



Unity Church of Christianity
Divine Prosperity
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We live in a world today where there are lots of messages of lack and limitation circling about, and they come to us everyday from basically every direction, messages of cut backs and reductions, downsizing, economic woes for companies and countries, bank failures, unemployment, debt and inflation, all coming at us. There are a lot of fears and worries, doubts and concerns, anxiety and stress that are going on about existing and potential lack and limitation in peoples' lives and in the world. It's dominating the news. It's dominating peoples' conversations. It's dominating our thoughts.

Often times we're making decisions based on what's happening out there. Things feel shaky in the external world. I feel like it's time to step back and become aware of how much it's affecting us, wearing us down, and how often this idea of lack, limitation and fear is in our thoughts. It can even be subliminal. You may think you're doing pretty well, but there's a lot out there coming at us. It's important that we do not become a victim to this string of mental belief and energy that does nothing but depress and suppress the possibilities of good coming your way.

It's important to remember first and foremost that we are spiritual beings living in a spiritual universe, living according to spiritual laws and principles that are never failing. They are constant. They are dependable. They are reliable.

Therefore, it is important to remember there is a stream of truth to be living from, and this truth will set us free and keep us free, and so it's worth going toward, knowing about and incorporating. Jesus told us to seek ye first the kingdom and everything else would take care of itself. To seek the kingdom is to put first and foremost being in the flow of God, being in the flow of oneness with the Divine.

Today, we want to emphasize some of the ideas around prosperity and abundance and the principles and laws around that. It's a whole broad area, but we want to touch upon it enough to reposition us, to re-center us on knowing what we need to know as we're dealing with all these factors in an external world. What do we know internally? What are we buying into?

We know that life is consciousness; it's something that we teach. Everything comes down to what is going on in one's consciousness which is the makeup of our habitual thoughts, ideas, beliefs and opinions and all of these have creative power. You know this, but we need to be reminded of it. This is serious business. All of that is creative, and you are creating your life moment by moment every single day. All of these are ways in which we are directing our creative energies that return to us. All of those thoughts, ideas, beliefs and opinions that make up our consciousness go out as a frequency and return back to us as various circumstances, situations, events, happenings and conditions in our life.

We are creating. You are co-creating in this universe, and a lot of that coming back at us is referred to as the Law of Attraction. Now the Law of Attraction is said in numerous ways. It can be stated, "As within so without. Like attracts like. Thoughts held in mind produce after their kind. What you think about comes about. As in mind so in manifestation," and because of that everyone gets to be right. The optimist is right. The pessimist is right. One may be about the light, and the other can be focused on the dark, but both are right. Both can gather all kinds of information to say they're right, to validate their position and their point of view. They all exist, whatever it is that you wish, but what is it that you want to experience? What is it that you want to draw into your life? That's what is important to ask yourself.

You see one version leads to power and strength and the other to weakness. One leads to peace and the other to pain. One leads to success and the other leads to failure. One leads to Heaven and one leads to Hell. I'm not talking about the geographical places traditional Christianity is speaking about. I'm talking about bringing Heaven on Earth, bringing Heaven into your experience, bringing a sense of feeling one with God, feeling the joy, peace and harmony of your

life being in the flow versus a sense of hell, being so fragmented and so separated from the truth of who you are and the truth of what God is that you are so distant and far removed from peace you don't even know what the word means.

Ultimately that choice is being made again and again throughout our life. Each is building his own world based on what they're doing within the within of them, in their own inner domain. What resides there? What's going on for you?

We need to know that prosperity is spiritual. The teachings and principles of prosperity are throughout the scriptures. They're all over the place in various ways, even when Jesus said, "Be of good cheer I have overcome the world." What he was really talking about to some extent was prosperity. He was saying that basically, "No matter what's been thrown at me, no matter what the situation, no matter what the challenge, I have remained centered, and I have consistently held to and known the truth."

If you look at the temptations, all of that was about saying, "No to this and yes to the truth." It began His ministry. He said, "That's where I'm going to live from, that's where I'm going to go and be a light in this world." We're called to be that same light. Now Jesus also said, "That we should judge not according to appearances but judge righteously." The truth is what He is talking about.

He also taught that if you ask it shall be given unto you, if you seek ye shall find and if you knock the door will be opened unto you. That's a promise, that's the way it is. You have to be willing to seek and knock and believe that something is opening to you, that the universe is your friend that it's a benevolent universe that you live in. It's there.

In his sermon on Mars Hill, the apostle Paul said some interesting things around prosperity, "The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of Heaven and Earth, does not live in shrines made by man nor is He served by human hands as though He needed anything since He himself gives to all men life and breath and everything." That's powerful, and he goes on to say, "Yet He is not far from each one of us, for in Him we live and move and have our being."

Whether you realize it and are awake to it or not, every one of us in Him we live and move and have our being but we're not awake to it. We're not accessing it. We're not drawing upon it. I love the line where he says, "He himself gives us life and breath and everything." Back to Jesus who said, "It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is simply the Father's good pleasure to give, but you have to know how to position yourself to receive.

In Mathew 25, Jesus stated emphatically, “Come, O blessed of my Father,” that means you and I are supposed to come. He went on to say, “Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” There is an inheritance from the very foundation of creation that is ours, that we’re called to, and Jesus is saying that you’ve inherited God’s good. Jesus said that kingdom is at hand. It’s here. It’s now. It doesn’t have to be waited for. God’s abundance, God’s kingdom of good is right here. God is everywhere at all times. There is no spot where God is not.

Yet, it has also been stated by one of the masters and mystics, “Each of us is an inlet and may become the outlet of all there is in God.” Each of us is an inlet and may become the outlet of all there is in God, the life, the breath, the everything.

True prosperity is spiritual at its basis, at its foundation, and one of the major things that we should never forget is that God is our source. Think of God as the source of your supply, the source of your good, the source of your prosperity in your life, your breath, your everything. You come to realize there are instruments and channels through which prosperity flows, and those channels include your mind, your body, your physical gifts, your talents, your abilities, your education, your job, your profession and these kinds of things.

It was the late Ralph Waldo Trine, a wonderful teacher and author, who talked about this image of God as a massive reservoir high up on the mountain with an inexhaustible supply of water, and we are reservoirs down in the valley, and the inflow depends on us receiving it. There is no lack. It’s endless. It’s inexhaustible, and essentially this is the way it is for you and me. This is what we’re supposed to wake up to. What he was saying is that God is an inexhaustible reservoir which flows to each of us, but are we an open inlet? Have we done the work that is required to maintain a consciousness that really is open to receive?

If God is this infinite spirit and source of life, then to the degree that man opens himself to this divine flow does he take on and access the powers of God and the goodness of God, the higher forces of God by which good may flow. God fills all the universe with himself. It’s there for us to partake. God is the source of life behind all things and that flow of good hinges on our application of the spiritual laws and principles that we must come into harmony with. As it has been said, “No one is above the law.” Like attracts like and so it is and you will always be according to law.

God is the source, supply, reservoir and pipeline to all of this good. When we live in the realization of our oneness with God, then do we begin to actualize this power that allows us to mold and help the good that wants to come into our world. The universe is biased in favor of good. It wants to help and assist us; that is the nature of God and either you accept it or you

don't. Obviously you can build a case looking to the external word if you want that point of view.

Last week I spoke on faith and emphasized it's about a perception. It's to look to God not only as your infinite resource, but to look to God and the universe and life with a higher level of perception that there is good in every moment. There's an opportunity to learn, to grow, to embrace something, a blessing always and to take that stand. As Paul said, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." There is always the unseen that has not yet been evidenced and that's what faith is about. The Law of Faith is what you are called upon to bring forth.

The word affluence has often been used to describe the materialistic things that a person gathers and accumulates in their life. How many homes, how many cars, how much money? The real truth is that affluence literally means to flow forth freely. When you consider the word currency, it talks about a current, a flow, being in the flow. The currency comes your way when you're in the flow.

Luat Su who lived 2500 years ago spoke of the Divine Flow. He said this, "The human spirit has its source in the divine fountain which must be permitted to flow freely through man. Anyone who flows as life flows has solved the enigma of human existence and needs no other power." Anything is evil that blocks the flow of creative action and everything is healthy that flows with the universe, the universe being God. Healthy means prosperous, alive, vital in every way.

There is a story that Eric Butterworth tells in one of his books, Eric Butterworth being a Unity minister and wonderful author. The story is about a guy named Dave Brubeck who was a master jazz musician from years back. He played for years in concerts around the world and was well known. His jazz was improvisational, a continuous creative flow, never repeating, new, different, exciting, and he never read a score or had music in front of him. After a gig one night, he was driving with his band to the next place they would be performing. There was a snow storm going on, and as he was driving along, all of sudden this wave of fear come over him that at some point he would be drained of that creative flow of music, that he might run dry and not have any more ideas, melodies or rhythms moving through him. It was a great fear that went through him. At some point, he was drawn to the windshield wiper pushing aside the snowflakes and at that moment he got his answer. What he realized is that all over the world it is snowing at some point in time, and he believed that there are no two snowflakes alike. He thought, "How could the creative flow, which he depended upon for his well being, ever possibly run dry?" The fact that it was snowing was a statement that spoke to him.

To the one who is truly wise and learns to open to and access the flow of the forces and powers that exist, they have an ability to open the treasures of an enormous storehouse of a benevolent universe. There is no limit whatsoever in this universe. You and I are creating all the time and we are either in attunement or out of attunement with it. The supply is always equal to the demand, and the demand depends on where we are in terms of our frame of mind, our attitude and our state of consciousness.

When the fisherman came in, after they had fished all night and got nothing, Jesus said, “Change your attitude, go back out and get to the righteous side. Don’t judge by appearances but judge righteously.” They threw their nets. They did it. They took a different perspective and didn’t have enough room to haul it all in.

There is a scripture that states the importance of knowing who our source is and acknowledge it, be one with it, and continually be in partnership with it. It is found in Proverbs, “In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your pathways.” God is saying, “Acknowledge me and all that is mine is yours.” That’s a powerful thing for us to always take forward in our lives, to acknowledge, acknowledge, acknowledge.

The universe is biased in favor of good. There are amazing things when we synchronize ourselves with this bias. This whole idea is brought out in an Old Testament story that you’ve heard before, but I love to review it because it speaks to this so profoundly. It’s the story of the widow who brought her problems to the prophet Elijah. The widow was destitute. She had creditors on her and obligations to meet. Her husband died and so it was all on her. At that time if you couldn’t pay your debts they would take your children, that was the law of Talbot back then. She had two sons, and they were going to take her two sons as slaves as payment. Elijah started by asking her what she had in the house. Her answer was, “I have only one pot of oil.” What that conversation meant internally, Elijah was really asking her, “What do you have in your consciousness? Do you have a sense of awareness? What’s on your mind? What have you been thinking about? What are you identifying with?” That’s really on a hidden inner level what is being asked there.

Remember that you always start with what you have, even though it’s not everything you want, and you give thanks. You acknowledge the source of what you do have and you deepen your relationship with it. You’re grateful for what you do have and that begins to open into an expanse.

Jesus did this by feeding 5000. He took a little bit in His hands and was grateful for what he had. He gave thanks to the source from which that came. He also stepped into the expanse of what was possible and it multiplied. He was showing us at every turn.

The widow's answer was basically one of lack. I have only one pot of oil. She may have been a widow suffering from loneliness, but she also was suffering from "only-ness," only one pot of oil, only. I only have this much in my checkbook. I only have this much with me. I only can afford this. I only have this much money. I only make this much at my job. A lot of us live from and suffer from "only-ness." If you focus on what you do not have, then basically your faith is in the tank. It's on "only-ness." Whatever it is, do not identify with an "only." Don't listen to that in your brain, don't affirm that.

Elijah instructed the widow to go to the neighbors and find as many vessels as she could. He said, "Not too few," meaning do not think small. This whole idea of getting as many vessels was saying, "You've got to do something to expand your consciousness," expand the number of vessels that type of thing. It's a preparation, to expand, make ready, and create the space to be filled in you. She gathered the vessels that she could from her neighbors and began to pour and it flowed and it flowed and it flowed and it did not stop until she was out of vessels.

The meaning is that basically as much as she could conceive and believe she was able to achieve. You've heard that haven't you? Essentially that's the vessel you bring, "To the extent that you can conceive and believe you will achieve." You bring a vessel to your life everyday. You have to move beyond "only-ness." You have to be able to get into this flow. The flow exists. It's there and we're called to it.

How do we get into the flow? Very quickly I want to tell you a few helpful things that you can use. First of all, stop anything that has to do with complaining. Don't condemn the one fish you were given or the loaf of bread. Whatever the circumstances realize that within you are creative forces that are creating with whatever it is you are affirming and declaring. The circumstances may not be exactly what you want in the here and now, but you need to create the frame of mind that this is a stepping stone to something better. Wherever I am, wherever I find myself, this is a stepping stone and that's the mentality and vibration you have to set up. Whenever adversity comes along you need to tell yourself, "I'm going to make the best of it that I can," and give your attention to moving forward, beyond this and not get stuck in the woe of what is.

Ralph Waldo Trine the great writer we referred to earlier said, "Put in motion subtle, silent, irresistible forces that will sooner or later actualize in material form." Always put forth an ideal, see yourself in it and affirm it. Don't just think that things are going to drop into your life. You have to begin to formulate. You are a co-creator, put clothes on ideas of a higher nature and set in motion higher forces.

While in the mode of transforming your life, it's also hard to deny what exists right now. You need to say to yourself, "I'm in the process of." I'm in the process of attracting more money. I'm in the process of attracting a better job. I'm in the process of attracting my right fellow or girl or person in my life. I'm in the process of and that's the statement you need to be able to say inside yourself. The fact is that we are always in process. All of life is a process and that's certainly not a lie. It is the truth.

The other thing is choice. You're always making choices and decisions. There's power in choice and in the phrase simply that, "I've decided." I have decided to attract more money into my life. I have decided to attract that right and perfect person in my life. I have decided to really work on my health and wholeness. You have a decision you are living from and that can be very powerful.

The other thing is when it doesn't happen right away and sometimes we don't persevere, but we need to say, "Lots can happen really quickly." A lot can happen in one day, 30 days, and a lot is happening on the invisible side, I know this.

Always remember the importance of asking. It's not pleading. It's not begging. It's a sense of surrendering. It's affirming that you are in partnership with the source, the creator and you are a co-creator with that divine presence. You move to that place.

Celebrate all the good things that happen in your life. Celebrate them, know what they are, anything that comes. If you receive a check don't cash it right away, hold on to it for at least a few days. I know accountants don't love you for this, but hang on to the check and every time you open your wallet—I have a check right now in my wallet that I've had for several days. It was an early Christmas gift, and I just say that's the universe, that's grace, that's goodness. It's an affirmation every time I open it up to buy something, "Oh, there's that check. There's the grace of God, the benevolence of a universe, an infinite God pouring its good into me." Hang on to that check for a little bit and celebrate that.

Most importantly, be grateful. Grateful opens your heart and opens you to the flow. The flow is there. Every day at the end of the day review the good things that have happened to you. They do happen you know, but you haven't seen them because all you're doing is living from the "only-ness."

True prosperity has a spiritual basis. God is the source of your supply. Create your oneness with that presence and power. It is the Father's good pleasure to give, to give, to give, but you must do your part. Be a wide open inlet for the universe to pour its good to you and through you and as you. God bless you. May prosperity abound in your life.

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