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title: The true path to prosperity

Intro

Prosperity Gospel God's blessing you is equivalent to material blessing
the "name and claim" blessings

What is "prosperity"?

prosperity condition of being successful or thriving, especially economic well-being

God will meet your physical needs, but often He gives you more than you need.

In order to gain you must give away.

God's "laws" are often in the form of a paradox.

Proverbs 11:24-25

1 Corinthians 9:6 both verbs are in present tense

Context Paul is showing how the Macedonians gave out of their poverty

You expect the preacher to say "Give to God! And He will bless you!". However, God does not promise to bless you financially.

So how is this different than the prosperity Gospel? Because God does promise to bless us:

Psalms 73:24 Proverbs 11:18 Isa 64:4

What would hinder God from blessing us?

4 Benefits of God's harvest

1 Corinthians 9:7 - Love from God

We know that God loves the world (_John 3:16) And we know that He loves His children (_1 John 3:1)

Here however, God places a greater amount of love on a believer for an action committed by man.

1 Corinthians 8:3-4

Remember that at this time Rome is plundering the land even more! Yet here the Macedonians were begging to give Paul more!

1 Corinthians 9:7

“has purposed” to act from a predetermination rather than from an impulse
The harvest that we receive when we give cheerfully is God’s love on us.

1 Corinthians 9:8-10 - Generosity from God

God’s ability is the starting point that allows us to be giving away to Him. It is a worthwhile investment.

Does this mean material blessing?

The generous giver will always have plenty

As much as we are taxed by giving, we are refilled, and refreshed by divine grace.

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--> God gives to us --|  
|                         |  
|                         |  
|-- We give to God <--|
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1 Corinthians 9:11-13 - Glory of God

When you give generously you are showing evidence of the glory of God in your life.

Phillippians 4:18-19

1 Corinthians 9:14-15 - Likeness to God

God wants to use you to bless them!

When you give you are being like Christ; demonstrating the grace given to us.

Application

- Giving springs from a heart for Jesus - the larger the relationship the larger the gifts
- Attitude is **Critical** in giving
- In God’s mathematics the best way to increase a sum is to take from it.