

Four Types of Storehouses

Duet 28:2, 8

“And all these blessings[plural] shall come upon you and **overtake you**, [like the waves at the beach] because you **obey** the voice of the Lord your God; the Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you.”

- The blessing is a state or quality of living. Gods favor is attracted to you because of your obedience.
- I realize there has been a lot of teaching/preaching on success and prosperity that has mislead people to focus on money, material possessions and caused many to go into extremes.
- There has been a misuse of the prosperity gospel many have used for their personal gain.
- But that is not what I am talking about today – I’m not talking about having an abnormal allegiance to money to appeal to the greed in people; and that’s not what God’s Word is talking about.
- The Bible does teach about the deceitfulness of riches, it does warn that it’s hard for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, Mark 10:24-25
“Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the Kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich person to enter into the Kingdom of God.”
 - It is not saying a rich person can’t go to heaven; it is saying that you can’t take your riches to heaven with you.
 - It’s like a person who pulls up to a revolving door at the hotel in his limousine and tries to go through the door with the limo. The car is not going through the doors, you have to get out and walk through the narrow passage and leave the car behind.
 - You’re not talking your stuff with you. You’re not getting into heaven because you’re rich, you will have to leave it behind and enter in just like everybody else.

That is why we need to lay up treasure in heaven by being generous on this earth!

God commands the blessing to come to your life-

- Do you believe it is God’s will for you to do well?
- Psa. 35:27 “And let them say continually. “Let the Lord be magnified, **who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant.**”
 - When you get something new or nice, the Lord is happy for you.
- Joshua 1:8 The Lord told Joshua, “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.”

We are talking today of the commanded blessing of the Lord upon the four types of storehouses:

These storehouses are found in the Bible and the Lord uses each one of these to bring His people to places of provision and blessing so we can experience His goodness and be used to bless His Kingdom.

Four Types of Storehouses:

The Bag – The Barrel - The Basket — The Barn

Every one of us in one of these levels of blessing.

It is God’s desire to move you from one level to the other and never stop blessing you.

1. **The Bag level:** It’s the lowest level. **NOT ENOUGH**

Haggai 1:6 “You have sown much, and bring in little; you eat, but do not have enough; you drink, but you are not filled with drink; you clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; and he who earns wages, earns wages to put into a bag with holes.”

- You put the money in a bag, trying to hold on to it, but the threads on the bottom of the bag get worn out from you holding on to it and not letting the money go do something positive.
- As soon as the resources come it, they go out through the hole.
- You never have enough.

Jesus said something about the Bag Level in Luke 12:33-34 when He challenged the wealthy man: “Sell what you have, and give alms; provide yourself bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that fails not, where no thief approaches, neither moth corrupts. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

When you keep a bag full and you grab a tight grip on it, that is what causes the hole to come into the bottom of the bag over a period of time.

You’re hoarding it, holding on to it, you’re keeping it – Jesus was saying: “Get it in circulation and do something positive with your finances.

- **Sow and give!**

The Bag mentality is “The Mine Mentality.”

- It’s mine and I’m not letting it get out of my hand.

- Did you know it impossible to give something to someone with a closed fist; but it's also impossible to receive anything with a closed fist?
- Your clenching on to that, but you're going to lose it another way.

God's system is to sow – to give:

- You don't always look for favorable conditions – you give when you don't have it to give.
- You don't wait till you're blessed exceedingly – but right where you are; at whatever level you're at, you begin to give.

A Bag Mentality is where we all start.

John 13:29 Judas was the disciple who always carried the bag.

“For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said to him, buy those things we have need of against the feast;”

- He was always holding the bag as if it was his money.
- Judas kept the money the people gave to support Jesus' ministry.
- John 12 – when Mary broke open the alabaster box costing a year's wages on the feet of Jesus; “it was Judas who complained that this money should have gone into the bag so the poor could have been fed. Not that he cared for the poor, but because he had the money bag and was a thief and used to take what was in it.”
- He had a problem with her wasting that money on the Body of Christ.
- Judas had a bag mentality – Matt 26:15 - he was handed a bag with 30 pieces of silver for betraying Jesus to the religious leaders.

Bag Mentality says: IT'S MINE – IT'S MINE.

- People and churches can have a bag mentality.
- May the Lord remind you that you are just a steward; you don't own anything in this world. The Lord made it all and it belongs to Him by right of creation.
- He allows you to have some of His creation to live with and enjoy.
- We are entrusted with this world's goods.

Rom. 14:10 “...For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.”

- It will not be a fearful day **IF** you have done what is right with what the Lord has entrusted you with in this life.

The Lord offers us another level to move from the bag level of not enough!

2. **The Barrel Level** the bag level is Not Enough, it comes in and goes out. You are always scraping by.

The Barrel Level is **JUST ENOUGH**:

- You get to this level where it's just enough to make payroll, just enough to pay the bills, just enough to pay for the car, house, insurances, groceries.
- **The Barrel level is a happy day when you move from the Bag level of NOT ENOUGH to the Barrel level of JUST ENOUGH.**

- **God watches what we do with what we have!**

He watches you when you're faithful with what you have in the bag of Not Enough to the Barrel of Just Enough.

He watches to see if you'll be faithful there! Can He trust you with more at the Barrel level?

The Barrel Level: 1Kings 17

Story of Prophet Elijah in a time of famine [there it is again], is directed to a place by a brook where a raven was commanded to feed him meat and bread in the morning and in the night.

- Where did that food come from? King Ahab's table.
- They were the only ones who had food of that kind.
- The raven would go snatch the meat and bread off the king's table and bring to the man of God.
- After a while, the brook went dry and the bird didn't fly!
- What do you do when your brook dries up and your birds don't fly?

He was sent to Zarepath to the widow women.

- Just her and the son and she's gathering sticks to build the fire to make one last meal for them out of a handful of flour.
- He commands her to fix him a cake first – 1Kings 17:13. “Fear not; go and do as you have said; but make me a little cake first, and bring it to me, and after make for you and your son.”
- Here is where the Bag Mentality will get you: “NO MINE, MINE.”
- But she made a powerful statement in giving what is a type of the tithe; and gave the little cake first to the ministry that God sent her way.
- When she did, the Bible said he commanded a blessing on her meal barrel.
- V. 16 “The meal barrel wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord, which spoke by Elijah.” For many days = 3 ½ years.
- It was never full; it never ran over; she always had “JUST ENOUGH” to scoop out what she needed for that day.

- She moved from a Bag of NOT ENOUGH to a Barrel OF JUST ENOUGH!

The blessing of the Lord comes upon your hands when whatever is in your hands, you take it and by faith you move from the Bag to the Barrel.

You do it when all the voices within you are saying “You can’t afford to do this, this is foolish and you will not make it.” Fear and faithlessness sets.

You will be blessed by the Lord from NOT ENOUGH to JUST ENOUGH.

Many get satisfied and quit at this level – **but there is another level:**

3. **The Basket Level** “MORE THAN ENOUGH”

Duet 28:5 “Blessed shall be your BASKET and your kneading bowl.”

- A basket is out there where people can see it.
- The little boy of John 6 had a basket of bread and fish his mother had prepared for him that day.
- 5,000 men, besides the women and children. Said to be approximately 20,000.
- The boy willingly gave his basket to Jesus.
- Jesus took the five loaves and two fish and blessed it, broke it, and gave it to His disciples to distribute it.
- He then took the leftovers and filled 12 baskets full.
- God never just fills the need, there is always more than enough.
- That’s the kind of God He is.
- That’s how it starts out: Me, myself and I – get my needs met.
But God wants to move you from “Me – My” to the 2nd level & notice the barrel took care of her and her son and family, that’s good. But it’s not Kingdom mentality. Kingdom mentality is the Basket level.
But God wants to move you to another level –
The Basket Level says: “I don’t even worry about myself and my family; God has so prospered me that now I have a heart for the community and others.
My life is given to bless others around me.
Some in this church – have become Basket Mentality believers and you care about the needs of others and God has blessed you to be able to give and never miss it.
- You’ve gone from the Bag to the Barrel to the Basket level and walk by faith and never worry about God supplying all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
- Your giving helps to empower WOWC to do things locally, state wide and internationally that are amazing. Lives are being touched and impacted by the Gospel because of your level of giving.

- You are living in the reality of knowing: Duet. 28:18 “And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.”

You’ve been moved from the Bag to the Barrel to the Basket where you can bless thousands and you remember that it is the Lord’s blessing that has caused this in your life.

Some people and churches get to the Basket level and stop: but there is one more level:

4. The BARN LEVEL EXCEEDINGLY ENOUGH

Duet. 28:8 “The Lord will command the blessing on you in your **storehouses** and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you.”

Storehouses pictures barns of Joseph – Genesis.

- Joseph was thrown into the pit by his brothers and sold to the Ishmaelite’s into Egypt to become a slave to Potiphar.
- There he was accused of rape by Potiphar’s wife and thrown into prison for a crime he didn’t commit. There he had a dream that God used to raise him up.
- In that dream; “He told Pharaoh that a famine was coming and we needed to build barns and fill them full of grain.
- The barns were built and filled and fed people from everywhere that came to Egypt.

It goes from a **Bag** of ME and My, to a **Barrel** of just me and my house, to a **Basket** of the whole community being blessed.

But God would like to find people that will become a **Barn** – they get a Barn mentality to where they can touch nations. It can go Global, to do things exceedingly and abundantly above all that we could ask or think or imagine.

I wonder if God has any Barn people in this congregation that He can trust with enormous influence and power that would understand that it is the Lord’s blessing and it comes not to make **you** rich and famous but to let His provision flow through your hands to be a blessing to others.

I can leave a legacy and make Jesus famous on the earth and help transform cities, my city, my state, even my nation and be a part of reaching the world.

If you’re at the Bag level where it is going out and you have nothing; you don’t have to stay there.

- If you'll start sowing, giving and obeying God' He'll command the blessing on your **Bag of Never Enough** and move your bag to a **Barrel of Just Enough**.

And if you'll keep sowing; God will take you from the **Barrel of Just Enough** to the **Basket of More than Enough** where you're looking for the opportunity to bless other people on purpose.

If you will keep on being faithful; God will move you from the **Basket of More than Enough** to a **Barn of Exceedingly Enough** where the resources are unlimited to be able to bless the work of the Lord.

Jesus wants more YOU more than anything you possess. He wants your heart to be surrendered to Him and know His love for you.

Lord Jesus, I given myself away to you and I am ready for the exchange.
I'm ready to receive all You are for me as I give myself to You today.