Your Miracle Is In Your Mouth

JOSEPH PRINCE
Your Miracle Is In Your Mouth

Joseph Prince
How You See God Affects How You Receive From God

The Reason You Can Receive

Speak To The Rock And Receive

Receive Your Blessings By The Grace Of God
Speak To The Rock For Your Miracle

How do you see God? It is very important how you see God because when it comes to the fight of life, how you see God will affect your faith and how you receive from Him. Do you see an angry God? Or do you see a gracious, giving Father?

You see, your perception of God will determine the quality of your relationship with Him and this affects everything else — the way you share God’s love with those around you, the quality of your relationship with your spouse, the way you respond to hardships at work…

When you see Him as He really is — a gracious, giving Father — it will put so much faith in your heart to receive from Him that if it’s a miracle you need, it’s a miracle you’ll get!

The Bible shows us two beautiful pictures of Christ as the Rock. In Exodus 17, God told Moses to strike a rock so that water would flow to quench the thirst of the Israelites. This symbolises the crucifixion of Christ and it also shows us Christ as the supplier of all our needs. The water that flowed from the smitten rock typifies all that we need in life, be it health, prosperity, better relationships, a new job… Whatever we need flows from Jesus our Rock.

Then, in Numbers 20, when God told Moses to speak to a high rock, Moses disobeyed and instead, struck the rock. This symbolises those who continue to crucify the exalted Christ with wrong beliefs and inaccurate confessions. But because Christ was smitten once for all sin, God now wants us to simply speak to the exalted Rock for our needs to be met.
As long as you are a child of God, there is no longer any reason to wonder if God wants to bless you. He has forever settled that issue at the cross! The Rock has been struck! The waters are flowing! Because of these eternal truths, we can expect to be blessed, redeemed and healed in every area of our lives!

When you are faced with a problem, what should your response be? Just speak to the Rock. You speak to the Rock by agreeing with God’s Word, by saying what He has said about you and your situation in His Word. That is true confession!

It’s so important to make sure that what comes out of your mouth is true and correct, and lines up with the Word of God. Speak to your Rock, the High Priest of your confession, and the waters will flow. Your miracle is in your mouth!
chapter 1

How You See God Affects How You Receive From God
chapter 1

How You See God Affects How You Receive From God

‘Why Do You See Me Like That?’

Many years ago, I heard God’s voice distinctly while I was praying. What He said changed my theology.

On this day, I had begun to pray, “Heavenly Father…” and as usual, I pictured God as an old man with white hair, white eyebrows and a long white beard. I don’t know about you, but until then, that’s how I pictured God. Then, suddenly, I heard His voice speak to me. It was an inner voice that said, “Son, stop! Why do you see Me like that?”

I obeyed and stopped, and then I replied, “Oh, because you are my Father and fathers are usually very old.”

God said to me, “Son, growing old is part of the curse on earth. Because of Adam’s sin, people grow old, they become weak and they die. In heaven, there is no curse. I am forever young.”

Now, that really changed the way I saw God. It changed my perspective. And it changed the way I prayed from that day onwards. Now, whenever I pray, I see a heavenly Father who is
youthful and dynamic.

How do you see God? How do your Christian and non-Christian friends see God? If you go into the streets and ask people what God is like, many of them will probably tell you that God is old, that He is serious because He is holy and that He is a strict disciplinarian who is always catching them doing wrong. Some of them will even tell you that God disciplines them with sicknesses and other hardships.

**God Is Not Judgmental, God Is Loving**

Listen to me, my friend, God is not like that. God is love. He is like a father who is always thinking of ways to put a smile on his boy’s face. He goes to the toy shop to look for a gift. He finds one and there is a smile on his face as he looks at the toy. He is imagining his son opening up the gift for the first time and looking at the toy with joy. And he is smiling.

He is the warm, friendly voice on the inside that lifts you up and strengthens you.

God is like that. He is a good Father. Matthew 7:11 tells us:

\[11\text{If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to}\]
your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

Right now, He is thinking of you and He has a smile on His face because He has something wonderful prepared for you!

That is the kind of God you and I have. He is not out to catch you doing wrong so that He can knock you on the head! No, He always affirms His love for you. He is the warm, friendly voice on the inside that lifts you up and strengthens you.

Some people may not agree with this picture of God. Perhaps they didn’t grow up with fathers who were good to them. They may have had absentee fathers, fathers who were never there for them. Or worse, they may have had abusive fathers who beat them harshly. So their image of a father is already tainted. They automatically assume that God is like their own father. They find it hard to see God as a gracious, giving Father.

If you are like that, I want you to know that God is a Father of the fatherless. (Psalm 68:5) He is a loving Father who will never leave you nor forsake you!

Now, at times, you may “hear” a voice in your head that points out your shortcomings and sins, that condemns you and makes you feel dirty. That is not the voice of God, but the voice of the devil!

In Revelation 12:10, Satan is called “the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night”. This tells us that Satan comes to accuse us of having broken God’s laws. He comes to remind us of our sins, making us feel lousy about ourselves! God is not like that. He does not go
about reminding us of our sins and what we have done wrong. John 16:8–11 says:

8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Notice that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin. The word is singular — not sins, but sin. Why? Because the Holy Spirit only convicts us of one sin — not believing in Jesus.

But once you believe in Jesus, what does the Holy Spirit convict you of? Of righteousness. Have you ever heard that? Most people hear that the Holy Spirit is a nag, that he tells them what is wrong with them. But here, we are told that He convicts us of righteousness because Jesus has died to remove our sins and make us eternally righteous. And contrary to what we’ve always been hearing, He convicts us that it is not us He judges, but the devil!

How you see God will affect your faith and how you receive from Him.
Yet, there are people who see a God of the Old Testament, a God who judges His people, and who corrects and disciplines them. They think that God always wants to correct and discipline them. Let me tell you, the God of the Old Testament may have executed justice from time to time, but His heart is not in judgment.

Psalm 103:8–9 declares:

8 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. 9 He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever.

You see, God loves mercy. His heart is full of mercy, not judgment. The Bible doesn’t say that God is judgment. The Bible says that God is love. (1 John 4:8) It says that His mercy endures forever! (Psalm 136:1)

Some of you may stop me at this point and say, “Pastor Prince, does it really matter how I see God?” Well yes, it does! It is very important how you see God because when it comes to the fight of life, how you see God will affect your faith and how you receive from Him. Your perception of God will determine the quality of your relationship with Him and this affects everything else — the way you share God’s love with those around you, your relationship with your husband or wife, the way you respond to hardships at work…

How You See Determines How You’ll Receive
There was a young man in our church who was having a tough time with his business partner. He finally gave up his share of the business to his partner. As a result, he was without a job for a while. During that time, I had been preaching a series of messages on how our heavenly Father takes care of everything, and how all we need to do is trust Him.

The young man applied this message to his work life and prayed for a better job. He saw God as a powerful and loving Father, and simply left the matter in God’s hands. It wasn’t long before he was offered a great job. He was given the role of business manager for an engineering company in the oil and gas industry, even though he didn’t have an engineering background and was only 25 years old!

This new role basically is to run the company’s local subsidiary with another manager. He works from home and his hours are flexible. He also gets along well with the sales development manager and he says the salary is “pretty good”. Not bad for someone who needed a new job! When you see God as a giving and gracious Father, it becomes easy to receive what you need from Him, whether it is a new job, healing or a financial breakthrough.

Now, some of you may say, “Pastor Prince, we can’t always expect God to deliver us from our troubles because He may use difficult circumstances to teach us important lessons.”

Listen to me, if you are drowning and you call out to God to save you, God is not going to take the opportunity to give you
a 10-lesson swimming course. He is not going to say, “Okay, step one: Kick. Now, progress to step two: Move your hands. Step three: Breathe…” Anyone who does that is cruel!

No, God would not do that! He will save you straightaway! He will grab you and bring you to shore. Remember when Peter decided he wanted to walk out on the water to meet Jesus? When he began to doubt and sink, he cried, “Lord, save me!” Immediately, Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him. (Matthew 14:30–31) He didn’t use the opportunity to give Peter a 10-point faith course! He saved Peter immediately.

Faith Works Best When You Know God’s Love For You

Beloved, in your time of need, receiving from God becomes easy if you will see Him as a gracious Father who responds immediately to your cries. You will then expect a miracle from a God of mercy, not some painful, lengthy lesson from a God of judgment.

Don’t get me wrong, God does teach us, but He doesn’t teach us with accidents, tragedies or sicknesses.

So how does God teach us? He uses His Word to discipline or train us. If there is an area of your life that needs to be corrected, God will speak to your heart about it, perhaps through a sermon or even through your spouse! You may not like what you hear, but you need to know that He is doing it for your benefit because you are His son or daughter and He loves you. (Hebrews 12:5–11)
I want to challenge you: What kind of God do you really see? Do you still see an angry God who likes to point out your mistakes and knock you on your head? Or do you see a gracious, giving Father?
chapter 2

The Reason You Can Receive
chapter 2

The Reason You Can Receive

Two Pictures Of Christ That Demonstrate How Much God Loves You

Let me show you two pictures of Christ in the Old Testament that demonstrate how gracious God is to His people, in spite of all their complaints. When you see Him as He really is — a gracious, giving Father — it will put so much faith in your heart to receive from Him that if it’s a miracle you need, it’s a miracle you’ll get!

The first picture is in Exodus 17. The second one is in Numbers 20. In both passages, Jesus is typified as a rock from which water flows to provide refreshment to the children of Israel when they were in the wilderness.

How do we know that the rock represents Jesus? In 1 Corinthians 10:4, Paul tells us that the rock was Christ:

4and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock
was Christ.

Jesus is the supplier of all our needs. The waters that flowed from the rock typify all that we need in life, be it health, prosperity, a better relationship with a loved one, a new job, a new house… Whatever we need flows from Jesus our Rock.

So when you see these two pictures of Christ in the two passages, and how God loves you so much that He gave His Son to be beaten so that you can be blessed, you will catch the heart of God towards you and receiving from Him then becomes easy. You will begin to expect God to meet your needs because you know the kind of God that He is.

Jesus Is The Source Of Water That Quenches Our Thirst

The first picture of Christ that I want you to see is in Exodus 17:1–6:

1Then all the congregation of the children of Israel set out on their journey from the Wilderness of Sin, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped in Rephidim; but there was no water for the people to drink. 2Therefore the people contended with Moses, and said, “Give us water, that we may drink.” So Moses said to them, “Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the Lord?” 3And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said,
“Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” 4So Moses cried out to the Lord, saying, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!” 5And the Lord said to Moses, “Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go. 6Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink.” And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

The story speaks of Christ the Rock being smitten on the cross so that rivers of blessings can flow to us.

In the story, the Israelites had just come out of Egypt and crossed the Red Sea. They travelled from place to place according to the commandment of the Lord and camped at a place called Rephidim.

But there was no water there for the people to drink, so they told Moses, “Give us water, that we may drink.” Moses replied, “Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the Lord?”

The people continued their aggression. They were thirsty and they accused Moses of bringing them out of Egypt to “kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst”. They were so angry with Moses that they wanted to stone him!

Moses’ response was to turn to the Lord. This is the best
action to take when we face challenges. Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!”

A Grumbling People And A Gracious God

Now, we see here that the thirsty children of Israel were ready to kill Moses! And this was not the first time the children of Israel had stood in opposition to God’s appointed leader. Earlier on, in Exodus 15, when the people arrived at Marah and found the water bitter, they grumbled against Moses. Then, when they reached the Wilderness of Sin (Exodus 16), they grumbled against Moses again, accusing him of bringing them out into the desert to starve to death.

Despite their grumbling, the Lord was gracious to them and He told Moses how to provide water for them. He said, “Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink.”

So Moses did as he was commanded and the people drank the water that flowed from the rock. Isn’t God gracious? He looks beyond His people’s faults and sees their needs! He didn’t scold them. He didn’t send fire down from heaven to fry them! He didn’t say to Moses, “Step aside, I’m going to liquefy them!” Instead, He gave them water to drink.
Only Jesus can satisfy the world’s thirst and hunger!

Even when the Israelites grumbled earlier in Exodus 16 because they were hungry, do you know what God said to Moses? He said, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you.” (Exodus 16:4) His response was to give them bread to eat every day. And it was no ordinary bread! He gave them more than they had asked for. He gave them bread from heaven!

The bread represents Jesus, who is the true bread from heaven. When Jesus walked on earth, He said, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.” (John 6:35) The water represents His unlimited supply and refreshment. Only Jesus can satisfy the world’s thirst and hunger!

God saw beyond His people’s grumbling. He didn’t just see their physical needs, He saw their need for a Saviour. He gave them water and bread to meet their physical needs, but He also gave them the living water and the bread of life to meet their spiritual needs as well.

God Loves You Despite Your Disobedience

My friend, you may be like the Israelites, complaining to God because of your difficult circumstances. You may not be happy
with God. You may be resisting His call on your life. But God still loves you despite your complaints, your disobedience or your wrong behaviour. Be sure of this: It is His goodness, not His judgment, that will lead you to repentance. (Romans 2:4)

I’m not encouraging you to be bad or to continue in disobedience, but even when you blow it, God doesn’t hold your sin against you. (Romans 4:8) God doesn’t bless you or withhold blessings from you based on what you’ve done right or what you’ve done wrong.

You may wonder about this and ask, “Pastor Prince, has God gone soft then? Has He lowered His standards of holiness?” No, He hasn’t! Despite what you do or don’t do, the reason God blesses you is that Jesus was obedient to the point of death. God blesses you because of His Son’s work on the cross, not because of your good works. His blessings in your life are the result of His obedience, not your obedience! It is His beating, not your beating, that results in the blessings in your life!

**He Was Beaten So That We Can Be Blessed**

How do we know that it is Jesus’ beating that brought forth the water for the Israelites in the desert? Well, we know that a rock had to be struck. And we know from 1 Corinthians 10:4 that the rock God told Moses to strike was Christ — “*and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.*”
In Exodus 17:6, the Lord Himself declared, "Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink." Now, this is one of the most remarkable statements in this story. When I first read it, it touched my heart. The Lord told Moses to hit the rock. But who was standing there? The Lord Himself! It is a picture of Christ the Rock being smitten on the cross for our sins!

The nails in the cross did not keep Him on the cross. It was His love for you that kept Him there!

The judgment and punishment of God were meant to fall on us because of our sins, but Jesus stepped in front of us and "boom!" — the beating fell on Him instead! He stepped in and absorbed the blow for us. He was beaten so that we can be blessed!

The water that flowed out of the rock represents the blessings we need, whether it is health, prosperity, protection or peace. Now, it’s up to us whether we drink it or not. God has done His part, so just reach out and receive.

How many of you have seen kids hitting a piñata at a party? When they are blindfolded, the kids use sticks or clubs to hit
the piñata packed with goodies. When the piñata breaks open, all the goodies flow out and the kids rush around collecting whatever goodies they can find.

The Bible says that all the fullness of the Godhead is in Jesus. (Colossians 2:9) He is full of grace and truth. (John 1:14) So when God’s rod of judgment struck Jesus — He was like a piñata — all the blessings of God burst out for us to receive! He was like the alabaster flask of very costly ointment that was broken so that the ointment of God could flow out for us to receive!

Beloved, Jesus went to the cross so that you can be blessed. He laid down His life willingly for you. The nails in the cross did not keep Him on the cross. It was His love for you that kept Him there!

And if God has given you heaven’s best, will He then withhold from you blessings such as complete healing, a good job or a healthy relationship with your wife or husband? Of course not! If He did withhold these blessings from you, then these things would appear to be of more value than Jesus! The Bible says, “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” (Romans 8:32)

Today, we can be blessed because of the cross. And it is because of His obedience and His beating that rivers of blessing can now flow to us.

A Picture Of The Crucified Christ
Some of you may still not be convinced that the smiting of the rock in Exodus 17 is a picture of Jesus on the cross. So let me show you how beautifully God has hidden signs in this incident that point to His Son’s crucifixion. God’s Word is so amazing! There are no superfluous details in His Word!

In Exodus 17:5, the Lord told Moses, “Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel.” Then, in the next verse, it says that Moses did as commanded and struck the rock “in the sight of the elders of Israel”.

So we see that the rock was struck in front of the “elders of Israel”. We see in Matthew 26 and 27 that Jesus was also judged, condemned and crucified in the presence of the elders of Israel! Caiaphas the high priest interrogated Jesus in the company of the chief priests, scribes and elders. He also tore his high-priestly garment in front of Jesus, not knowing that he was fulfilling prophecy — that the old priesthood held by man was to give way to the heavenly priesthood of Jesus! Later, when Jesus hung on the cross at Calvary, the elders of Israel were also there and they mocked Him.

Another clue is the rod which Moses used to strike the rock. Again, in Exodus 17:5, the Lord told Moses to “take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go”. Do you remember what river was struck by Moses’ rod? It was the Nile river in Egypt. Moses smote the Nile with his rod, turning its water into blood. (Exodus 7:20–21)

So what is Moses’ rod a picture of? It’s a picture of judgment! When Moses struck the Nile with that rod, the water
was turned into blood. Blood here means death. The fish in the river died, the river stank and the Egyptians could not drink the water. It was bad news for them. And if God had continued the plague, they would have died too.

So Moses’ rod is a rod of judgment. In fact, from the very first supernatural must be in the manifestation of the rod, you can tell that his rod was meant to deliver curses. When God told Moses from within the burning bush to throw his rod on the ground, Moses did so and the rod became a snake (Exodus 4:2–3), which is a symbol of the curse.

Our trust must be in the finished work of Christ, not in our obedience or good works.

When God’s rod of judgment fell on Jesus at the cross, it was His blood that flowed for us. We deserved the judgment. And we deserved the punishment. But Jesus took our place so that we can receive the blessings. Isn’t that beautiful? That is the love of our Father!

Trust In The Finished Work

The smiting of the rock in Exodus 17 is a beautiful picture of the cross. It points us to the perfect work of the Son. Today,
you and I are blessed because of the cross, not because we did something good to deserve God’s blessings. It is not our works, but Jesus’ perfect work on the cross that brings every blessing.

It’s important to note that our trust must be in the finished work of Christ, not in our obedience or good works. Neither should our trust be in the environment we are in. What do I mean by this? Well, some people think that if only they were in a better school, a bigger company or a prospering country, they would be blessed. In the meantime, they murmur and complain. Sometimes, God will lead us to a place in which initially there seems to be no provision.

If you read the story in Exodus carefully, you will find that it was the Lord who told Moses to bring the children of Israel to Rephidim. And yet, even though they were still in the will of God, there was no water for them there. Did the Lord know that there was no water at Rephidim? Of course He did! But He wanted His people to trust Him and call upon Him. After all, He had cared for them and brought them this far. He had made the bitter waters of Marah sweet for them. He had rained bread from heaven and given them quail meat to eat. And before all that, He had led them out of Egypt with great signs and wonders.

But, like so many of us, the children of Israel were slow to learn to trust in God completely. Instead of trusting in the goodness of the Lord, they continued to complain. Do you know that it’s not good to complain? Here is a great saying: “Complain and you will remain plain, praise and He will give
Don’t Complain —Trust God In Every Situation

Don’t have a complaining attitude. Even if you don’t understand why you are in your current circumstance and you can’t see a way out of it, trust the Lord to supply the waters you need because He has been smitten for your blessings. Look to the cross and rest in the finished work of Christ.

The Bible also tells us that “all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose”. (Romans 8:28) So don’t grumble if you have a flat tyre. Don’t grumble if you are stuck in a traffic jam. God may be delaying you because He sees a fatal accident or disaster up ahead!

A sister in our church named Barbara loves to scuba dive. She usually scuba dives in Phuket between the months of December and January. She has done that at least four times now. In December 2004, she and a colleague were planning another liveaboard scuba diving trip to the Similan Islands in the Andaman Sea northwest of Phuket. She planned to be there between 22 and 27 December. However, she didn’t feel perfectly at peace during the preparations. Her plan was eventually abandoned because her colleague’s leave application was not approved.

Today, she believes that God intervened for their good. He spared them a lot of trouble indeed. You see, had they gone
ahead with their dive trip, they would have been sailing from the Similan Islands back to Patong Beach on Phuket island in Thailand on the morning of 26 December 2004 when the Asian tsunami struck! God was so good that He kept them out of harm’s way and out of the country altogether!

So don’t grumble when nothing seems to be going right. Your disappointment may turn out to be a testimony of God’s deliverance and goodness! Instead, while you are waiting for the manifestation of your blessing, bring out the timbrel, bring out the electric guitar and begin to sing a song to God. Try singing the song, “Jesus is my Rock and He rolls my blues away!” God is pleased with that kind of attitude.

**Trust God — He Sees Beyond The Physical**

God sees beyond the physical. He is all-knowing and all-seeing. And He wants us to see beyond the physical too. Hebrews 11:1 declares, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” So don’t go by what you can or cannot see. Some people believe that God heals today because they see people getting healed. But when they don’t see someone else getting healed, they change their minds and say that God doesn’t heal today. These people are walking by sight, not by faith in the finished work of Christ! Don’t be like that!

Some years ago, my church held a leaders’ retreat at a resort in Genting Highlands in Malaysia. I was driving along the
winding road to this mountain resort when, about a mile from the resort, I caught my first glimpse of the resort. And for the next mile, I caught sight of it about eight times. It was amusing because each time after I spotted the resort, it disappeared again from view. One moment I saw it, the next moment it was gone. Every now and then, a cloud or a small hill would block my view of the resort.

Now, was the resort jumping from one place to another? Or was it moving around on wheels? Of course not! It was always there, but my eyes told me that it was not always in the same location. So I could not base my judgment on my sight or my perspective!

My friend, don’t base your faith on your environment or your experiences. Don’t base your faith on what you can or cannot see. Put your faith in God who sees all things. His sight is better than yours!

If you are facing difficulties and challenges, and what you see tells you that there is no hope, turn your eyes instead to God and His Word. Put your faith in the finished work of the Son. Remember, it is by the smitten Rock that rivers of blessings are flowing to you.

**Don’t Quit — Your Blessing Is On The Way**

I want to share with you a testimony that will encourage those of you who are still waiting for your miracle to manifest. It is a wonderful testimony of God’s faithfulness towards a
precious couple in our church, Pastor Mathews, one of my assistant pastors, and his wife Rachel.

This couple wanted to have a child. This was their desire from the day they were married. In fact, during their premarital counselling, they told me that they wanted to have children. They didn’t plan to wait one or two years — they wanted a child as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, doctors informed them that they were both unable to produce a child for medical reasons. So for six years, both of them believed God for a child. But despite their efforts, year after year, they were unsuccessful. Six years is a long time! I’m sure they must have shed many tears and wondered at times if God would really give them a child. The devil must have told them all sorts of lies and negative messages. The devil may have whispered to them that it was God’s will for them to be childless.

They could have easily given up in the third year or the fifth year or the sixth year. But thank God they kept holding on to His Word which says, “Blessed shall be the fruit of your body...” (Deuteronomy 28:4) They confessed His promises and held on to scriptures about fruitfulness.

I can tell you confidently that God is faithful! Rachel conceived their first child in the seventh year! That year, Rachel gave birth to their miracle child! But God’s grace didn’t stop there. It overflowed! Rachel was later able to give birth to another child... and then another one... and then another one!

Today, they have four healthy kids. In fact, Rachel feels like
a factory! Both of them are so fruitful that they really have to be careful or they could be expecting another child again! The anointing of multiplication is so strong on them. God has richly blessed them. For six years, they sowed so many seeds of faith in God that it is reaping a harvest now.

We all have areas of weakness. We all have areas of need. And as we exercise our faith in those areas of weakness and need, God rewards us and our faith is strengthened in those areas. I have found that the very areas in which you believe God to bless you, the very areas that once were your weaknesses, begin to become areas of strength in your life as you exercise faith in those areas. When God breathed grace into this once-childless couple’s area of lack, it became their area of superabundance. That is God’s grace. That is God’s style — He doesn’t know what enough is!

Friends, don’t ever give up, don’t ever give in! This couple waited for six years! I’m not saying you have to wait that long. The point is that God will not forget your request. You may have forgotten about it, but He hasn’t! God is faithful to His promises. His Son paid for your blessings with His blood. And God is faithful to what His Son has done!
chapter 3

Speak To The Rock And Receive
chapter 3

Speak To The Rock And Receive

The River Is Flowing

In the last chapter, we saw how water flowed from the rock at Rephidim when Moses struck it with his rod of judgment. That rock was Christ. The whole story is a beautiful picture of Jesus on the cross.

When Jesus died, the river of blessings was unleashed for you. Whatever you need today has been released to you because of Jesus’ perfect sacrifice, not because of your good works. Ephesians 2:8–9 tells us, “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” You should thank God that it doesn’t depend on your obedience!

If God has given us heaven’s best, why would He withhold the rest?
As long as you are a child of God, there is no reason to wonder if God wants to bless you. He has forever settled that issue at the cross! The Rock has been struck! The waters are flowing!

The Bible says that God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. (Ephesians 1:3) It also says that He has given us everything we need for life and godliness, including His exceedingly great and precious promises. (2 Peter 1:3–4) Think about it: If God has given us heaven’s best, why would He withhold the rest?

Some of you may ask, “Pastor Prince, if that is true, then why am I still sick? Why am I still out of a job? Why am I still single?” My answer to you is this: Don’t look at your negative circumstances. Your situation does not wipe out the power of the cross. Just because there are dark clouds does not mean that the sun has stopped shining. No, the sun is always shining. Sometimes, you may not see it with your eyes, but it is still there behind the clouds.

Your faith can be compared to a window. The window allows light into the room. It does not create the light. Now, people who have a lot of faith tend to have larger windows to let in more light. The light is always shining outside our windows, but we decide how much light to let in by the size of our windows. The question to you is whether your window is big enough to let enough light in for your circumstances.

**Worry And Fear Constrict God’s Supply**
Why is the river trickling or even dried up for some people? Why is the river not gushing and the sun not shining brightly in their lives? The reason is that they are full of worry and fear.

God gave me an illustration to help me understand this point. He showed me a red rubber hose connected to a tap. The tap was turned on, but there was no water coming out at the other end of the hose. This was because the owner of the hose was gripping it so tightly that the water could not flow out.

Now, can this person blame the water authority for not supplying the water? No, the water is still being supplied, but the man is not receiving the water because he is gripping the hose too tightly.

Many of us are doing just that. We are worried and fearful, and so our worries and fears constrict the supply hose of God’s provision. When we worry and fear, we are not trusting God. Instead, we are focusing on our circumstances rather than on the finished work of His Son. By doing that, we are gripping the supply hose too tightly and therefore not seeing the results.

Don’t Strike, Just Speak To The Rock — Your Miracle Is In Your Mouth

What should we do then to receive the water? Let go of the hose! Even if it means one finger at a time! Stop worrying. Stop grumbling. And start agreeing with God. Declare what He has said in His Word about you and your situation. Your miracle is
in your mouth!

Let me explain this point by outlining another story in the Old Testament. In Numbers 20:1–12, the children of Israel, once again, stood against Moses in the desert of Zin because they had no water to drink. The passage teaches us what we are to do when we come to a place in which it seems like the river has dried up.

We read previously in Exodus 17 of the first occasion when the Israelites complained and Moses responded by striking the rock. The situations in Exodus 17 and Numbers 20 are similar in that the Israelites had the same need and they responded in the same way. They found that there was no water, so they came against Moses and Aaron, and said, “If only we had died when our brethren died before the Lord! Why have you brought up the assembly of the Lord into this wilderness, that we and our animals should die here? And why have you made us come up out of Egypt, to bring us to this evil place? It is not a place of grain or figs or vines or pomegranates; nor is there any water to drink.” (Numbers 20:3–5)

Moses and Aaron didn’t argue with them, but went to the door of the tabernacle of meeting and fell on their faces. As I’ve said, when you face a problem, it’s best to go to God first. Then, the glory of the Lord appeared to them and the Lord told Moses what to do. Instead of telling Moses to strike a rock as He did in Exodus 17, He said to Moses, “Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give
drink to the congregation and their animals.” (Numbers 20:8)

We see here that the Lord told Moses to speak to the rock. Last time, he was told to strike the rock. This time, he was told to use his mouth. But watch what Moses did instead. He took “the rod from before the Lord” as commanded. (Numbers 20:9) This rod was not Moses’ rod of judgment, but Aaron the high priest’s rod. (Numbers 17:10) Then, he and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and Moses said to them, “Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?” Then, he “lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod”. Water gushed out, and the congregation and their animals drank. (Numbers 20:10–11)

Moses disobeyed God. Instead of simply holding Aaron’s rod and speaking to the rock, he scolded the people and, for the first time, he called them rebels! Also, he didn’t use Aaron’s rod as instructed. He used his own rod of judgment and struck the rock not once, but twice. That was how fed up he was with the people!

Jesus’ one sacrifice on the cross is perfectly perfect and completely complete.

But despite his disobedience, God still blessed the people. Water flowed from the rock in abundance, and the people and
their animals drank. Isn’t God gracious?

**Why You Should Not Strike The Rock**

Now, was Moses’ disobedience a small matter? No, it wasn’t! When we read on in this passage, we find that the Lord told Moses that because of his sin, he would not enter the promised land along with the children of Israel. He was literally to be left behind! Poor Moses! He finally saw the promised land and he even saw his people entering it, but he himself could not go in.

Why was his sin so significant that it cost him the promised land? The reason is that the rock here also typifies Christ. And by striking the rock, Moses was spoiling the picture of Christ! The first smiting of the rock 38 years ago points to the crucifixion of Jesus. By striking the rock again, Moses was crucifying Christ a second time! That is why the Lord told him this time to speak to the rock, not strike it.

Jesus’ one sacrifice on the cross is perfectly perfect and completely complete. When He died, He cried, “*It is finished!*” (John 19:30) What is finished? His work of atoning for our sins is finished once and for all.

Paul said, “*But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.*” (Hebrews 10:12–13) And through one offering, He perfected forever those who are sanctified. (Hebrews 10:14, KJV) Jesus’
“one sacrifice for sins forever” means that there is no longer any need for you to offer sacrifices for your sins! God has already poured out the full fury of His wrath when He punished all your sins in the body of His Son. Your lifetime of sins has been dealt with! You have forgiveness of sins!

So when you sin today, there is no need to ask Jesus to come down from heaven to die on the cross again for your sin. There is no need to strike the Rock again. Jesus’ one sacrifice for sins avails for all eternity!

What Does Striking The Rock Mean Today?

Every Christian will agree that there is no need for Jesus to come down from heaven to die again for our sins. But do we really understand what it means today to crucify Him afresh?

Let me ask you this: When you fall into sin, what is your response? If you beg God to forgive you and you make a fresh application of Jesus’ blood so that you can be made righteous all over again, you are crucifying Christ afresh.

He is more willing to bless you than you are willing to be blessed!

If you have just been retrenched and you need a new job,
what is your response? If you grumble, cry and beg God to bless you with a new job, you are crucifying Christ again.

Let me explain. In both cases, you are saying that Jesus’ work is not complete. You are saying that His blood did not really take away all your sins. You are saying that His death on the cross is not good enough for God to release the fullness of His blessings on you. In essence, you are saying that He needs to be crucified again to finish what He didn’t finish!

No, far from it! Jesus died to sin once for all and that one death more than satisfied God! Today, God is so pleased with what His Son has done that He is more willing to bless you than you are willing to be blessed!

Some of you may still have questions like, “Pastor Prince, I believe God wants to bless me, but He can’t because I have some unconfessed and unforgiven sins.” Unfortunately, many Christians today are still so sin-conscious, instead of Son-conscious, that they miss out on so many of God’s blessings.

Let me now address this issue of the forgiveness of sins. In the Old Testament, the children of Israel had to make repeated offerings for sins year after year because the blood of bulls and goats just could not give them eternal redemption and everlasting righteousness. (Hebrews 10:1–4) But Jesus by His own blood has obtained eternal redemption for us. (Hebrews 9:12) His blood has made us righteous forever because His blood is ever efficacious.

If man offers the sin offering, it is never enough. But if God offers the sin offering — if God offers Himself — will He
provide something that is temporal and which tomorrow must be offered again? If, even after Jesus has offered His blood, we still have to resort to “repeated offerings” by begging for forgiveness, beating ourselves or doing good works every time we sin, we are actually putting the blood of God’s Son on the same level as the blood of bulls and goats! And we are also saying that Christ the Rock needs to be struck repeatedly for our sins!

What I find ironic is this: In the Old Testament, the Israelites had their sins covered for one year. Yet, we in the New Testament seem to have it worse. Today, one Christian denomination believes that their sins are covered for one week until their next confession! Another denomination believes that their sins are covered for one day — they confess every sin they can remember every night before they sleep! And can you believe that some Christians act like Jesus’ blood cannot even cover their sins for one day? In the morning, they believe that they are forgiven. In the afternoon, they believe that they have lost that forgiveness and their righteousness because somewhere along the way they blew it. So they beg God for forgiveness and ask Him to make them righteous again!

Listen to me, my friend, there is no such thing as a forgiven and righteous-in-the-morning, unforgiven and unrighteous-in-the-afternoon Christian! There is no such doctrine in the Bible! Instead, what the Bible does tell us is that ALL our sins have been forgiven because of Jesus’ one sacrifice at the cross. (Colossians 2:13) So your forgiveness is based on His perfect, finished work. It is not contingent upon your confessions of
sins.

Just think about this for a minute. If the forgiveness of your sins depended on your confessing your sins, you would have to have perfect awareness, perfect memory and perfect confession of every sin you have ever committed in order to be sure that you are forgiven. If that were the case, no person — man, woman or even pastor — would ever be completely forgiven because no human being can confess ALL his sins perfectly. Thank God that is not how we are forgiven! No, my friend, the forgiveness of our sins is not dependent on our works. It is dependent on Jesus’ perfect and finished work!

So do I confess my mistakes or sins? Absolutely. But here’s the difference: I go to my Father and I am honest with Him because I know that He loves me and has already forgiven me. I don’t do it in order to be forgiven.

So rest easy, my friend. If you are a Christian, you are a forgiven person, a righteous person. You cannot be a Christian and be unforgiven and unrighteous. The only unforgiven and unrighteous people on earth are those who have not availed themselves of the forgiveness in Christ. Once you are in Christ, you are in forgiveness, you are in righteousness!

**How Should We Speak To The Rock?**

God doesn’t want you to be sin-conscious anymore. He doesn’t want you to keep confessing your sins as though His Son didn’t completely remove them. He doesn’t want you to
keep reminding Him of your sins — those same sins He has already forgotten. (Hebrews 8:12, 10:17)

You are no longer under the old covenant priesthood of repeated offerings that can never take away sins. You are now under the high priesthood of Jesus, the one who has offered one sacrifice for sins forever.

So when you are faced with a problem, what should your response be? Just speak to the Rock. You don’t have to strike the Rock like Moses did in disobedience.

What do I mean by “strike the Rock”? Well, some people strike the Rock by saying, “Oh, Jesus, can You forgive this sin I’ve committed? Oh, Jesus, please come and show me a sign! Let me know that You’ll forgive me!” Others strike Him by begging Him for help: “Oh, my God, have mercy on me! I’ll do whatever You say! Just help me, please!” That is not speaking to the Rock. That is striking the Rock.

You speak to the Rock by agreeing with and speaking God’s Word.

Now, this is what I mean by speaking to the Rock: We speak to the Rock when we say, “Hallelujah! Praise You, Lord Jesus! I thank You that because of Your blood I have forgiveness of sins. I thank You that because of the cross You will not count
this sin against me! You are my Rock and my refuge, a very present help in times of trouble.”

You speak to the Rock by agreeing with God’s Word, by saying what He has said about you and your situation in His Word. That is true confession! The Greek word for “confession” is homologeo. It means “to say the same thing as another, to agree with”. In other words, we agree with God by saying what He has said in His Word.

So today, if you are sick, what do you say? Do you agree with your doctor’s report and confess your sickness? No, you agree with God and confess your healing! You say, “Thank You, Lord, that by Your stripes I am healed! (Isaiah 53:5) With long life You will satisfy me and show me Your salvation!” (Psalm 91:16)

Today, if you have financial needs, what do you say? Do you agree with your bank statement and confess your lack? No, you agree with God and confess your abundance in Christ! You say, “My God shall supply all my needs according to His riches in glory!” (Philippians 4:19)

If you feel unrighteous because you have just smoked another cigarette, what do you say? Do you confess your unrighteousness and sin? No, be consistent! You should agree with God and say, “I am the righteousness of God in Christ! (2 Corinthians 5:21) Because of Jesus’ blood, all my sins have been forgiven!” (Colossians 2:13) Receive the abundant grace of God, move on and reign over that sin!

One of my worship leaders, Ronnie, used to be a chain
smoker. He started smoking when he was a young teenager.  

When he began attending our church in April 2001, he was still bound to the habit. One Sunday, when he heard me preach, “You are a temple of God”, he suddenly realised how righteous and clean Jesus had made him. And he told himself, “If I am so clean, why am I doing this to myself?”

So he started his own “quit smoking campaign”. He cut down on the amount of cigarettes he bought, but somehow, his colleagues would make up for the difference by offering him more cigarettes. Then, he started buying cigarettes with a lower nicotine level, but he ended up buying more to meet his nicotine need!

His campaign did not go well and he could not kick the habit. But instead of believing that he was unrighteous and confessing his sin, he still believed and confessed that he was the temple of God and the righteousness of God in Christ.

A few weeks later, during a service, I preached about the grace of God. I said, “When you cannot, that is when God can!” So after the service, this young man went home and while smoking a cigarette, he prayed and told God, “Lord, I can’t stop myself from smoking, but I know You can.”

The next day, he bought a pack of cigarettes. He took out one stick and sniffed it to enjoy the smell of a fresh stick of cigarette. Then, he lit it. But when he took a puff, he went, “Urgh… yuck!”

The cigarette which he once craved became the worst thing he had ever tasted! He threw the cigarette on the ground and
snuffed it out. He also crushed the pack of cigarettes and threw it into a garbage bin.

After he did that, he felt a deep sense of renewal — as if he had never smoked a cigarette before in his life! And immediately, he realised that it was God’s supernatural work in him.

This man experienced inward transformation, not by confessing his unrighteousness and sin to God, and begging for His forgiveness, but by confessing his righteousness in Christ, and receiving God’s abundant grace and gift of no condemnation. In other words, he did not strike the Rock, but he spoke to the Rock and received his blessing.

Beloved, speak to your Rock, the High Priest of your confession (Hebrews 3:1), and the waters will flow. Your miracle is in your mouth!

A Picture Of The Exalted Christ

Some of you may be wondering what the story in Numbers 20 has to do with you speaking to Jesus today. How does this passage of scripture point to the church and the ascended Christ? Well, Numbers 20 shows us the second beautiful picture of our Lord that I want you to see. But instead of a crucified Christ, you are going to see the present-day exalted Christ and His church!

Picture of Christ as the exalted Rock. The Hebrew word for the first rock mentioned in Exodus 17 is different from the
Hebrew word for the second rock mentioned in Numbers 20. The first rock is *tsur*, which means a huge boulder. The second rock is *sela*, which means a lofty or high, exalted rock, similar to a cliff.

Some of you may have visited Petra in Jordan and seen the high rocks there. The name Petra is Greek for “rock”. In the Bible, the place is called Sela, which is the same Hebrew word for “exalted rock”.

Now, why is all this significant? Well, the first rock (*tsur*) speaks of Jesus dying on the cross. He came down to where we were and was smitten for our sins. That is why Moses was told to hit this rock.

The second rock (*sela*) speaks of Jesus as the resurrected and exalted one at the Father’s right hand. That is why, on the second occasion, Moses was told to speak to this rock, not hit it.

Today, Jesus is the exalted Rock. He is no longer on the cross or in the grave, but at the Father’s right hand. We only have to speak to Him and the waters will flow. We don’t have to hit Him again for the blessings to flow in our lives.

**Picture of the church speaking to the exalted Christ.** The smiting of the first rock was done before the elders of Israel to show us that Jesus’ crucifixion took place in the presence of the representatives of Israel. But in the smiting of the second rock, the act was performed before the congregation.

The Lord said to Moses, “*Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. Speak to the*
rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals.” (Numbers 20:8)

Now, what is the congregation a picture of? It is a picture of the church, of course. The people gathered by God’s leaders before the exalted Rock is a picture of the church. So church, in the same manner that was commanded of Moses, simply speak to the exalted Rock for the waters you need. There is no need to hit the Rock again.

**Picture of Jesus as our High Priest.** In the first smiting of the rock, Aaron is not mentioned. But in the second smiting of the rock, he is mentioned. Why is that? When Jesus was on the cross (the first rock, *tsur*), He had not yet become our High Priest, so Aaron is not mentioned in the first smiting of the rock. Jesus became our High Priest (the second rock, *sela*) only after His resurrection. That is why Aaron, the high priest, is mentioned in the second smiting of the rock. It points us to the high-priestly ministry of the present-day Jesus!

Jesus went back to the Father to become our High Priest. He Himself sprinkled His own blood. (Hebrews 9:11–12) He is the High Priest of His own sacrifice. What better High Priest to represent us than Jesus Himself! What better offering for sin than Christ’s own blood!

In the Old Testament, the problem was not the people’s sins. The problem was either a blemished offering or a high priest who was not up to the mark. If the offering was good, but the high priest was deficient or lousy, the whole nation remained
unforgiven before God. If the high priest was good, but the offering was bad, again the people remained unforgiven.

Thank God for Jesus, the perfect High Priest and the perfect sacrifice!

**Picture of the resurrection life of Jesus.** Moses "*took the rod from before the Lord". (Numbers 20:9) This was not his rod of judgment which he had previously used to strike the rock, but Aaron’s rod which had miraculously budded, blossomed and produced almonds overnight. (Numbers 17:8–11)

Earlier in Numbers 16, the children of Israel had rebelled against the leadership of Aaron. So in Numbers 17, God performed the miracle on Aaron’s rod to prove to the people that He had indeed appointed Aaron.

What is this miracle a picture of? It is a picture of resurrection life! A rod is a branch cut from a tree, which then dies because it can no longer feed off the tree. The fact that there were leaves, flowers and fruit on Aaron’s rod meant that life was produced out of death. It is a picture of Jesus’ death and “overnight” resurrection.

God wants you to know that your grumbling is forgiven and that He will meet your need.

Jesus died for our sins, but He was raised to life for our
justification. (Romans 4:25) His death brought us life. Likewise, Aaron’s “resurrection” rod is a rod of grace because it points to the way in which God “cut off” Jesus so that we can have abundant life.

By the way, in Israel, the almond is the first fruit to appear after winter. Now, winter is a picture of death, which again demonstrates to us this amazing picture of life being produced out of death, of fruitfulness at the end of a time of famine or barrenness.

The High Priest Always Represents Grace

Here is another aspect of Aaron in this same picture: Aaron was the high priest and the high priest is always a representation of grace because he is always a mediator or representative of the people. The high priest represents the people to God (in the same way that prophets represent God to the people). Here again, we see that Aaron’s rod represents grace.

Having said all that, we can now better understand why God wanted Moses to bring out Aaron’s rod and speak to the rock before the people. God wanted to show the people grace. He wanted them to know that their grumbling was forgiven and that He would meet their need.

Friends, God wants to deal with us based on His grace. He wants to work miracles among us based on His grace. That is good news because it means that we don’t have to beg or work
for His blessings! It’s simply based on His grace!
Receive Your Blessings By The Grace Of God
A Covenant Based On Grace

We read in Exodus 17 that the children of Israel complained against Moses and tempted God at Rephidim. Now, notice that God didn’t destroy them. He didn’t say, “Step aside Moses, I am going to fry them!”

Despite all their complaining, God responded in an amazing way by giving them water to drink out of a smitten rock. In other words, not only did they not get the punishment they deserved, they got a blessing they didn’t deserve! Why was God so gracious to them? The reason for God’s gracious response is found in Psalm 105:41–42:

41 He opened the rock, and water gushed out; it ran in the dry places like a river. 42 For He remembered His holy promise, and Abraham His servant.

This passage tells us that God opened the rock and water gushed out. I love the way it says the water “gushed out”! It
certainly wasn’t a trickle! The Israelites didn’t have to queue up in a long line to fill their coffee mugs from a trickle of water. They probably had to wade into the water! And notice that Psalm 105:41 says that “it ran in the dry places like a river”. This was a river in the desert!

Why did God do this for the children of Israel? He did it because “He remembered His holy promise, and Abraham His servant”. This “holy promise” is God’s covenant with Abraham. (Genesis 15:9–18) It is an unconditional covenant based on His grace.

What Is A Covenant?

But before I explain why this covenant is grace-based, I want you to first understand what a covenant is. Some people have this idea that a covenant is like a contract. It is not. A contract is a lot less binding. A contract between two persons may be easily terminated when certain conditions are met or not met. But a covenant is forever! In fact, the only way out of a covenant is death!

The Hebrew word for “covenant” is beriyth, which means to cut in two. So if I wanted to cut a covenant with you, I would bring an animal with me, usually a ram or a goat, and I would kill it by cutting it in two, from the tip of its nose all the way down. Of course, there would be blood everywhere. Then, you and I would pass each other as we walk between the two pieces of the animal.
This all sounds very bloodthirsty! But there is a significant reason for the use of animal pieces in a covenant. You see, if you break the covenant, that is, if you fail to keep your part of the covenant, the implication is may God do to you what has been done to the animal! Now, you can see why a covenant is so much more binding than a contract! Death is the consequence of breaking the covenant!

Now, let’s look at what theologians call the “Abrahamic covenant”. Why is God’s covenant with Abraham based on His grace? Well, when God was about to cut the covenant with Abraham, Abraham fell asleep. In actual fact, God put Abraham to sleep and cut the covenant with Jesus instead. Jesus appeared as the pillar of fire and cut the covenant with God the Father who appeared as the pillar of cloud. (Genesis 15:17)

If God the Son cut the covenant with God the Father, then the blessings are guaranteed because the covenant does not depend on man’s performance!

In other words, Jesus took Abraham’s place in this covenant. Jesus was representing man when He crossed the animal pieces with His Father. If Abraham had crossed those animal pieces with God, he would have been held liable if he
ever broke the covenant. And we know that no man — other than Jesus — is perfect. So Abraham’s chances of breaking the covenant were very high. And the result of eventually breaking the covenant was certain death! But while man will fail, God cannot fail. And because Jesus cannot fail, God had Jesus stand in Abraham’s place. That’s why the Son of Man cut the covenant with God Almighty.

So if God the Son cut the covenant with God the Father, then the blessings are guaranteed because the covenant does not depend on man’s performance! That’s why it is not a covenant based on works, but an unconditional covenant based on God’s grace.

Today, you and I don’t die despite our complaints against God. Instead of death, we experience spiritual refreshment and blessings flowing towards us! Do you know why? The first reason is that God remembers His unconditional covenant of grace with Abraham. We are sons of Abraham through faith and those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham. (Galatians 3:7–9)

The second reason is that Jesus was smitten at the cross. The new covenant of grace cut at Calvary was also between God the Father and God the Son, who was representing man. So like Abraham, we have no part to play in this covenant. If there is anything for us to do, it is simply to believe and receive the blessings of the covenant! That’s the way God wants it. And the blessings are always flowing for us because the covenant was cut between two persons who can never fail!
Our Mistakes Cannot Stop God’s Grace

Both the Abrahamic covenant and the new covenant are based on God’s grace. This means that we receive all the promises and blessings of the covenants by grace through faith. We don’t receive them based on our works, obedience or performance.

That is really great news, especially because it means that our mistakes cannot stop God from blessing us! For instance, if you attend a church service and the preacher says something wrong or does the wrong thing, God can still bless the congregation because the preacher’s mistakes cannot quench God’s grace.

People who don’t understand this truth tend to attend or skip church depending on who is preaching. They try to find out who is preaching the next Sunday, and if they don’t like the preacher or they don’t think he is “anointed” enough, they’ll give him a miss.

Now, I am not against people wanting to sit under an anointed ministry. But if God can use Balaam’s donkey, He can use any preacher! Even if the preacher messes up and preaches wrong doctrines, God can still bless the congregation because God’s grace is greater than the preacher’s mistakes. But please understand that I am not encouraging preachers to preach wrong doctrines.

Moses was one such “preacher”. Instead of using Aaron’s rod of grace and speaking to the rock as God had instructed, he shouted at the people, called them rebels and hit the rock twice
with his own rod of judgment. Yet, water flowed out of the rock in abundance for the people and their animals to drink.

In that moment, Moses misrepresented God. His message to the people was not of God. To the people listening to Moses, they would have felt that God was angry with them when, in actual fact, God wanted to show Himself gracious. And yet the people were blessed.

I have sat in church services where the preacher’s message was entirely anti-grace. And yet, at the end of these services, sinners still responded to receive Jesus. So just because the results are great, it doesn’t mean that the message is of God.

Do you know why people still get saved, healed and delivered, despite the preacher’s mistakes? It’s because God is gracious. God loves His people. And He blesses them based on His grace, not on the preacher’s actions, message or performance.

God’s Grace Towards Moses — He Eventually Entered The Promised Land

Some of you may point out to me, “But Pastor Prince, what about Moses? God wasn’t gracious to him because God didn’t allow him to go into the promised land.” It’s true that Moses could not enter the promised land because he misrepresented God. God said to him, “Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given
them.” (Numbers 20:12) Later, he asked God again if he could cross over to the promised land. But God replied, “Speak no more to Me of this matter.” (Deuteronomy 3:26) Then, God showed him the promised land from the top of Mount Pisgah.

Moses must have been heartbroken! He saw the promised land and he later saw his people going in, but he himself had to stay behind. It may seem like God was hard on Moses, but if you think about it, Moses did eventually enter the promised land. In Matthew 17:1–3, we see that Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus on a high mountain. There, Jesus was transfigured before them.

The Bible says that Jesus’ clothes became dazzling white, like no other white on earth. His face shone like the sun. At the same time, Moses and Elijah appeared and talked with Jesus. Now, isn’t it better for Moses to enter the promised land with Jesus and Elijah than with the grumbling children of Israel? Isn’t God gracious?

**Even When You Make Mistakes, God Is Still Gracious**

Some of you reading this book are leaders in your church. I want you to remember this: Even when you make mistakes, God is still gracious. Not only will He still meet the needs of your flock, He will also meet your own needs and desires! God loves you as much as He loves the lambs He has instructed you to feed.

There is no need to get discouraged. God will not fall off His
throne in surprise just because you stumbled and fell! He already knows all about your weaknesses and He loves you in spite of them. Think about it: If He was gracious to the many sinners who came to His Son for healing when He walked on earth, how much more will He be gracious to you who are in Christ today!

So every morning, when you wake up, be conscious of God’s grace for you. Be conscious of His love for you. See Him as a loving Father smiling at you and wanting to bless you. And if you have a need, don’t worry and grumble about it. Jesus has made it so easy for you to receive what you need. There is no need to hit the Rock again. Just speak to the Rock — and the waters will flow!

**Jesus Is The High Priest Of Our Confession**

Likewise, talk to your High Priest and the waters will flow. The Bible says in Hebrews 3:1 that He is the High Priest of our confession. Confession is what comes out of our mouths. It’s so important to make sure your confession is true and correct, and that it lines up with the Word of God.

Whenever you believe and confess the truth, the Holy Spirit bears witness with it.
Proverbs 18:21 declares, “Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.” Be careful what you say. If you say, “Jesus brought this sickness on me”, Christ is not a High Priest of that confession because His Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of truth. He only bears witness with the truth. But when you say, “By Your stripes I am healed!” the Holy Spirit bears witness with healing in your body because He is the Spirit of truth.

Whenever you believe and confess the truth, the Holy Spirit bears witness with it. Whenever you say, “God, I don’t understand what’s happening, but I know one thing for sure: You love me!” then something is going to happen. Why? Because the Holy Spirit is going to bear witness with that statement.

When you believe your confession, you start to experience your confession as well. Unfortunately, many people want to feel or experience their miracle first before they believe it. Jesus said in John 20:29, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” Many want to see, experience and feel a miracle before they’ll believe it. But then you don’t need faith! When you have faith and you believe the Word of the living God, you don’t need any sign or any feeling. You simply believe because God said so!

**See Your Confession Come To Pass In Your Life**

Once you have that attitude, the Holy Spirit will bear witness
with the truth because He is the Spirit of truth. He is not blind. He is not deaf. He is in you. He sees you believing the truth. And He will bear witness with the truth. What will be the result? You will see your confession come to pass in your life!

Now, you may believe Isaiah 53:5 which says, “By His stripes we are healed!” But the devil may come to you and say, “Why do you now have this new disease?” and “How come you still have that sickness?” What should your response be? Continue to confess the Word of God over your life. Say to the devil, “It is written, ‘By His stripes I am healed!’”

Now, on the other hand, when you believe a lie, the Holy Spirit cannot do anything because He is the Spirit of truth. For instance, if you believe and confess, “Oh, God, I am still so sinful!” then the Holy Spirit will have to stand back and fold His arms. He cannot do anything because He is the Spirit of truth, and by saying that you are still sinful when Christ has put away your sins once and for all, you are speaking a lie!

Confession also applies when you get saved. When you declare, “Jesus, You are my Lord, my Saviour and my God now and forever”, the Holy Spirit bears witness with that statement and suddenly, it comes to pass — you are a new Christian! Romans 10:9 tells us:

9that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

So you are to say with your mouth and believe in your heart.
It’s so easy to be saved because the Son did all the hard work on the cross.

My friend, Jesus took the rod of judgment upon Himself so that rivers of blessings will flow to us today. It flows to us because Jesus Christ has accomplished the work on the cross. It flows to us because He is risen today as our High Priest to make sure that what He died to give us, we get.

Because of these eternal truths, you can expect to be blessed, redeemed and healed in every area of your life! As you speak to your Rock, all the blessings you need will gush forth. It is so easy — your miracle is in your mouth!
Salvation Prayer

If you would like to receive all that Jesus has done for you and make Him your Lord and Saviour, please pray this prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank You for loving me and dying for me on the cross. Your precious blood washes me clean of every sin. You are my Lord and my Savior, now and forever. I believe that You rose from the dead and that You are alive today. Because of Your finished work, I am now a beloved child of God and heaven is my home. Thank You for giving me eternal life, and filling my heart with Your peace and joy. Amen.
We Would Like To Hear From You  If you have prayed the salvation prayer, or if you have a testimony to share after reading this book, please send us an email at info@josephprince.com

Other Materials By Joseph Prince  We trust that you have been blessed reading this book. For the latest, most exclusive and best-priced Joseph Prince resources, visit www.josephprince.com
Destined to Reign

The secret to effortless success, wholeness and victorious living

JOSEPH PRINCE
Destined To Reign

This pivotal and quintessential book on the grace of God will change your life forever! Join Joseph Prince as he unlocks critical foundational truths to understanding God’s grace and how it alone sets you free to experience victory over every adversity, lack and destructive habit that is limiting you today. Be uplifted and refreshed as you discover how reigning in life is all about Jesus and what He has already done for you. Get your copy today and start experiencing the success, wholeness and victory that you were destined to enjoy!
Unmerited Favor

This follow-up book to Destined To Reign is a must-read if you want to live out the dreams that God has birthed in your heart! Building on the foundational truths of God’s grace laid out in Destined To Reign, Unmerited Favor takes you into a deeper understanding of the gift of righteousness you have through the cross, and how it gives you a supernatural advantage to succeed in life. Packed with empowering new covenant truths, Unmerited Favor will set you free to soar above your challenges and lead an overcoming life as God’s beloved today.
100 Days Of Favor

(containing 100 daily readings)

Dive headfirst into the vast ocean of God’s favor and learn how it releases good success in your life! Taking key teachings from Unmerited Favor and turning them into bite-sized daily devotionals, Joseph Prince shows you how to develop favor-consciousness that releases the wisdom and blessings of God in everything you do, every day. With inspirational Scripture verses, prayers and liberating thoughts on God’s unmerited favor in each devotional topic, 100 Days Of Favor is a must-have resource that will empower you to overcome every
challenge in your life and walk in good success. Be sure to order your copy today!
Books By Joseph Prince

Destined To Reign

Destined To Reign Devotional

Unmerited Favor

100 Days Of Favor

Health And Wholeness Through The Holy Communion

A Life Worth Living

The Benjamin Generation

Your Miracle Is In Your Mouth

Spiritual Warfare Right Place Right Time

Restful Increase For Moms

Restful Increase For Dads

JOSEPHPRINCE.COM