

5 Keys to Real Prosperity

(Part 6)
3 John 2

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

INTRODUCTION: *Review:*

- Key #1 Divine Revelation from God!
- Key #2 Divine Timing!
- Key # 3 Biblical Authority.
- Key # 4 Resist the temptation to fall into the “The Judges Sin-Cycle”!

* The Judges Sin-Cycle is very simple:

1. ISRAEL WOULD FALL INTO SIN AND BEGIN TO SERVE IDOLS! (JUDGES 2:7 & 10-12A)
2. THEY WOULD THEN BEGIN TO REAP THEIR SPIRITUAL HARVEST!
3. ISRAEL WOULD REPENT AND GOD WOULD SEND THEM HELP!

* HOW DO WE BREAK FREE?

1. ACKNOWLEDGE THE DANGERS OF “JOINING IN.”
2. ACCEPT OUR CALL FROM GOD TO BE SEPARATE!
3. AIM HIGH AND SERVE GOD IN EXCELLENCE!

Key # 5

Divine Prosperity Receives Supernatural Wisdom
(1 Kings 3:5)

In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

* How do we attain Supernatural Wisdom?

I. SUPERNATURAL WISDOM REQUIRES SPIRITUAL SEEKING. (1 Kings 3:4)

And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.

A. SOLOMON CAME TO GOD WITH A SPECIAL SACRIFICE.

1. He was willing to seek God through sacrifice!
2. He brought God an impressive gift!
3. New Testament believers come to God in a different way!
(Hebrews 13:15)

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

B. SOLOMON SOUGHT GOD AT THE ALTAR!

1. In the days of the Old Testament, the altar was the meeting place where God meet men!
2. But in the New Testament, we are introduced to a new kind of altar, The Cross! (Mt. 16:24)

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

3. If we ever hope to encounter God's supernatural presence, we must go to the Cross! We can meet him there!

**C. SOLOMON OPENED THE DOOR TO THE SPIRIT WORLD!
(V.5)**

In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

1. The Lord came to Solomon at his place of worship! (You can look for God in your expressions of praise!)
2. The Lord showed up at a time of helplessness! (He came to Solomon at night in his dreams! God wants to be in complete control!)
3. God came with a wonderful offer, ask me and I'll give it to you! (God came to Solomon with a gift! Our God is a giver!)

II. SUPERNATURAL WISDOM UNDERSTANDS THE IMPORTANCE OF DIVINE KNOWLEDGE. (V.6-9)

And Solomon said, Thou hast showed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

7 And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.

8 And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

**A. SOLOMON CAME WITH A HONEST AND HUMBLE HEART.
(V.6-8)**

1. Notice the words of Solomon:
“I am a servant of God”
”I am a mere child. I am not ready.”
“I don’t know what I’m doing”
2. These are words that touch the heart of God!
3. God will give us the strength and help to succeed!

B. HE HAD AN UNDERSTANDING OF PRIORITY! (V.9)

1. He understood the importance of spiritual insight! (v.9a)
Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people,

2. He understood the power of Spiritual Discernment! (v.9b)
...that I may discern between good and bad:

2. Solomon also understood his own limitations and shortcomings! (v.9c)

...for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

**III. SUPERNATURAL WISDOM OPENS UP THE DOOR TO
DIVINE BLESSING AND PROSPERITY! (V.10-13)**

A. GOD WAS BLESSED HIS HUNGER FOR WISDOM. (V.10)

And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

1. God is concerned about what we say and how we pray!
2. We must never underestimate the power of our words!
3. Our words can either please the Lord or bring us into judgment!

B. GOD WAS READY TO HONOR HIS REQUEST! (V.11 & 12)

And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;

12 Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

1. God honors those who will put him first! (Mt. 6:33)

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Supernatural provision follows those who seek after the face of God!
3. God gave Solomon divine wisdom because wisdom is more valuable than anything!

C. HIS DESIRE FOR WISDOM OPEN THE DOOR TO MORE!
(V.13)

And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days.