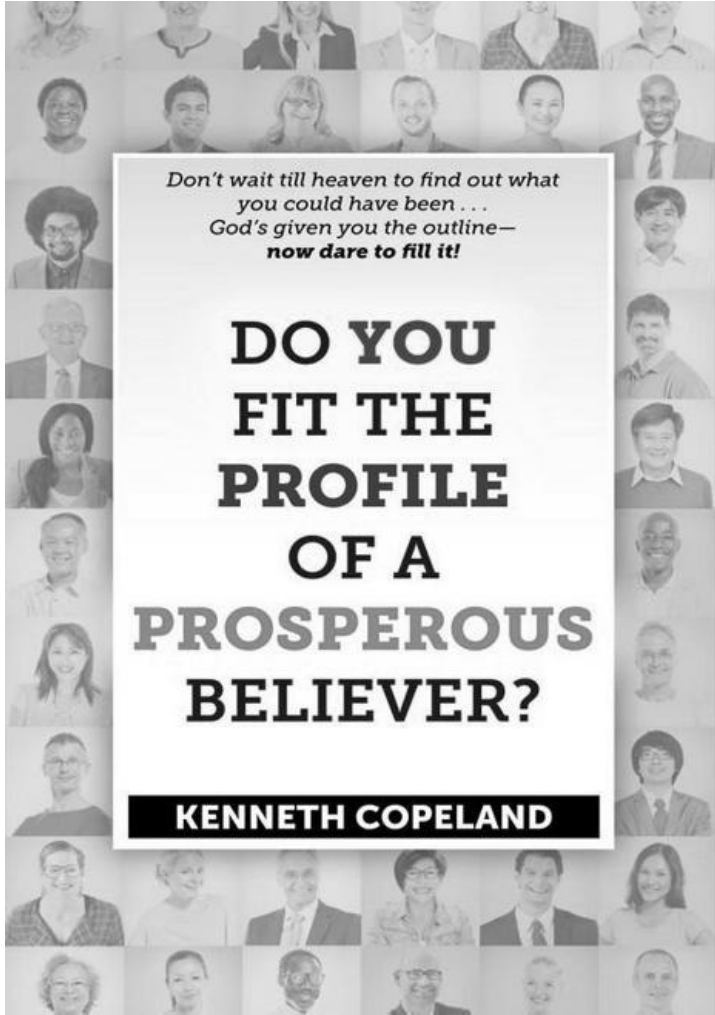


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Do You Fit The Profile Of A Prosperous Believer?

Something's different.

If you've been observing the Church for very long, you've noticed many of God's people have a new attitude.

Not many years ago, good Christian people sat in churches around the country and had great theological discussions as to why "God can't... God won't... God never will again..." They applied that mindset to other Christian beliefs such as: healing, tongues, prosperity, the gifts of the Spirit—and right on down the list they went.

Now, the world is full of faith giants. There are millions of Christians who know how to believe God's WORD and put it to work. They know how to use the plan—God's plan. For about the past 35 years, God has had the Body of Christ—the Body of His anointed ones—in very intense training. He has been preparing a Church that will believe Him and walk in total victory, no matter what the devil throws in its face.

But this time of intensive training has not been just so we could get our bills paid, get our bodies healed and pay off the church mortgage.

No. Ask any believer on the street, and I suspect most would say, "God is up to something much bigger...and whatever it is, it's coming soon!"

Indeed, God is about to unleash the mightiest soul-winning machine ever seen on the face of the earth.

The 20th century saw tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands of souls come into the kingdom of God, primarily through a handful of Christian leaders who were involved in mass soul-winning. But we are about to see tens of millions and even hundreds of millions born again, and in a very short period of time. What's more, we're the ones who are going to do it!

To step out into this end-time faith adventure, though, we must be like Joshua and David. We must have the spiritual courage and know-how to step up to the profile God has given us of who we are and what we've been called to do.

Think about it: When God prepared Joshua to lead Israel across the Jordan River and face all the enemy armies of the world, He told Joshua over and over, Be strong and courageous, for I have given it to you. It's yours—take it!

God gave Joshua the profile, He outlined the plan, and He gave Joshua His word on it. It was then up to Joshua to dare to fill that profile. And that took courage—the kind of courage that could only come by meditating on all God had told him. He had to stay focused on the plan.

God dealt with David the same way before he became king of Israel.

David had been anointed by the prophet Samuel when he was a boy. God placed in David the image of a king. He knew who he was. He knew what he was called to do. That's why, when the rest of Israel saw an enemy, a giant,

David saw an opportunity.

David was confident of victory because he was confident in his covenant with God. He had God's profile deep in his heart. He had the profile of an anointed king. Slaying Goliath was just a matter of doing what was already inside him. He acted out that profile by faith... and his covenant with God did the rest.

Get A Look At What God Sees

God has done the same thing for you and me. Like He did for Joshua, David, and many others described throughout the Bible, God has not only set before us a monumental task, but He has given us His WORD as an outline for a prosperous believer. It is our guarantee of success for whatever we put our hands to.

Psalm 112 gives us a good overview of this profile—a picture of who God planned us to be and what He is expecting of us.

Verses 1-3 begin by setting the foundation for us: “Blessed is the man who fears The LORD, who delights greatly in His commandments. His descendants will be mighty on earth: the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches will be in his house: and his righteousness endures forever.”

From the onset of this Psalm, it’s clear that God is no respecter of persons, for verse 1 says that “the man”—any man or woman who fears God and delights in His WORD is blessed and can prosper. It’s just a matter of going after the WORD of God. If we go for 100 percent of His WORD, we get 100 percent results. If we go for 50 percent of His WORD, we get 50 percent results, and so on.

Recognizing those results is not difficult. We read that the blessings of the Psalm 112 man are that his seed will be mighty in the earth, wealth and riches will be in his house, and his righteousness, or covenant relationship with God, will endure forever.

Now, great volumes have been written on how God didn’t really mean what He said there in verse 3—the wealth and riches part. But it cannot be said any more plainly. Wealth and riches are part of our covenant blessing. We just need the courage to take God at His WORD.

Another benefit afforded the prosperous man is that “...there arises light in the darkness” because he is gracious, full of compassion and righteous (verse 4). Good things come to him because he “deals graciously, and lends” (verse 5). He is generous and gives freely. “He will guide his affairs with discretion. Surely he will never be shaken; the righteous will be in everlasting remembrance” (verses 5-6).

Understand that, in verse 6, the righteous is not talking about our ability to always be “right.” As we saw earlier, our righteousness is not established by our goodness. It has been established by the shed blood of Jesus.

Our right-standing with God is settled the moment we make Jesus The LORD of our lives. Jesus makes us the righteousness of God in Him and in His Anointing.

Therefore, the second half of verse 6 takes on greater significance —“the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.”

Everlasting remembrance takes us all the way back to the covenant God established and declared to Noah after the Flood. God told Noah that He was setting a rainbow “in the cloud and it shall be for a token of a

covenant between me and the earth” (Genesis 9:13). The point was, the rainbow would be an everlasting remembrance of that covenant, something of which God would always be mindful.

When the Apostle John, who was imprisoned on the island of Patmos, was caught up in the Spirit and at one point taken to the throne of God, he described that very rainbow which he saw encircling the throne (Revelation 4:3). It was the sign of the covenant God made with Noah.

Think of it. Everywhere God looks He sees that everlasting remembrance. He cannot look in any direction without seeing it.

But then, consider how Jesus is also there at the throne of God, always making intercession for us (Hebrews 7:25). So everywhere God looks, He has a covenant reminder in His face—the rainbow and Jesus! Jesus is the rainbow of our covenant.

Bringing this back to our text in Psalm 112, the prosperous man is ever in the heart and mind—and eyes— of Almighty God. The prosperous man is in everlasting remembrance.

With all that we’ve seen working in favor of the prosperous man up to this point, it’s no wonder that Psalm 112:7-8 goes on to say, “He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in The LORD. His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies.”

This man is in a secure position, both in heaven and in the earth. What could he possibly fear? His mind and his heart are fixed on The WORD of God. Nothing can move him. When it says, “...until he see his desire upon his enemies”—that’s referring to satan, who is our real enemy. Our desire, assignment and promise is to see him put under our feet (Genesis 3:15; Ephesians 1:22).

The psalmist closes this profile of a prosperous man by restating that he gives freely, emphasizing the honor he receives because of his generous giving to the poor (verse 9). In contrast, the desires of the wicked man come to nothing (verse 10).

Another Case of Mistaken Identity?

By now, you may be thinking, This all sounds grand and glorious, Brother Copeland...but that profile doesn't look a bit like me.

Believe me, I understand. However, none of us goes through the intense training we've been through—learning how to do the things of the Spirit, walk by faith and walk in The WORD of God—just to find out that it works for someone else, but not me!

Remember, God is no respecter of persons.

If someone throws in the towel and says that this profile of a prosperous believer doesn't work, what they're really saying is, I'm not pressing.

Keep in mind that Psalm 112:8 says, “until he sees his desire upon his enemies,” referring to the devil who will be put under our feet. Until that time comes, you and I have an enemy roaming around this world, trying to get us to do one thing—and that is, to curse God.

Satan's complaint to God against Job was: Take away all that protection and favor You've given him, and Job will curse You to Your face (Job 1:11).

If you think about it, the devil can curse God for the rest of eternity, but it won't affect God in the slightest. It's God's children, however, who can cause Him heartache.

That's why the devil goes to great lengths to convince us that God's profiles are not real and don't work. To discredit God and His WORD, he puts pressure on us to get us to doubt the WORD of God.

The five ways satan brings pressure on hearers of The WORD are listed in Mark 4:14-19. He uses affliction, persecution, cares of this world, deceitfulness of riches (believing you can trust money), and lusts (or pressures) of other things.

Satan's goal in these five schemes is to get our focus off God's WORD and over into thinking, God's to blame for this.... Something's wrong.... This just isn't going to work for me.

By doing that, we would curse God. We would be calling God a liar.

In reality, the devil sees you as he saw Job. When he looks at you, he sees the Psalm 112 profile, because that's how God sees you. He sees you as a joint heir with the Anointed One, Jesus. He sees the blood of Jesus surrounding you as a hedge. He sees the windows of heaven open and favor pouring down on you.

Just remember this: Mark 4:19 assures us that the devil's schemes will never work—if—we never allow them to “enter in.” He cannot force them into our lives. And if they don't enter in, they cannot choke The WORD out of us.

Again, as long as we stay fixed on God's WORD, we have a profile of guaranteed success—for every situation.

The question is: How do we see ourselves?

Find Yourself in the Family Portrait

The Psalm 112 profile is a picture of what a prosperous believer looks like. It's a picture of Abraham, of Jesus, and better still, the body of His anointed ones. It's a picture of us.

Someday, soon, when we stand before God Almighty, this profile will be outlined on a wall behind us, comparing what we are with all we could have been.

Will we measure up?

But, LORD, I didn't have the breaks those other people had!

But, LORD, that's so much bigger—and better looking—than I am!

Yes, but that's what we could have been. That's what we should have been.

What keeps us from filling out that profile?

Jesus told His disciples, "The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it. And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one tittle of the law to fail" (John 16:16-17, New King James Version).

There are no failures in the covenant of God, only undeveloped skills in The WORD of righteousness.

If I held up a picture of a world-champion body builder, a fine specimen of human strength with bulging muscles and a tiny waist, no doubt someone would say, "I sure wish I had a body like that."

Well, if you ate correctly and worked out diligently, you could. The problem is, most people are not willing to do what it takes to get a world-champion physique.

The Apostle Paul said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in [the Anointed One] Jesus" (Philippians 3:14). It's a constant, steady, persistent pursuit into those things in God's WORD that we know belong to us—our healing, our peace of mind, the salvation of our families, our children's protection and our financial prosperity.

Even when it looks like everyone else is prospering but us, when it looks like everyone else is getting healed but us, we must remain fixed on The WORD...and press on.

Peter said, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith.... But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by [the Anointed One] Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you (1 Peter 5:8-10).

The word suffered that he used in verse 10 means "pressed."

"After you have pressed a while...."

After we have pressed and stood in faith awhile, even the toughest situation will have to give in.

Why? Because our pressure is always greater than the devil's pressure. All his weapons are from the world. Ours are "mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds" (2 Corinthians 10:4).

The key, then, is to keep our minds on God and His promises. Don't look back for even the slightest moment.

Meditate on God's profile for you. Don't call yourself anything other than what the profile says you are.

"I am the blessed of the 'can do' generation. I'm part of the 'can do' Church—and my profile is to prosper! My profile is to be healed!" And, I fit the profile!

Faith Activities

Speak this truth aloud and be confident in who you are in Christ!

I fit the profile of a prosperous person as described in Psalm 112. God has given me what I need to take my place as His successful child. With His help I am prosperous in everything I do!

Watch and Listen

How can you be ready for the coming plan of God for your life?
What are you doing to fit the profile God prepared for you?

Speak Faith

Speak the components of a prosperous believer as seen in Psalm 112 over and over to yourself. Believe what God says about you!

- I fear (reverence) The LORD.
- I delight in God's commands.
- My descendants are mighty in love, faith and power in the earth.
- My family is blessed.
- Wealth and riches are in my house.
- My right-standing with God is forever.
- I have light (revelation, wisdom and understanding) in the darkness.
- I am gracious and full of compassion.
- I am not shaken by circumstances.
- I am not afraid, because I trust The LORD in all things.
- I give generously to the poor.
- My relationship with God will be remembered with honor.

We look forward to hearing about your experiences of increase in every area of your life. Please send them to us by visiting kcm.org/testify.

We're Here For You!

Your growth in God's WORD and victory in Jesus are at the very center of our hearts. In every way God has equipped us, we will help you deal with the issues facing you, so you can be the victorious overcomer He has planned for you to be.

The mission of Kenneth Copeland Ministries is about all of us growing and going together. Our prayer is that you will take full advantage of all The LORD has given us to share with you.

Wherever you are in the world, you can watch the Believer's Voice of Victory broadcast on television (check your local listings), the Internet at kcm.org or on our digital Roku channel.

Our website, kcm.org, gives you access to every resource we've developed for your victory. And, you can find contact information for our international offices in Africa, Asia, Australia, Canada, Europe, Ukraine and our headquarters in the United States.

Each office is staffed with devoted men and women, ready to serve and pray with you. You can contact the worldwide office nearest you for assistance, and you can call us for prayer at our U.S. number, +1-817-852-6000, 24 hours every day!

We encourage you to connect with us often and let us be part of your everyday walk of faith!

Jesus Is LORD!

Kenneth and Gloria Copeland