be in abundance in your house. Your home will be open for visitors and people will come to you because they will be drawn by the spirit of God that is in you, that gives you love, peace and joy.

6. “You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.” You will have good reputation and you will gain favour from the people around you. They will offer you help and support you because God will put love and mercy in their hearts.

7. “The Lord will make you the head, not the tail.” You will be the head because the Lord will give you wisdom and understanding of the things to happen because you know God's words and you are near to Him. God will free you as well from many traditions and regulations that pull you down. You will be free from any power that tries to oppress you. You will be moving from the tail to the head. You will be promoted not only because of your good knowledge, performance or achievement but only because of God who will reward you. *“You will be always be at the top, never at the bottom.”*

8. “The Lord will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you.” As you live according to God's word, you will live in peace because God is with you. He is your Deliverer and your Shield. He will always protect you. He will change the heart and the situation of those people who are against you. They will learn to love you as you accept them as friends. Those who plot against you will be put to shame because God is your Avenger. *“They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.”*

My Dear and Beloved: God never fails to keep His promises. It is so pleasant to enjoy all the above mentioned blessings if we obey the Lord's commands. It is God's plan for everyone in this world to live a life full of peace, prosperity and grace. But, God as well wants us to always live a life of holiness and godliness; to fear the Lord and to shun evil. It is God's will that all humans become His children by accepting Jesus as personal Lord and Saviour. In order to receive all the above mentioned blessings we need to go back to God and follow His commands. Do you want to receive the gift of grace and peace?

My prayer: *“Father God in heaven: I come to you in the name of Jesus. Forgive me God that I did not obey Your commands. O Jesus, Lord of peace, today I receive you as a Saviour and Master of my life and my house. Accept me in Your Kingdom and grant me peace and grace. Teach me Your words and keep me walking on Your path, following Your steps and commands. And shower me with all the blessings that You promise to give to those who obey and worship You alone. This is my prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.”*