



Blessing Blockers – Part 1

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Blessing Blockers – Part 1

- I. Blessing blockers originate from the devil feeding you negative thoughts.
- A. **James 1:12** – ¹² *Blessed (happy, to be envied) is the man who is patient under trial and stands up under temptation, for when he has stood the test and been approved, he will receive [the victor's] crown of life which God has promised to those who love Him.*
- B. **James 1:25** – ²⁵ *But he who looks carefully into the faultless law, the [law] of liberty, and is faithful to it and perseveres in looking into it, being not a heedless listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he shall be blessed in his doing (his life of obedience).*
- II. We are in a war.
- A. **2 Corinthians 10:3-5** – ³ *For though we walk (live) in the flesh, we are not carrying on our warfare according to the flesh and using mere human weapons. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds, ⁵ [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).*
1. Our weapon in this war is the Word of God (the sword).
 2. You must win the battle on the inside before you'll win on the outside.
 3. You must identify the source of every thought.
 4. The purpose for the weapons is to pull down strongholds.
 - a. A *stronghold* is a demonically-induced pattern of thinking.
 - b. A *stronghold* is a house of thoughts.
 - c. When you meditate on a thought, it comes alive (empowered).
 - d. You give life to thoughts.
 - e. If it's a God-thought, give it life; if it's from the devil, kill it!

- f. Thoughts produce actions which produce results in your life.
- g. Negative thoughts produce negative actions and negative results.

B. You have authority (jurisdiction) over the enemy in this war.

- 1. As the bride of Christ, we have taken on the Name of Jesus.
- 2. Jesus stripped the devil of all authority.
- 3. Whatever you conceive, believe, and speak will manifest.
- 4. Satan's ONLY device is to feed you negative thoughts.
- 5. Jesus re-acquired the authority and gave it to the church.
- 6. That authority gives us power to create.
- 7. Every blessing is obtained through the process of:
 - a. Conceive in your mind.
 - b. Believe in your heart.
 - c. Speak with your mouth.
- 8. The control room is your mind.
 - a. You must take every thought captive; otherwise thoughts will take YOU captive.
 - b. The devil wants you to think defeat rather than victory.
 - c. The devil is trying to convince you to give up.

III. Pride: A blessing blocker.

A. **1 Peter 5:6** – *Therefore humble yourselves [demote, lower yourselves in your own estimation] under the mighty hand of God, that in due time He may exalt you,*

- 1. God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.
- 2. You humble yourself in your mind.
- 3. Do not think of yourself higher than you ought.

- B. If the devil cannot get you into defeat with an inferiority complex, he'll try to get you into pride with the mindset that you are the hottest thing since sliced bread.
 - C. Do not allow yourself to get into the ditch one way or the other.
- IV. Worry: Another blessing blocker.
- A. **1 Peter 5:7** – *Cast^{ing} the whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully.*
 - 1. A *care* is something you're going through that you're concerned about.
 - 2. The carrying of that care is not in your *hands*, but in your *head*.
 - 3. That house of thoughts has to be handed over to Jesus.
 - B. **Matthew 6:31** – *Therefore do not worry and be anxious, saying, "What are we going to have to eat?" Or, "What are we going to have to drink?" Or, "What are we going to have to wear?"*
 - 1. Your words are a direct reflection of the thoughts you have taken.
 - 2. Jesus tells us we have the ability to either accept a care or reject a care.
- V. Be aware that the devil tries to impart fear into your mind.
- A. **2 Corinthians 8:21** – *For we take thought beforehand and aim to be honest and absolutely above suspicion, not only in the sight of the Lord but also in the sight of men.*
 - B. **1 Peter 5:8** – *Be well balanced (temperate, sober of mind), be vigilant and cautious at all times; for that enemy of yours, the devil, roams around like a lion roaring [in fierce hunger], seeking someone to seize upon and devour.*
 - 1. Satan imitates a roaring lion to **intimidate** you.
 - 2. God has not given us a spirit of timidity!
 - 3. This roaring lion is toothless – he is all noise and no bite.
 - C. **1 Peter 5:9** – *Withstand him; be firm in faith [against his onset—rooted, established, strong, immovable, and determined], knowing that the same (identical) sufferings are appointed to your brotherhood (the whole body of Christians) throughout the world.*

- D. **1 Peter 5:10** – *And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace [Who imparts all blessing and favor], Who has called you to His [own] eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will Himself complete and make you what you ought to be, establish and ground you securely, and strengthen, and settle you.*
1. You have to have the tenacity of a bulldog.
 2. The battle engages in your mind, but only for a little while.
- E. **James 4:7** – *So be subject to God. Resist the devil [stand firm against him], and he will flee from you.*
1. Being subject to God means being subject to His Word.
 2. When the devil feeds you a thought, be *immovable*.
 3. “*Flee*” means to run in terror.
 4. The Word of God terrifies your adversary.
 5. Resist that thought by declaring the Word of God.
- VI. Don’t accept the devil’s packages! Stay fixed on the Word.
- A. **Psalms 103:1-2** – *Bless (affectionately, gratefully praise) the Lord, O my soul; and all that is [deepest] within me, bless His holy name! ² Bless (affectionately, gratefully praise) the Lord, O my soul, and forget not [one of] all His benefits—*
- B. **Hebrews 12:1** – *Therefore then, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who have borne testimony to the Truth], let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us.*
1. We have to finish our particular race.
 2. There is something holding us back and slowing us down in our race.
 3. God is NOT going to take it away – that is up to us.
 4. It says, “*Let us strip off.*” We do the *stripping*.
- C. **Hebrews 12:2-3** – ² *Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. He, for the joy [of obtaining the prize] that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising and*

*ignoring the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
³ Just think of Him Who endured from sinners such grievous opposition and bitter hostility against Himself [reckon up and consider it all in comparison with your trials], so that you may not grow weary or exhausted, losing heart and relaxing and fainting in your minds.*

1. All sin is rooted in the thought-life.
2. The weights that are slowing us down are destructive thoughts.
3. Looking to Jesus means looking to the Word.
4. We are the prize that Jesus suffered for.
5. His mind was stayed on the prize, so He was able to endure the suffering.
6. We are to follow His example.
7. Victory comes when you think beyond the trial.
8. Remember: It came to pass and not to stay!



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