

You can have PLENTY

—regardless of Depression!

A beggar is always a man of this world.

Never is a beggar a man who walks with God and TRUSTS God to perform that which He has promised in His Word!

David, under inspiration from God, wrote: "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I never seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." (Psalm 37:25).

Two Reasons

Why? Because, in the first place, the righteous man is industrious, diligent in his work or business, doing all he can do toward supplying honestly his own needs. "The Lord will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish; but He casteth away the substance of the wicked. He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the DILIGENT maketh rich." (Prov. 10:3,4).

And in the second place, the righteous has the faith to TRUST the Lord to keep His Word, and, if he should find himself in a tight place, to open the way and supply his every need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. He does not beg. He asks of GOD, not of man, and has the faith to receive the answer. "Whatsoever is not of faith is of SIN." (Rom. 14:23).

Even the careful, prudent, industrious man may, in a time of depression like the present, be reduced to poverty and want. He may, thru circumstances out of his control, find himself in dire need, and utterly helpless. Most men have to "take the count" and meet reverses, at least once during life. The man who has been so fortunate as not yet to have met such a reverse will do well to avoid giving too much credit to his own careful management and dilligence, or to criticise or to scorn his less fortunate brother.

But when a righteous man comes to such a predicament, he never needs to beg or suffer want.

Even tho his plight be the

We are in the world's worst Depression. The gaunt specter of Hunger and Want stalks every land.

Yet Almighty God promises us: "My God shall supply all your NEED according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:19). WHY are so many NOT supplied?

result of his own folly, still he need neither beg nor suffer any lack.

God has promised to deliver us out of every trouble. Even tho we brought it on ourselves. Read Psalm 107:4-31. He does not deal with us

after our sins (Psalm 103:10), and promises to satisfy our mouths with good things, (verse 5).

But, do not mistake the mercy of God. He is a God of justice, as well as of love and mercy. There is always this CONDITION: that we repent of our own sins---which means to turn from them.

If a family is in want because of shiftlessness, laziness, wastefulness, or spendthriftiness, they must first REPENT of these things, and make a determined effort to correct them, before God's promises may apply. If due to poor management, this, too, must be acknowledged, repented of, and a determined effort made to overcome it.

But God's plan for the Christian is to cast ALL our cares upon HIM, (I Pet. 5:7), and He promises that we shall suffer no want, (Ps. 34:9).

Why We Do Not Receive The Answer?

Another REASON for a great deal of misery and suffering today is going counter to God's command, "owe no man anything." We disobey God when we go into debt. Many are careless about charging things, or buying on the installment plan. Buy only that which you already have on hand the money to pay for. If you do not have the money, and the thing is a NEED, do not charge it or go in debt---but ask GOD to supply the need, TRUST Him, and dony yourself until He does!

No one can deny that the Bible definitely PROMISES that God will deliver us from every trial and trouble. The Scriptures definitely promise that God will supply every NEED---whether financial, spiritual, or otherwise. The Word plainly and definitely promises God will heal us when sick. (Continued on page 9)

ARE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS
IN THE LAW OF MOSES?

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and it is a law complete in itself,
for HE ADDED NO MORE.

Since this law did not come by or thru Moses, it cannot be called the law of Moses. Nowhere in all the Bible can you find a single one of the Ten Commandments mentioned in any text where the words "law of Moses" are used. Nowhere does the Bible call the Ten Commandments the "law of Moses." And if the Bible does not, we should not. The Ten Commandments form the law referred to as "God's Law," or "His Commandments," and "My Commandments."

Where shall we go for a clean-cut definition of SIN? Surely the Bible will clearly define anything as vital as SIN. "Sin is the transgression of the law," (I John 3:4). WHAT law? Surely not one which was gone away. Surely, also, a very definite, cleanly-expressed law, and not just a collection of unrelated precepts scattered here and there, subject to our own decision as to which we think binding and which not. Jesus made it clear that the particular law it is sin to transgress is the Ten Commandments. Paul made this clear. So does James. So does John. Surely it is SIN to have other gods before Him, or to swear, or to lie, steal, murder, commit adultery.

Notice, too, Moses did not WRITE this law. God wrote this law in two tables of stone. Since God gave this law direct to the people, with His own voice, and since its original-authorship was God's, written with the very finger of God, it is GOD'S law, and not Moses' law. And it is COMPLETE in itself. "He added no more." So if Moses gave them a law, it was not this law, or part of this law, or added to this law, for to this law God "added no more."

Moses Gave a Separate Law

When, therefore, we read in Deut. 33:4 that "MOSES commanded us a law," we know it was an entirely different and separate law.

Study also Nehemiah 9:14: "and commandedst them precepts, statutes and laws, BY THE HAND OF MOSES thy servant." These were different from the Commandments God commanded them direct from heaven, mentioned in verse 13.

Now to prove there are TWO entirely separate laws---that the Ten Commandments are considered by God Himself as different and separate from the law of Moses---examine II Kings 21:8. God is speak-

ing: "only if they will observe to do according to all that I HAVE COMMANDED THEM, and according to all the law that my servant MOSES commanded them." Read it again. God speaks plainly of one law which He says "I have commanded them," and of another different law which He says "My servant Moses commanded them." Surely no one can twist or wrest this into anything but TWO separate laws.

Written Differently

Now how was Moses' law written? See Deut. 31:24-26. "When Moses had made an end of writing the words of THIS law in a book . . . Moses commanded . . . take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant."

Notice Moses' law was written IN A BOOK, and is distinctly called "THE BOOK OF THE LAW." It was kept IN THE SIDE OF the ark.

But how was God's Law written? And the Lord delivered unto me two tables of stone written WITH THE FINGER OF GOD! and on them was written according to all the words which the Lord spake with you." (Deut. 9:10. See also Ex. 31:18).

Now see where the Ten Commandments were kept. "There was nothing in the ark save the two tables which Moses put therein at Horeb." (II Chron. 5:10). Heb. 9:4 shows they were in the inner apartment, the Holy of Holies.

Some will argue that Moses broke the original tables of stone, (Deut. 9:17), and then ask us to believe that Moses wrote the second set of tables which were in the ark. But read Deut. 10:1-5. The Lord says, verse 2, "and I will write on the tables," and verse 4 says the Lord DID do the writing, and verse 5 says these were the same tables which were placed in the ark.

Some, too, may argue that Moses wrote the Ten Commandments in the writing of the Old Testament, claiming that made it Moses law. But by the same argument, it is, then, MY law, for I, too, have written out all the Ten Commandments several times. When Moses wrote them, he was merely copying them, as thousands have done. Original writing establishes authorship, and the original writing was God's.

To sum up, God gave the people a law direct, face to face, with His own voice. Another different law was given thru Moses. The Commandments were written with the very finger of God on two tables of stone. Moses' law was written by Moses in a book. The Commandments were kept INSIDE the ark, in the Holy of Holies, under the mercy seat, (Ex. 25:21), but the "book of the law" of Moses

was kept outside, in the side of the ark. And notice, too, that while Moses' law was written in a book---porishable, temporary material for a temporary law---God's law was written on the most enduring and permanent material, tables of STONE, for that law was to be enduring and permanent. The two laws were given differently, writton differently, kept separately.

The Contrast

Jesus, proaching the Gospel of the Kingdom, (Mat. 9:35), said we must keep the Ten Commandments to be saved, (Mat. 19:16-19). (While we are not saved BY our obedience to God's law, but by grace thru faith, yet we must REPENT of our sins in having transgressed that law, and this repentance---this turning FROM disobedience to willing obedience---is a necessary condition to being saved by grace. Also a Christian must continue to obey God's Law or he sins and falls from grace. So while obedience will not save us, yet we must obey the Commandments, to BE saved.) But the doers of the book of the law (of Moses) are under a curse (Gal. 3:10).

To break a single point of the Ten Commandments is SIN, (Jas. 2:8-11); but when Jews told Gentile Christians at Antioch they must keep the law of Moses (Acts 15:5), the Holy Spirit inspired the Apostles to write they need keep only four points of this ceremonial law (Acts 15:28,29).

It is only those who are willing to DO the Ten Commandments who shall enter in thru the gates into the City (Rev. 22:14), but the Law of Moses stood only in meats and drinks and diverse washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them only UNTIL the time of reformation (Heb. 9:10).

Let us not be deceived. "Sin is the transgression of the law," (I John 3:4). That law is not a haphazard unrelated selection of precepts picked here and there according to the desires and whims and traditions of men, but a very definite, separate, distinct LAW, given by the very voice of God direct to the people, writton with the very finger of God on permanent, enduring tables of stone---the Ten Commandments. The first four of these define LOVE to God. The last six define LOVE to follow man. This law is LOVE.

"ALL His Commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever," (Psalm 111:7,8).

"For this is the LOVE of God, that we keep HIS COMMANDMENTS, and HIS commandments are not grievous."

(I John 5:3). Jesus spoke nothing of Himself, but the Father gave Him a commandment, what He should speak. He gave and brought no NEW Commandments. The two great commandments of love to God and love to follow-man---of which the Ten are a definition---were quoted from the Old Testament. HIS Commandments were His Father's Commandments, the Ten. And He said, "If ye love me, KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS." (John 14:15).

Jesus had to die on the Cross because we sinned by breaking these same Commandments. They are God's Law of LOVE. Let us keep them!

You Can Have PLENTY!

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Then WHY are prayers for such things unanswered in so many cases?

It may be because we ask amiss, (Jas. 4:3), and not according to God's will as plainly expressed in His Word. The first thing to do is be sure we are asking what God has PROMISED to do.

It may be because we are not obedient to God, and He is trying to teach us a lesson. If we refuse to live by EVERY Word of God, rejecting part of the TRUTH of the Bible, we are living in rebellion and need expect nothing from God till we surrender. "Whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His Commandments, and DO those things that are pleasing in His sight." (I John 3:22).

But more often it is simply UNBELIEF, lack of FAITH. Whatsoever is not of FAITH is of SIN. He that doubteth is damned. "Let him ask in FAITH, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth . . . let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord." (Jas. 2:6,7).

WHY this general lack of faith? It is almost impossible implicitly to trust anyone, or anything, which seems unreal to us.

The more we live in the things of this world, allow them to occupy our thoughts, absorb our interests, and become part of our lives, the more REAL these material things seem to us ---and in exact proportion, the more UNREAL God and the spiritual things seem.

We do not KNOW God. To KNOW Him is to TRUST Him. The more we LIVE in the spiritual realm, the more our thoughts are filled with the things of God, as found in His Word, the more we PRAY, the more we WALK in the Spirit, the more REAL HE becomes, and the more we can trust Him! If your faith is weak, probably this is the secret of it.

The remedy: Come OUT from the world---all the way. Seek only GOD'S will. Spend much more time in honest Bible study and earnest prayer. Read Jas. 4:7,8, and Mat. 6:33.