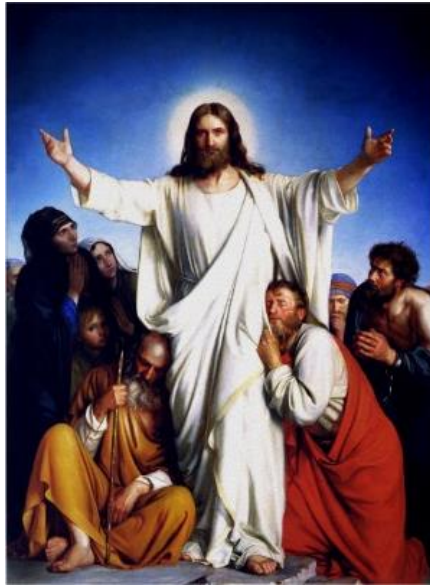


GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR

BILL MCMURDO





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Scripture abbreviations used

KJV – King James Version
NKJV – New King James Version
MEV – Modern English Version

THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. For it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

ROMANS 1:16 MEV

The Apostle Paul here states that he is not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ.

The word "Gospel" means good news.

Paul is not ashamed of the good news message that is in Christ.

Amazingly, some people get offended and upset by the good news. This happens when people get embroiled in religiosity rather than spiritual reality. Very often what we call religious thinking is at odds with the truth.

Jesus encountered this type of religiosity all the time, where people would focus on the minor rather than the major and also where some would be obsessed with the letter rather than the spirit of the law.

Jesus' message is a message of good news. You can see this in His own mission statement:-

He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day. And He stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was

**handed to Him. When He had unrolled the scroll,
He found the place where it was written:
“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,
because He has anointed Me
to preach the gospel to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted,
to preach deliverance to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed;
to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”
LUKE 4:16-19 MEV**

This is from Isaiah chapter 61 and foretells the good news message Jesus would preach. Many scholars believe that this mission statement from Jesus is ranked in order of importance i.e. Jesus' number one priority was to preach good news to the poor.

We do know that Jesus would teach and preach wherever He went. And we can see that He identified His own message as one that brought good news and comfort to poor people.

Religion would tell you that this good news is that God sees the suffering of the poor and has something nice for them when they die and go to heaven.

That is not good news to the poor. Religion doesn't have much good news for the poor.

There is only one kind of good news to a poor man. That is that **POVERTY DAYS ARE OVER!!**

The good news to the poor is that if you are poor, you don't have to be that way!

Good news to the sick is that God is willing and able to heal.

Good news to the oppressed is that God will deliver and set them free.

Good news to the lost is that God has found them and made them part of His family.

God is in the good news business, dear reader. He has good news for YOU in every area of your life.

What is striking is that God's Word very intentionally and very specifically calls the Gospel message a message to the poor.

Poverty is a curse. There is nothing nice about it. God hates poverty and it is not His will for His people.

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

3 JOHN v2 KJV

**Let them shout for joy and be glad,
Who favor my righteous cause;
And let them say continually,
"Let the LORD be magnified,
Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."**

PSALM 35:27 NKJV

God has pleasure in your prosperity. He delights in it and wants to see you succeed. This may conflict with what you have been conditioned to believe but it is the truth.

We have been inundated for years with a false religious notion that poverty is noble and with a socialist mindset that having money is undesirable.

The devil does not want God's people to have money. If having lots of money was a bad thing, the devil would be throwing money at Christians.

It's not a bad thing to have lots of money – it is a good thing. More than that, it is a GOD thing. What *is* a bad thing is for money to have you! If you make sure that doesn't happen, you need not worry about a thing.

Another thing you need to know is that the Gospel is a GRACE message. Grace means unmerited favour i.e. favour you do not and cannot earn. It means that all of the good things God does for us are gifts.

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to

you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

GALATIANS 1:6-9 NKJV

Here we see that the Gospel is a GRACE Gospel. It is so important that it be a grace message that Paul says that anything else is a perversion and those who preach a non-grace perversion message are accursed.

Strong language indeed! However, this just shows us how important the message is to God.

Part of this good news grace message pertains to our finances.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that through His poverty you might be rich.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:9 MEV

Jesus became poor on the cross of Calvary. He was stripped naked and nailed to the cross. A little-known aspect of crucifixion is that it was not only carried out as a means of capital punishment. Crucifixion was a public means of demonstrating Rome's ability to impose absolute destitution on people who opposed the empire. It was bankruptcy to the nth degree, public humiliation and shame that sent a very stark and unforgettable message.

When Jesus became poor at the cross, He took OUR poverty upon Him and exchanged it for His riches and wealth as the Son of God.

Back in the Garden of Eden, God had made man and placed him in opulence and luxury. Adam and Eve lacked nothing.

However, along came the serpent and lied to Eve that somehow she lacked something, that she wasn't really like God and completely provided for.

As a result of believing the lie of lack, the reality of lack came in to the human race. Sin entered and so did other poisons and pollutants like sickness, disease, fear, hatred and death. Mankind came under the curse.

Poverty became a very real condition for many while fear of it drove men to commit unspeakable acts of evil.

This is what Jesus came to save and redeem us from. On the cross He took all our sins, weaknesses, diseases and poverty. In exchange, He gave us His righteousness, His strength, His life and His riches.

Those in ancient Israel who lived under the Law and the Old Covenant could experience a form of respite from the curse but it was only when Jesus died on the cross and rose again that the perfect way was made for mankind to walk out of poverty and failure.

This is why we call the Christian message the Good News because it means that we don't have to live in poverty, sin and sickness anymore. That is good news in any language or culture!!

In this message we are focusing on the financial and economic side of things. The simple Gospel message is that in Christ, God has set us free from poverty, lack, debt and failure.

The blood of Jesus, shed on Calvary's cruel tree, is the ransom price i.e the payment price for your deliverance from lack and poverty.

The good news is that you are free from the lie of lack and shortfall that dominated human DNA since the fall of Adam and Eve – and that you are now supernaturally empowered to prosper and walk in financial success.

Friend, dominion in the financial and economic realm is now yours, including in business.

Normality is wealth and success if you have entered into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Religiosity will try to deceive you that poverty is noble and admirable. While it is true that it is better to be poor and have integrity than rich and be a scumbag, the truth is that this is a false choice. The solution is to be rich with integrity!

If you are worried that you will become greedy and avaricious, then get rich anyway and give the bulk of it away! Liberal giving is one of the reasons God makes us rich in the first place – so that we will be generous and fund good causes.

God hates poverty but He loves the poor and being rich positions you to help those bound by poverty. This kind of faith in action is pleasing to Him. If you will prove yourself a liberal and lavish giver to the poor, God will see to it that you are funded superabundantly!

We are living in a time when this true message of God's good news to the poor must be taught in all its fullness. The Bible speaks of the everlasting Gospel (Revelation 14:6) and this means the eternal message. In other words, it means that God's will and purpose for man has never changed.

God wants us to be rich and live in constant blessing. We are to live in opulence and luxury. This is the blueprint for our lives.

Now there may have been times that our lives haven't matched up to this blueprint. And you might not be living up to it right now.

There are two things you need to understand about this, however.

The first is that the blueprint exists and this is the Good News message we have been looking at here. The verses we have used, among many others in scripture, reveal the blueprint. These verses have God's power in them to make them real in your life if you will immerse yourself in them.

The second thing you need to understand is that responsibility for following the blueprint rests with

YOU. It is God's power that makes the blueprint real in your life but it is up to YOU to keep the blueprint i.e. the Good News before you at all times.

It won't work if you drown yourself in the negativity that surrounds us in the media and among people we know.

Speak these scripture verses to yourself over and over and make the affirmations constantly.

If you do this, you will see amazing results in your finances and your life in general!

SCRIPTURE VERSES

(REPEAT OVER AND OVER)

And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

DEUTERONOMY 8:18 NKJV

**The blessing of the LORD makes one rich,
And He adds no sorrow with it.**

PROVERBS 10:22 NKJV

**Then you shall see and be radiant,
and your heart shall thrill and rejoice
because the abundance of the sea shall be
converted to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.**

ISAIAH 60:5 MEV

And my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

PHILLIPIANS 4:19 NKJV

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that through His poverty you might be rich.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:9 MEV

God is able to make all grace abound toward you, so that you, always having enough of everything, may abound to every good work.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:8 MEV

So you will be enriched in everything to all bountifulness, which makes us give thanks to God.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:11 MEV

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

3 JOHN v2 NKJV

I am your shield and your RAPIDLY-INCREASING MONEY SUPPLY!!

GENESIS 15:1 Literal Hebrew

AFFIRMATIONS

(REPEAT OVER AND OVER)

The Lord is my rapidly-increasing money supply!

God gives me the power to get wealth. He gives me His wealth-accumulating power to demonstrate His covenant.

The blessing of the Lord makes me rich and there is no sorrow attached to it.

The abundance of the world economy is turned to me; the wealth of the nations comes to me. I am a magnet for wealth and riches.

God supplies my every need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ to me is that He has made me rich at the cross. He was made poor that I might be rich!

God's favour abounds to me so much that I have superabundance and lots left over to give lavishly to every good work.

I am enriched in everything and both willing and able to be generous to others, thus bringing praise to God.

I prosper in all things and enjoy perfect health. This is God's will for me.

HOW TO PARTNER WITH GOD

In order for the Good News to work for you, you need to have a relationship with God in Jesus Christ. Pray this short prayer sincerely and enter into partnership with God:-

Father, I come to You in the Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. I acknowledge my poverty before You. I confess I am a sinner and need You to forgive me and change my heart. I believe Your Good News message. I believe Jesus is Your Son and You raised Him from the dead. I desire to be Your partner and friend. Come to me now and be My Saviour and Lord, my Covenant Partner and Guide. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

If you prayed that prayer, contact us and we will send you FREE stuff to help you.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bill McMurdo travels throughout the UK teaching and preaching the Gospel message on freedom from bondage in every realm, including the economic one. He writes books and blogs on financial dominion for the people of God.

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