

5 Keys to Real Prosperity

(Part 3)

3 John 2

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

INTRODUCTION: Review:

Key #1 Prosperity begins with the realization that one needs a Divine Revelation from God!

3 Lessons about Revelation:

1. ALL FORMS OF DIVINE REVELATION POINT US TOWARD A CHANGE IN CONDITION, COMPREHENSION, OR COURSE!
2. REVELATION IS CONNECTED TO THE UNCONDITIONAL GRACE OF GOD!
3. REVELATION SERVES TO INFORM US OF GOD'S FAVOR AND DESIRE TO GO THE EXTRA MILE!

Key #2

Divine Prosperity must accept the fact that you can't rush God!

Genesis 21:1-3

And the LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did unto Sarah as he had spoken.

2 For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

3 And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.

- *God is a god of timing. His will just might take a while! Let's look at some facts about God's timing.*

I. **GOD'S TIMING ISN'T ALWAYS CONNECTED TO OUR CLOCK. HE MOVES HIS WAY TO FULFILL EACH AND EVERY PROMISE.**

And the LORD visited Sarah as he had said,

A. THIS WAS SARAH'S FIRST PERSONAL VISITATION.

1. She had always been in the shadows while Abraham entertained the angels. But this time, God was visiting her!
 2. She was always listening to Abraham talk about his great encounters with the Lord, but now it was her turn to receive a touch from Heaven!
 3. She always had to overhear the word of the Lord but things were changing! (She even laughed at the thought of a miracle in her life but God was moving on her this time!)
- We often feel neglected and left out but God is getting to take us into a season of change! God is getting us ready for an encounter with greatness. But it's all about timing!

B. THIS WAS JUST A CONTINUATION OF GOD'S TOUCH!

1. God had already been at work in Sarah's body. Twenty-five years before God had started to transform her 65 year-old-body into a work of art. (We often fail to see the hand of God at work but that doesn't mean He is not working on us!)
 2. God revived and resurrected Sarah's dead womb! (Age doesn't matter to God. He's in the resurrection business!)
 3. God reached in and healed her barren womb. (Whatever it was that had hindered the childbearing process had been suddenly healed! Why? God is a healing God!)
- Many of you might think it's too late. Your day has passed you by. Well God does think so! He is ready to revive your dead vision and add fruit to your fruitless life! It's your time!

II. **THIS MIRACLE FOLLOWS THE TYPICAL PATTERN OF A FAITH-BASED MIRACLE.** (V.2)

For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

- God has set a pattern in the natural world that flows in harmony with the Spirit-man. Natural birth is a wonderful miracle and faith-based miracles are much like the miracle of birth.

A. A FAITH-BASED MIRACLE MUST BE **CONCEIVED.**

1. All life begins at conception. Faith-based miracles begin with spiritual contact and are conceived in the heart.

2. Our miracles begin with a tiny seed of faith planted into our spiritual body! That's where the life begins!
3. When God drops a promise into your heart, something powerful begins to happen. (That seed of faith causes us to prepare for a brand new life and a total change of living!)

B. FAITH-BASED MIRACLES MUST BE CARRIED UNTIL THE TIME IS RIGHT!

1. This time of waiting brings about some great and profound changes in our lives!
 2. Just like an expectant mother goes through changes and adjustments, so does the spirit of a man who is carrying a miracle in his spiritual belly!
 3. There are changes that must happen in those who carry life within! It must happen if the miracle comes!
- There is a change of appetite! Why? You are eating for two! (While you are waiting on the Lord you will need plenty of faith-food!)
 - There is expansion and growth! (Waiting on God causes you to grow and mature in the Lord!)
 - In time you'll actually walk differently! (The waiting process will require you to walk by faith!)

C. WHEN GOD IS READY, THERE IS THE COMING FORTH! (THE BIRTH!)

- This can be a very painful procedure!
 1. Childbirth has its birth pains! (These are called contractions!) Your faith will contend with some powerful spiritual contractions! You know the answer is coming but your wait is not over yet!
 2. When its time the mother needs to push! (When you step out in faith there will be a season of great conflict. That is when we have to push hard and press on if we want to see our miracle!)
 3. When all the work is done there is great joy! This the time of celebration! Just hold on to the promises of God your time will come! When it does come you will have your own celebration! (V.3-6)

And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.

4 And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac being eight days old, as God had commanded him.

5 And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

6 And Sarah said, God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me.