

# The Burden of Blessing

#### **Dale Cilliers**



#### Introduction

Offence
Expectation
Entitlement
Fairness

## Offence & Expectation

"When we expect an outcome (realistically or not) and it does not come to pass"



#### Entitlement

#### "Because of A,B,C – I deserve D,E & F..."



#### Fairness

"Comparing what we have to what others have, in light of their conduct or performance"



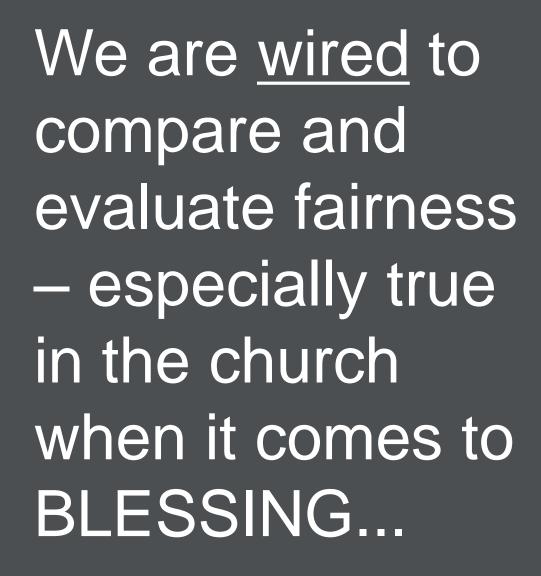
## Fairness - David Ps 73:3

"For I was envious of the boastful, When I saw the prosperity of the wicked"



#### Fairness

SCARF MODEL David Rock Golnaz Tabibnia + striatum - anterior insula





### Fairness Matt 20:1-16

Workers in the Vineyard... 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> hour?



## Renewal! Rom 12:2

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.



## 1. Gift (Ps 127:5)

Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them;



Material Gain
Wealth
Heath (Bless you)



#### 5. "Rubber Stamp"

Matt 4:1-11



6. A thing we say when live is good? 7. When we have received something of value? 8. When God has been "good" to us?



## OT

<u>Obedience:</u> Reward, Success, Conquest, Prosperity, Wealth, Victory...



## OT

Disobedience: Plunder, Defeat, Loss, Slavery, Judgement, Suffering and Punishment...



#### NT

Reality... Disciples... Has God Changed? (Hebr 13:8)



Is it possible that "blessing" includes those circumstances that appear to be the exact opposite that we would classify as "blessed," that it has more meaning than our comforts, our material reward?



#### Romans 5:3

"And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope"



#### Romans 8:28

"And we know that <u>all</u> <u>things</u> work together for <u>good</u> to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."



#### Refugees...

Global Leadership Summit '16



Beatitudes Matt 5: 1-12 Poor in Spirit Mourn Meek Hunger and Thirst Merciful Pure in Heart Peacemakers Persecuted



## Blessing:

May the purposes of God come in and through your life. It has very little to do with material gain and well being (but may include these)



#### Jeremiah 40:4

And now look, I free you this day from the chains that were on your hand. If it seems good to you to come with me to Babylon, come, and I will look after you.



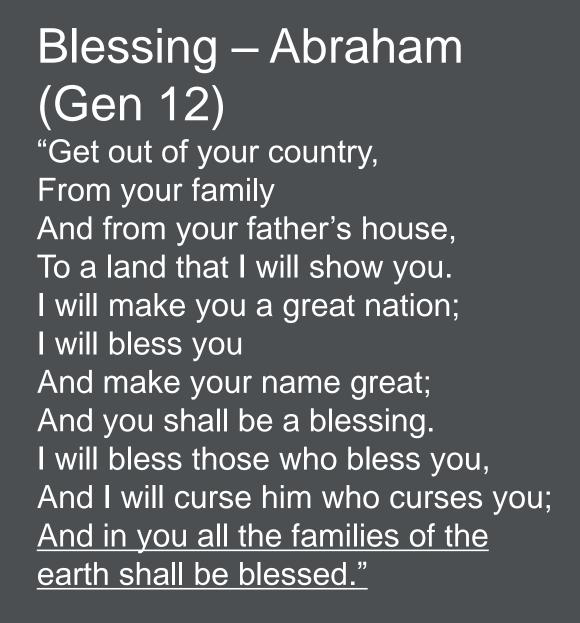
Do you have "space" for God to bless you AND OTHERS THROUGH YOU?

Are your material blessings an excuse?



To serve His Body/Church and Generations to come.

Abraham Inheritance/Legacy Kingdom





Must we "wait" for this blessing?

Eph 1:3 John 1:16 2 Pet 1:3

Past tense...

It is DONE.



#### Eph 1:3

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has <u>blessed</u> us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ"



#### John 1:16

For out of His fullness [the superabundance of His grace and truth] we have all received grace upon grace [spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing, favour upon favour, and gift heaped upon gift].



#### 2 Pet 1:3

"...as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue",



#### Summary:

1. Christ HAS already blessed you. Completely. 2. Blessing has everything to do with His Bride/His Church and everyone other than yourself.



#### Summary:

## 3. Blessing is found in ALL circumstances.