

## Devotion for Sunday 29 August 2021

“Whatever we do will prosper” Psalm 1:3

When we delight and meditate on God's Word, whatever we do will prosper, and we will bear fruit. Don't think of prospering in the material sense or as in success or power. The prosperity in verse 3 is a relationship with Jesus. If we have that, we have everything we could ever want or need. As you read through Psalm 1 again, strive to find your happiness in your relationship with Jesus. Check your heart. Check yourself. Are you walking, standing, and sitting where you shouldn't be? Then turn around, and get back into the loving arms of Jesus.

The blessed man or woman will not wither when seasons of difficulty and drought come to test their faith because they are anchored in Christ. Prosperity means that God is working in each of our lives from an eternal perspective and the man or woman who prospers in everything he or she undertakes is the one who takes up his cross and follows Christ. The one who is led and guided by the indwelling Spirit; the one who maintains ongoing fellowship with the Heavenly Father and presses on the high call of the gospel of Christ.

As we meditate on scripture it will lead us to prayer, to talking with God about our thoughts and feelings. Are they in line with His word or is there an adjustment to make? Meditating is aligning our thoughts with God's word. And what we meditate on today may not always bring immediate insight, but it is deepening our faith and developing our relationship with God. Meditating on God's word changes our perspective and outlook on life. As we spend time reflecting and developing a love for God's word, we put down spiritual roots. This is how we become healthy and strong, like the tree that is planted by streams of water.

The season of life we're in right now is very trying. Each of us struggles with different things. How are you dealing with the trials you're facing right now? When our foundation in life is in God and His word, then no matter what things we go through, we prosper. Don't forget, God has good things in store for us. He will see us through this trying time. He loves us and we'll come out on the other side better. Be encouraged, even though times are hard, we serve a good God. God will always see you through. Stay close to Him. As we keep ourselves planted in Him and His Word, we'll come through this better than before! After all, the true measure of a successful life is that day when we stand before the Lord and hear Him say, “well done my good and faithful servant.” A prosperous life is a life lived for the Lord. And we can only know what that means if we are grounded in God's word, meditating upon it “day and night.”

When we go through rough times in our lives, we often seek advice from friends, family, books or even the media. Sometimes, that advice can go a long way. Other times, it seems to make sense, but even advice that works for a while cannot sustain us for the long haul. Whether you are in a good season or going through hard times, it is important to build our life's foundation on something that lasts. How else will we overcome hardships when they come? As Christians, we still face hard times. This can be a scary reality to face. However, this Psalm says we can flourish and not

whither when we build our foundation on God's truth, our roots will be so deep and healthy that we'll produce fruit during the good times and be sustained through the bad times—just like a strong tree stands through the winter.

God promises to keep watch over and protect those who hold His truth close to their hearts. Anything else we build our lives on will not hold in life's storms, and we'll be "like chaff that the wind blows away." So, consider where your foundation lies. Are you seeking answers elsewhere or are you standing firm on the Word of God?

If you take one thing away from these Devotions it's this; Meditate on His Word day and night. Find your joy, your pleasure, and your greatest delight in His Word.

My question therefore for each of us to consider is:

1. Are my roots going deeper and my leaves evergreen? Am I growing in the Lord or have I become comfortable and complacent?

May God's grace and peace be with you all.

Bobby Kusilifu