

Pursued And Overtaken

12-15-19

Deuteronomy 28:2 (ESV)

All these blessings shall **come upon** you [and **pursue** you] and **overtake** you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God.

The “pursue” was taken from verse 45, which I included in this identical statement. I don’t like to preach on statements like this because people immediately begin to fall into the trap that their worth or standing before God are based on their goodness or achievements. However, there are earthly ramifications for obedience and disobedience to God. This verse clearly states that through obedience blessings will come on us, pursue us, and overtake us. It is interesting to look at the definition of these words in the original language.

- ◇ **Come – make a movement**
- ◇ **Upon – come on another object**
- ◇ **Blessings will make a movement to come on us.**

- ◇ **Pursue – follow after; hunt; chase; motion with considerable effort and focus**
- ◇ **Blessings will chase after us.**

- ◇ **Overtake – lay hold of; to catch up with; to come upon suddenly**
- ◇ **Blessings will suddenly catch us.**

Paying attention to what God says has supernatural significance. Applying these specific definitions to these words “amplifies the intensity” to what God is saying.

Deuteronomy 28:2 (ESV)

All these blessings shall “make a movement and come on you” and “chase after you” and “suddenly catch up with you”, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God.

By obeying God, we participate in HIS economy.

James 4:8

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Obeying God is living in HIS economy where Blessings pursue us. This is also a time we need to remember the previous messages we had on the blessings of the Storms of life and the Refining Fires of life. God wisely works all these things together for our benefit. Now as we see the truth of blessings seeking us out and overtaking us for being obedient to God, we must look at the same principal for disobedience.

Deuteronomy 28:15 (ESV)

But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you [and pursue you] and overtake you.

This means that our disobedience will put us in a downward spiral which is difficult to reverse. Instead of blessing, curses will come on us, pursue us, and overtake us “or” make a movement and come on us; chase after us; and suddenly catch up with us.

The NT calls this sowing and reaping.

Galatians 6:7 (ESV)

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

What you plant is what you receive; Plus, you receive more than you planted; And you receive it long after you planted it. Corn produces corn, you get more corn than you planted, and you get the harvest of corn long after you planted it. Thus, we need to start planting good seed to reap a good harvest.

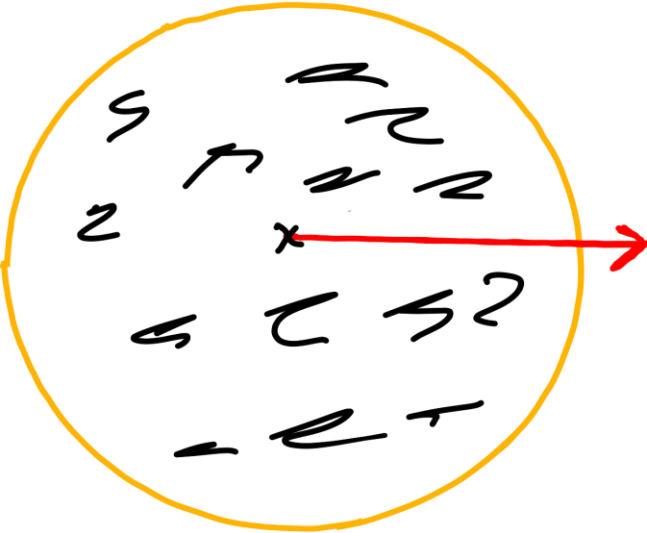
Galatians 6:9 (ESV)

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Years ago, Linda and I discipled a young lady who was living a very worldly lifestyle. She accepted Christ and wanted to live for the Lord but continued to struggle with a multitude of issues. She felt like she wasn't making much progress. One day she came to talk to me, and she was very uptight and uncertain. She told me she felt like something was wrong like she was lost in a strange place. After a lengthy discussion, she basically shared that all her negative influences were gone, her job was going well, and she and her family had reconciled. All of this was good, but it was so totally unfamiliar to her; it felt strange even wrong. I had to explain to her that this was what God's blessing felt like.

This graph helps explain what happened to her. As she started walking with the Lord, she was moving in the right direction, but still working through the same lifestyle. She was making progress, but everything felt about the same. However, when things started to fall in place, she found herself in an environment that was very unfamiliar. It felt strange! It didn't feel right because it was something she had never experienced. She had to learn how-to live-in God's blessing. We should also apply this to our own life. Sowing and reaping takes time. Turning things around takes time, but God's blessing will come upon us, pursue us, and overtake us.

THE JOURNEY



As a warning, this is one reason you see people returning to bad situations; they hate it, but it is familiar.

Therefore, let us continue to sow and know that the harvest will come in due time, because God is the ONE who makes all things grow.

Plant a seed: 5 minutes in the Bible; 5 minutes in prayer; Be pleasant to the person at the store check-out.

Galatians 6:10 (ESV)

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

The first seed that needs to be planted is to have the Name of Jesus on our lips to bring eternal blessings!

Acts 16:31 (ESV)

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.