

# God Promises Success God's Commitment To Your Success

Pt.1

Charles F. Stanley, Experiencing Success God's Way (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2000), 11–22.



#### **Good Success**

#### Joshua 1:7-8 (NKJV)

7 Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.

8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.



# God Is Committed To You Becoming Successful

- God not only desires your success, but He is committed to helping His people become successful. He desires for His people to be blessed and to experience whole-person prosperity.
- Nehemiah was a man in the Bible who believed and claimed God's success for himself. When he heard news that the walls and gates of Jerusalem lay in ruins, he began to fast and pray about the situation. The king noticed his sorrow, and upon hearing the reason for Nehemiah's sadness, the king authorized Nehemiah to go to Jerusalem and make repairs to the city.



## Are You Convinced God Will Help You Prosper?

 When Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem, he immediately faced opposition from those who did not want him to succeed in the task before him. He responded to those who opposed him by saying:

#### Nehemiah 2:20 (NKJV)

So I answered them, and said to them, "The God of heaven Himself will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no heritage or right or memorial in Jerusalem."



#### **Questions To Ask Yourself**

- Are you firmly convinced today that God desires for you to flourish?
- Are there specific reasons why you believe God will not cause you to thrive?
- Are these reasons related to sin or to the pursuit of a goal that is contrary to God's commandments?
- Are these reasons related to your frame of mind of failure, your past experience with failure, or your belief that only some of God's children should prosper?



### What the Word Says About Keys To Success!

Then Peter opened his mouth and said:

#### Acts 10:34-35 (NKJV)

34 Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.

35 But in every nation whoever <u>fears</u> Him and <u>works</u> righteousness is accepted by Him.



### What the Word Says About Keys To Success!

Then Peter opened his mouth and said:

#### 3 John 2 (NKJV)

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

#### **Psalm 35:27 (NKJV)**

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



#### What the Word Says to Me

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### Four Basic Aspects of God's Commitment to Your Success

The Bible presents FOUR BASIC CONCEPTS that are important for you to grasp if you are to understand God's commitment to your success



# God Desires For You To Live Successfully Regardless Of Your Outer Circumstances

#### Joshua 1:1-2 (NKJV)

- 1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying:
- 2 "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel.
- The mourning period for Moses had passed, and God desired for Joshua, and the others to move beyond that point because it was important to their future in the midst of this difficulty.

# God Desires For You To Live Successfully Regardless Of Your Outer Circumstances

- Perhaps no person in the Bible experienced more difficult circumstances in his life—for his entire life than Daniel.
- Daniel was taken captive by the Babylonians when he was a young man. He was forced to live in an alien culture the rest of his life and to serve three heathen kings—Nebuchadnezzar, Cyrus, and Darius.



# God Desires For You To Live Successfully Regardless Of Your Outer Circumstances

- On several occasions, Daniel had to stand in opposition to the king's magicians.
- On one occasion, his opposition resulted in his facing a den of lions.

#### Daniel 6:28 (NKJV)

So this Daniel <u>prospered</u> in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

 Daniel lived well and lived <u>successfully</u> in the midst of his circumstances. We are called to do the same.



#### **Psalm 37:3–4 (NKJV)**

- 3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.
- 4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.



- Too often we look at our outward circumstances and we conclude, "God must not want to prosper me."
- We must never look to outward circumstances, including our past failures, and use them as a reason to doubt God's desire to prosper us.
- True prosperity begins in the heart and soul of a person.
- True prosperity is always a possibility for us because change and spiritual growth are always possible for the Christian.

### Your Success Is Directly Related To Your Faith

#### Joshua 1:5-6 (NKJV)

5 No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.

6 Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.



### Your Success Is Directly Related To Your Faith

- For a person to be successful, a person must first believe he or she can be successful.
- The real question for the Christian is, "Believe in what?
   Have faith in whom?" When we identify the object of our faith, we truly know the foundation for our success.
- If you are putting your faith in God to help you define and become a success, then your foundation is as strong as He is!



# Do You BELIEVE Today That God WILL Lead You To Greater Success In Your Life?

#### What Does The Word Say?

#### Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.



#### **James 1:5–8 (AMP)**

5 If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding, and it will be given him.

6 Only it must be in faith that he asks with no wavering (no hesitating, no doubting). For the one who wavers (hesitates, doubts) is like the billowing surge out at sea that is blown hither and thither and tossed by the wind. 7 For truly, let not such a person imagine that he will receive anything [he asks for] from the Lord, 8 [For being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), [he is] unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels, decides].



#### What the Word Says to Me

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# God's Commitment To Our Success Is Related To Our Courage And To Our Obedience In Keeping His Commandments.

#### Joshua 1:7–9 (NKJV)

- 7 Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.
- 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.
- 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."



The issue for Christians is not whether God is committed to their success, but, rather, whether we are committed to keeping God's commandments, having courage, using our faith, and choosing to believe for success regardless of the outer circumstances of our lives.

# What new insights do you have into Joshua 1:7–9?

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Can you recall experiences in your life when you to obey God's commandments, failing to use you or failing to have courage led to a lack of success'	ur faith,

#### **Deuteronomy 9:7 (NKJV)**

"Remember! Do not forget how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath in the wilderness. From the day that you departed from the land of Egypt until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against the LORD.

 When we are not obedient to the word of God, we hinder our ability to be successful.



## The Bible Presents Success As A Process, Not A Destination

Joshua 1:9 (NKJV)

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

- Living successfully does not mean that you are going to live on the top of the mountain with a big grin on your face and medals of victory and achievement attached to your lapel every moment of every day of your life. High points may come and go.
- They rnay be frequent at times and virtually nonexistent at other times.



- Success is to be found in the way in which we live out our lives day in and day out.
- It is to be found as we pursue what God calls us to be and to do. Success is not the end of a process.
- It is how we undertake the process called life.

# How do you feel about these principles related to your success?



#### **Matthew 7:24–27 (NKJV)**

- 24 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:
- 25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.
- 26 "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:
- 27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."



### How do you feel about these principles related to your success?