



HOW TO
Reach
YOUR
Harvest

BAZIL HOWARD-BROWNE

How to Reap Your Harvest

By Basil Howard-Browne

Dedication

I would like to dedicate this book to my Lovely wife Ann and my three children Bradley, Kayley and Jessica for being there for me and going wherever God wants us to go. I pray God's richest blessings come upon you. I love you all so much.

Foreword

Dear Friend:

Have you ever been in a place where you wondered why others seem to be blessed, yet you stand wondering when is God going to take notice of you. You have been faithful in giving your tithes and offerings, but still no harvest.

Be encouraged, the Good News of the Gospel includes your reaping a financial harvest after you have sown, in due season. Don't stop believing God now for your harvest. Don't uproot the seed you have planted through unbelief or by growing weary. Rather, continue to stand, believing God and His Word and not in your circumstances.

God has been faithful in pouring out His blessings on my life and my family's. What He has done for us, He will do for you. Stand Child of God, you will see the God of more than enough come through for you.

God Bless you,

Bazil Howard-Browne

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Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from the Amplified Bible.

Chapter 1, The Windows of Heaven Are Open

Malachi 3:8 says, “Will a man rob or defraud God? Yet you rob and defrauded Me. But you say, In what way do we rob or defraud You ? [You have withheld your] tithes and offerings. ”

Are You a Thief?

What does the Bible say? When you withhold your tithes and offerings you are really stealing from God. Do you know that just twenty percent of the Body of Christ tithes? This means that eighty percent of the Body of Christ are thieves. You could be sitting next to a thief right now.

“Well”, you think, “I am not going to read this book; he called me a thief.” I did not say it; the Bible did. If you are not tithing then you are a thief. I thank God that when He made us, He did not put a little light on our forehead that turned on every time we did not tithe. There would be a lot of Christians in the Body of Christ letting their little light shine right now. You in your small corner and I in mine—stealing from God.

Not only does He call you a thief but in Malachi 3:9 He says, “You are cursed with the curse, for you are robbing Me, even this whole nation. ” He says “You are cursed with a curse.” I do not want the curse of God on my life. I would much rather have the blessings of God and not His curse. How many of you can say Amen to that?

The Key for Financial Blessing

There is something you have got to do that is in God’s Word to see the blessings of God come your way. Do you know that we have every KEY right in front of us for financial blessings. Did you know that? There is nothing more that God is going to do for you; it is already done. All you have to do is see what God’s Word says and then do it. It is that simple. God’s Word is actually so simple that we want to complicate it.

“Give and it shall be given.” This is too easy. “Give and it shall be given unto me.” You think, “No, there has to be something more, a catch to it. That word Give has to mean something more than just give.”

What does Give mean? Give means give. Why? Because that is what Give means. It is so simple. People normally want to confuse God’s

Word, but God's Word is simple. God has written a simple word for a simple people.

Tithing Without Option

Malachi 3:10 says, "Bring all the tithes. " All, "(the whole tenth of your income) into the storehouse. " Now what people often do with their tithe is to sit down and work out what bills they have to pay. They will pay their bills first and then say, "Oh, Lord, I am sorry but I just remembered I have to tithe and I do not have the money to do it. What I am going to do, is next month I will make up for it. I mean, I know you are going to forgive me." That is what we do with our tithes.

Many times we go ahead and pay our bills first and then we think about God. Well, we need to think about God first and then about paying our bills. When we put God first, He takes care of the rest. Bring all the tithe. He did not say to bring half of it, He wants all of it. Your tithe is only one tenth of your gross income. That is all; only one tenth.

Think about this carefully. Who gives you the ability to get wealth? The Bible says that God gives you the ability to get wealth. So, in actual fact, all the wealth that you now have really belongs to Him anyway and all He is wanting is one-tenth. Can you imagine what the Body of Christ could do if everyone tithed? Can you imagine what the Body of Christ could do for Jesus in these last days? It takes money to get the Gospel out. There are so many more out- reaches that we could get involved with and the churches could get involved with if people would just tithe. It is that simple. Imagine what we could do on eighty percent of tithes if we are doing so much already on twenty percent.

What Do You Call Your Storehouse?

Bring all the tithe into the storehouse. What is your storehouse? Is it the television Evangelist? Is it the radio Evangelist that you listen to everyday? If it is the television Evangelist, then let me say this to you, the next time somebody dies in your family or a loved one wants to get married, phone the television Evangelist and let them perform the funeral or wedding for you. How many of you have ever tried to get a hold of a television Evangelist in the past? You will not be able to reach them. The storehouse is not the television, the storehouse is the local church. It is the

place where you go to get fed. “Bring all the tithe (the whole tenth of your income) into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. ”

People come to the pastor and expect the pastor to be there for them. As soon as they call the pastor they want them to be available to come help them. They think because you are the pastor of the church you should be there for them. The pastor might ask, “Where do you tithe? If you do not tithe here then why should I make myself available for you?”

Here Comes Your Blessing

God wants us to put Him to the test. He says in Malachi 3:10, “And prove Me now by it, says the Lord of hosts.” Put God to the test. Enter into a competition with Him. I guarantee it is going to be a competition you are going to lose. It will be a competition that you will want to lose, because when you lose this competition you are going to be blessed. “Put Me to the test. ” “Prove Me now....if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. ” How many people really understand what that means? God said, “Put Me to the test. ” You bring your tithe into the storehouse, the place where you get fed, and then you can put God to the test.

Many times people say when you give to God, do not expect anything back. That is not what my Bible says. He wants to bless you financially and He said “He will pour you out a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.”

Let me give you an example. Take a glass of water, put your finger in it, and spray it toward someone. What they feel will be a few drops of water coming from your finger falling onto their face and maybe a little bit onto their shirt or hair. This is how people think God is going to bless them, with just a few drops of blessings. But, God said He is going to POUR out a blessing. If I were to take a glass of water and pour the whole glass on someone’s head, the water would run down the back of his head, down his sides and down the front of him. Everywhere he looked the water would be running down and not just a few drops of water. God said He would pour you out a blessing that there will not be enough room to receive it. Hallelujah! We need to understand that the key is already there. God said He would pour us out a blessing and that is what He wants to do. He wants to bless us abundantly, more than what we could even begin to imagine.

If you are tithing and if you are giving as God's Word says you should be giving, then the blessings of God are there for you. God does not have a problem with you having money. God does not have a problem with you having things. He said, "all these things will be added unto you in Matthew 6:33. God has a problem when those things have you. He wants to pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it. How many of you have room to receive blessings from the Lord? How many of you do not have room at all to receive blessings from the Lord? God wants us to be blessed financially.

Boldly Come to the Throne

Wrapped up in this revival are financial blessings. We have seen so many people being set free financially, it is totally amazing. Do you know why? We just teach God's Word, telling the people what God's Word says and people go ahead and do it because it is what the Word says. There are no gimmicks and no pressure. God does not want us to give under pressure. God does not want us to give because of gimmicks. God wants us to give because of what His Word says.

The Bible says "We can come boldly to the throne of grace." How do you come boldly to the throne of grace when you have been giving toward some gimmick or under pressure. When you give based upon God's Word and you have the foundation of God's Word in your giving. You can then say, "God, I have been bringing my tithes into the storehouse. You said in Malachi 3:10 that I could put You to the test and I am doing it now. You have opened the windows of heaven and are pouring me out a blessing that there is not enough room for me to receive it". You better be careful, you had better be ready because the blessings of God are coming your way.

Not only does He say that He will open up the windows of heaven but Malachi 3:11 says, "And I will rebuke the devourer [insects and plagues] for your sakes." God said He would rebuke the devourer for our sakes. "And he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground, neither shall your vine drop its fruit before the time in the field, says the Lord of hosts. And all nations shall call you happy and blessed."

Look at the Body of Christ in the years that have gone by. Can you look at them and say, "My, the church looks happy and blessed." No, you cannot. The church looks sad and is in poverty. But that is not what God's

Word says. His Word says in Malachi 3:12 that, “...all nations shall call you happy and blessed, for you shall be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts. Do not underestimate God’s Word or what He wants to do for you. God wants to bless you financially, turn around your financial situation and set you free.

The Year of Increase

God spoke to my heart the beginning of this year and said, “This year is the year of increase in every area of our lives.” We have seen even an increase of the anointing as God is setting the Body of Christ free. What is the use of being set free spiritually, physically and financially if we do not walk in that freedom?

I to Jesus said, “I am coming back for a victorious church.” I guarantee you the church is going to be victorious because Jesus said it would be. The church is you and I. We are the ones that are going to be victorious in every area of our lives, including our finances.

I Can’t Afford to Tithe

People say, “Well, you do not know my situation; I cannot afford to tithe.” You cannot afford not to tithe. You must! There is just no way out of it. I do not know of any other way to be blessed financially than by being obedient to God’s Word. If you are in a hole right now, God will bring you out of the hole when you act upon His Word. Do what His Word tells you to do, then He will set you free and change your financial situation. You will think that you died and went to heaven. If you have not started tithing, begin to do it now. You do not have to pray and ask, “God, do You want me to tithe?” We have already looked at God’s Word and we have seen what it says. When you tithe based upon God’s Word you are going to be set free financially.

Chapter 2, Reaping What You Sow

Galatians 6:6-7 says, “Let him who receives instruction in the Word [of God] share all good things with his teacher [contributing to his support]. Do not be deceived and deluded and misled; God will not allow Himself to be sneered at (scorned, disdained, or mocked by mere pretensions or professions, or by His precepts being set aside.) [He inevitably deludes himself who attempts to delude God.]...”

Action Equals Faith

It is one thing to talk about faith but it is another thing to live it. I remember hearing people from the Bible school where I went say, “Men, you have got to believe God to pay your bills. You must have faith in God and believe in His Word”, but they never told you how to have faith or how to believe in God’s Word. I have seen some of the same people leave Bible school because they could not make ends meet.

It is one thing to stand up behind the podium when you are receiving a good salary and preach faith saying, “Oh, believe God, believe God.” It is another thing to live it. I will tell you, in the Body of Christ there are a lot of people who are just full of hot air and speaking a lot of words. They have never seen God come through for them. How can we teach something or how can we preach something when we never do what God’s Word tells us to do. I am not telling or showing you anything from God’s Word that my wife and I do not do. We give all of the time.

You Cannot Out-Give God

You cannot out-give God. When we first started out on the road we bought many meals for pastors and people who came with us. Every now and again we would come to churches that would buy meals for us. Actually, we went through a long stretch where we did not have to buy a meal because the pastors would not let us. The only reason why that happened was because we had sown in that area. The Bible says in Galatians 6:7,

“...For whatever a man sows, that and that only is what he will reap.”

If you sow meals, you are going to reap meals. You might even reap meals on wheels. Meals will come looking for you.

The Action of Sowing

Do you want a financial harvest? Do you want to see your finances turn around? If you want to reap financial blessings you have to sow financially. If a farmer goes out and plants corn but what he really wants is peanuts; what is he going to reap? He is going to reap corn. If you want to reap peanuts then you have got to plant peanuts.

The same principle that works in the natural realm is the same principle that works with God in the supernatural realm. If you want to reap financial blessings you have to take your financial seed and put it into the offering bucket. It is that simple. Galatians 6:7-8 says, “For whatever a man sows, that and that only is what he will reap. For he who sows to his own flesh (lower nature, sensuality) will from the flesh reap decay and ruin and destruction, but he who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Don't Give Up

Now Galatians 6:9 is very typical of the Body of Christ. It says,

“And let us not lose heart and grow weary and faint in acting nobly and doing right...”

Notice you are doing something; you are being active. Many times when people start to give, because they do not see an instant return, they quit. There are people who have started to tithe or they tithe once to their local church and then they quit. After a while, they hear the Word of God again and say, “I have to tithe.” Again, they tithe once and then they quit. How many of you know what I am talking about? How many of you know somebody who is like that?

Then, there are people who give a little bit here, give a little bit there and they never reap. They wonder why they are not reaping or harvesting the blessings? They have grown weary and are fainting. Once you start doing something just keep doing it. Once you start giving just keep on giving. You can NEVER out-give God.

Some people think when you give to God, you should not expect anything back. Some churches have a box at the back door because the preacher is embarrassed to receive tithes and offerings. If God's Word talks about it, then we should not be embarrassed to talk about it.

Are You Excited About the Blessing?

God's Word deals with a lot of different areas of our life. Everything we need to know, we can go to God's Word and find our answers. If God speaks about it in His Word, then we can talk about it in church. Why do you think the Body of Christ is so defeated when it comes to finances? Because people always get embarrassed when you talk about money. What is there to get embarrassed about? I am not embarrassed but excited. Every time I open God's Word I start rejoicing because I can see God wants to provide for our every need. God wants to bless us financially and He wants to bless us abundantly. God wants us to have money in our bank account. Isn't that exciting!

The Appointed Time

It says in Galatians 6:9, for in due time and at the appointed season we shall reap, if we do not loosen and relax our courage and faint. People take their finances, plant their seed and then back right off. What are they doing? They are just losing their harvest because there is an appointed season when they will reap their financial blessing. The farmer, when he plants his land does not go out the next day and dig it up to see what is happening. He is going to till and work the land knowing that there is coming a time when he is going to reap a great harvest. The harvest will not be immediate. There will be a season of growth but, there is coming a time when he will reap a great harvest.

I have heard of people, who in obedience, give material things away. After awhile they will return to the person they gave to and ask for the gift back. One person gave a preacher an automobile and three weeks later he went and took it back. I ask you, did God tell that person to give away their car and three weeks later God changed His mind. They were listening to the devil talk to them or their own mind. All they did was dig up their seed.

The Little Peanut Farmers

How many of you have found that your children want to be just like you? Your little boy does exactly what Daddy does. I can remember as a child, my Dad used to grow vegetables, so Rodney and I also wanted to grow vegetables. We each had our own little garden in the back of the yard. One day we planted a bunch of peanuts because we wanted to see how peanuts grew. I can remember going out into the backyard, when we were probably about five years old, to dig up those peanuts we had planted about a week and a half to two weeks before because I could not see them growing. I watered those peanuts everyday but I had planted them about a foot deep into the ground. It takes longer than two weeks to get something a foot deep in the ground to grow out. When I had dug all the peanuts up, they all had a shoot growing out of them. It was probably about a half of a foot long. I thought, “Well, these suckers are growing”, so I put them back into the ground. I probably put them in about another foot deeper.

About two weeks later, I dug them up again and found that the shoot had grown completely around the peanut because it was now confused. It did not know which way to go. I looked at these suckers and said, “Man, I have had these things for about four weeks in the ground and nothing is happening.” I busted all the shoots, broke them all off and ate the peanuts. I thought, “If they are not going to grow I was not going to lose my seed but I am going to eat it.” That is what I did. I ate those peanuts. They were not very nice after four weeks of being in the ground with a big shoot coming out of them, but at least I had something. If I had planted them correctly and had waited, I would have had a whole bunch of peanuts. I do not know how a peanut grows to this day because I never waited to see. I know if you plant them a foot deep they take a long time to come out of the ground.

Digging Up Your Seed

This is what a lot of Christians are doing. God will come along and say, “Go ahead and give.” We give and then we say, “Oh no, I should not have done that. I should not have put that into the offering, or, I should not have given to that person.” What are you doing? You are digging up your seed.

Becoming a Fellow Worker

There are many people who cannot travel around America but God has raised up people to carry revival and if you sow your finances into these ministries, you are a part of what they are doing. You are a part of what God is doing. I would not mind being a part of what God has been doing in these revivals. Take your seed, sow it into the ground and it will grow. There is a harvest of blessings that are coming your way. Are you gaining an understanding of this principle? Are you excited about it?

It's Time to Give

Galatians 6:10 says, "So then, as occasion and opportunity open up to us, let us do good [morally] to all people [not only being useful or profitable to them, but also doing what is for their spiritual good and advantage]. Be mindful to be a blessing..."

When I see people in the Body of Christ thinking of others in times of need, it encourages me. They are being "mindful to be a blessing." They are not just thinking of themselves but they are thinking of others.

Setting Aside One Hundred Dollars

God spoke to me one day at a revival meeting and said, "Take one hundred dollars and put it in your wallet." I took a hundred dollar bill and put it into my wallet. When you have a wife and three kids, you need a miracle from heaven to keep a hundred dollars in your wallet for a week and a half. After a little more than a week I had spent some of the money.

Giving the One Hundred Dollars

One night in the meeting we had a lady come up to testify. She was telling the people that she had come on a Tuesday night, but she had planned to commit suicide on Wednesday night. She came to the meeting on Tuesday night and God touched her and set her free as she gave her heart to Jesus and never committed suicide nor had any thoughts of doing so now. She was back in the revival Wednesday night, Thursday night and Friday night. I had her give her testimony and she finished by saying, "You know, God has really set me free and I am going to believe God that He will change our financial situation so that we can quit eating beans and rice. When she said that God said to me, "Take out the hundred dollars and give

it to her.” I laid hands on her and she fell on the floor under the power of God, then I went back to the podium.

Now, let me ask you this, Don’t you think that God knew I did not have the hundred dollars? He knew that I had spent some of the money. He had put me on the spot because He told me to keep a hundred dollars in my wallet even though I did not know what it was for. A week and a half later He says, “Give it to her.” So I took out my wallet and pulled out as much as I could. I had about forty-eight dollars. Fortunately, my wife was in the meeting and I said to her in Afrikaans, “Give me all the money you have in your purse.” Our baby-sitter was also there and I said, “Just empty out her purse too and give me her money”, (I gave it back to her after the meeting). Then my wife added up what she had. I wanted to make sure we had one hundred dollars. If we did not have one hundred dollars I would have gone to the pastor, turned my microphone off and said, “Just lend me ten dollars, please and I will give it back after the meeting.” I mean, God said a hundred dollars and I wanted to be sure to give the hundred.

It Costs Me Fifty Bucks

Now there is always a price you are going to pay if you are disobedient. If you do not listen to God there is a price you will have to pay. My wife added up her money, the babysitters money and my money. It came to one hundred and fifty dollars. I was paying the price of fifty dollars. God said, “Give a hundred.” Because I did not have one hundred dollars on me, I ended up giving one hundred and fifty dollars. So really, in essence, God hit me on the head with fifty dollars and said, “Hey, you should have listened and maybe next time you’ll give just the hundred. ” Imagine if God had said, “Keep a thousand dollars in your wallet.”

I took the money and turned around to give it to the lady who was still lying on the floor. As I did, an usher came and put a bucket down. I thought, “Well that is better, I do not really want the money lying on the floor” so I dropped it into the bucket. I turned around and everybody was fidgeting. When you look at people in a crowd, you do not actually focus on any one person to see what they are doing, you do not really see them fidgeting in their seat. I walked up to a man in the second row and watched him pull money out of his wallet. As I continued to look, other people were also pulling money out. I said, “Well, people, if you want to give to this

dear lady, go ahead.” This was done after our offering teaching towards the end of the night. About fifteen hundred dollars was taken up that night for her.

Not Just Back Slapping

I was so excited because I had been preaching in this church for two weeks on giving and being mindful to be a blessing. When an opportunity arose, the people rose to the occasion and did what God said. They came and gave. This is what we should be like. There are so many back-slapping Christians in the Body of Christ. Somebody who is dying of hunger will ask, “Can you help me with a meal?” and the Christians reply, “Well brother, I cannot really help you with a meal but you know we will go ahead and pray for you.” Then they pat the hungry people on the back and walk off. They will probably not, even pray for them. You understand, what they needed was a meal? They needed that person to buy them some food. They did not need the pat on the back, it would not have filled their belly.

Don't Be A Ding Bat

Be mindful to be a blessing. Start to take care of other people around you and God will start taking care of you. Start taking care of the House of the Lord and God will start taking care of your house. Listen carefully, be a blessing especially to those of the household of faith who belong to God's family with you.

The Army of the Lord is one army you can join that if you get injured there will always be a dingbat out there who will hurt you more. They are standing and fighting with you, but if you fall, they will just step on your head and keep on going. There are some people in the ministry who will climb all over other people to get further in the ministry. There is a saying that goes, “Be nice to the little man on your way up because you might need him on your way down. ”

God Takes the Foolish Things

I have seen some people from Africa and all over the world who would not even give me the time of day, they would not even greet me, who later were sitting on the front row getting drunk in the Holy Ghost in our meetings. Now they are wanting to know, “How do I do it? What do I do?”

Where do I go?” God has a wonderful sense of humor. He takes the foolish things of the world to confound the wise. Maybe that is why God uses some of us. Be mindful to be a blessing. Start taking care of the people around you. Start taking care of the House of the Lord. Start taking your finances and put them into the Gospel.

God Is Our Provider

God works in a totally different direction to how the world operates. When you talk to the world, they say, “Go ahead and save. Don’t give.” Tell your investor who is not saved that you tithe and they want to have you committed. They will ask you, “What are you saving?” You answer them, “I am saving a lot. I am giving into the Gospel, storing treasures up in heaven and the windows of heaven are being opened above me for financial blessings.” The investor will look at you and say, “What are you talking about, man? You are whacked out of your tree, but I will sell you a good policy and when you get to the age of sixty-five you can get a million or two out of it.”

I do not have a problem with investments. I do not have a problem with insurance because we are not looking to that as our provider or even as our protection. But, I will tell you, if we put God first, put His Word first, take what we have and put it into His hands, He is going to turn it around and multiply it into much. You will never lack for anything.

Hit the Road... And Don’t Come Back

A pastor friend of mine was kicked out of his church because of the revival. The people told him, “Hit the road, Jack, and don’t come back.” He was kicked out three weeks before Christmas and he had two children. When he left that church, God began to provide for his needs in an even greater way. In actual fact, the income that he received after he left the church was more than he was getting while he was with the church. His mailbox became a money-box. Every time he went to his mailbox and opened it, there would be checks from people who had come through the church. They wrote, “Brother, you treated us so well and we want to bless you now.” God literally provided for all his needs. More than what he could even begin to imagine. Those people really did him a favor. They thought they were doing God a favor by kicking him out but they were actually

doing him a favor. He was set free and delivered financially. He has never looked back. Why? Because he had his faith and trust in God and he has tithed since he was a child.

The Gray-Haired Gentleman

I have seen this man come into my meetings when he did not have the church and sit on the front row, but spend most of his time on the floor, drunk in the Holy Ghost. Somebody wrote a check out for a thousand dollars and sent it down the line to him. This person did not know what his name was, but stuck a piece of paper on the check which said, "To the gray-haired gentleman who always lies on the floor." The check was for one thousand dollars. I saw him get off of the floor, take that piece of paper off, go up to another evangelist and say, "Here, this is for you." I am talking about someone who does not know where their next paycheck was coming from. When you do something like that, you had better know your faith and trust is in God. This is the way we should be.

Going Overboard

It is almost like you are going totally over-board in your giving. It is almost like you are throwing your money away. It is like you are breaking or being bust out of a mold that you have been programmed to be in. You are throwing away all of those things that seem logical or level-headed. You have to get out of the boat and begin to walk on the water. I would rather be a wet water walker than a dry boat sitter. Amen. There are a lot of dry boat sitters in the Body of Christ. You ought to jump out of the boat and begin to walk on the water. So what if you get splashed every now and again. Who cares. When you walk on the water the blessings of God will be there for you.

Faith and Trust in God

The provision of God is what we are looking for in these last days. We are not going to make it by ourselves. What happens if the whole economy falls? Who are you going to trust then? Your little bit of money in the bank is not going to mean anything. It is not going to mean anything even if you had a lot of money in the bank. You had better get your faith and trust in God right now when times are still good because when times get really bad and money has no value, it will be too late to start believing

God. What will you believe Him with? What will you give then? Nobody will want your money. You could take your money, give it to your kids and say, “Here, come and play Monopoly with it”, because that is all it is going to be worth.

When your faith and trust is in God, it does not matter what happens around you. God will always take you through, He will always see you through and He will always carry you through. We will walk in victory because God’s Word says that we will.

God the Provider Not the Divider

Mark 6:34-35 says, “As Jesus landed, He saw a great crowd waiting, and He was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things. And when the day was already forgone, His disciples came to Him and said,... ”

I Feel Sorry for Jesus

Many times when I read through the Word of God and look at the life and the ministry of Jesus and then look at the people who Jesus had to hang around with or the people who were hanging around Jesus, I would feel sorry for Jesus. I really do. Just look at the disciples who were with Jesus. They always looked at the circumstances around them in the natural. Jesus never looked at the circumstances around Him, but the disciples always weighed the pros and cons. They would get together, have a conversation and decide what they would do.

Looking in the Natural

It says in Mark 6:35, “And when the day was already far gone, His disciples came to Him and said,... ”

Obviously they had been looking at the circumstances around them. They said,

“...This is a desolate and isolated place, and the hour is now late. ”

That is pretty obvious. They are out in the bush somewhere with five thousand people hanging around them. Jesus did not need anybody to tell Him, “Hey, Jesus, this is a desolate and isolated place. By my watch, it

says it is very late right now. Look at the sun, it is dropping off of the horizon.” Jesus could tell the time. He did not need anybody to say, “Hey, Jesus, it is late now. We have to do something. Let us send these crowds into the country and the villages round about to buy themselves something to eat.”

Jesus Gets in Your Face

Now I believe Jesus was very direct. He never minced His Words. He never compromised. Jesus said it as it was. Listen to this carefully,

Mark 6:37 says, “But He replied to them, Give them something to eat yourselves...”

Now, he was dealing with a lot of people who are looking in the natural at their circumstances. They have already told Jesus, “This is a desolate and isolated place.” Now Jesus says, “Give them something to eat yourselves.” They probably started talking between one another saying, “Man, Jesus has just gone off His head completely. He has been out in the sun too long today. What does He mean, “We must give them something to eat?” What is He talking about? Didn’t He hear what we said? Can’t He see where we are?”

Looking in the Natural

Mark 6:37 continues, “And they said unto Him,... ”

The disciples are still looking into the natural realm. They said to Him, “Shall we go and buy 200 denarius [about forty dollars] worth of bread to give it to them to eat?” Back into the natural. What would we have done in the natural? We would probably say, “Jesus, do you want us to go to McDonald’s and order five thousand Big Macs? If we go right now they have a special deal. For an extra thirty-nine cents you can super-size the meal. This will help you spread it around to the people and give them something more to eat and drink. It will be wonderful. It is a deal Lord, don’t you think?” That is probably what we would do. We would have pulled up in the drive-thru and said, “Five thousand Big Macs and super-size the meal.” “Huh?”, would probably be the only sound heard through the speaker.

The Big Mac Problem

I have a problem when I pull up to the drive-thru to give my order. Often I have to go up to the window and say, “Lady, this is what I want,” because no one can understand me. I say, “Give me a Big Mac Meal.” “Huh?” “Big Mac. Big Mac.” “Huh?” Then I say, “Just wait lady I’m coming up.” “Huh?” Imagine if I pulled up there and said, “Five thousand Big Macs.” They would probably understand what I said then.

Would We Have Been Any Different

But, the disciples were looking in the natural all of the time. You would think being around Jesus and seeing him do the miracles that they would not look in the natural so much. When Jesus said something, it always happened. The disciples could never trust Jesus at His Word the first time around. They always wanted to argue with Jesus.

We often say today, “Ah, if we had been around Jesus it would have been totally different. We would have been a support to Him in a greater way. If He said something, we would not have doubted it.” That is a bunch of hog wash. You are already doubting what His Word says. He has already said so much to you and you are already doubting what His Word says. What is the difference with Him being here in person or by His Word? It is the same thing. The presence of God is here. The Word of God is here. You say, “Oh no, we would never doubt if Jesus told us to do something. We would do it.”

Then why aren’t you tithing? Are you giving like God’s Word says you should give? It is that simple. Are you walking in divine health? These are things that Jesus has taken upon Himself on the cross so that we can be free. He took poverty on Himself so that we can walk in abundant provision with the blessings of God financially on our lives. We do not have to live in poverty. That is not God ordained. It is from the pit of hell. If the devil can keep the Body of Christ in poverty and with a poverty mentality, he can defeat the Body of Christ. He can hold at bay what God wants to do, but he is not going to get it right because THE LIGHT has come.

The Word of God in Victory

The Word of God is here and it is here for each and every one of us. If we are going to be victorious in these last days, we need to take God’s Word at face value.

Then we will see the blessings of God come our way. We will walk in the financial blessings of God because we are doing what His' Word says. The days of going underneath are over, the days of going over the top are here. We will go over the top people. The only reason we will go over the top is because of God's Word and us acting upon His Word. I refuse to go under. We will go over the top because of God's Word. We will be a success because of God's Word. If you act upon God's Word and if you have faith in God's Word, God will come through for you every time.

Has God Ever Let You Down?

I have asked this question in revivals, "How many of you think that God has let you down in the past?" Some people have raised their hand and said, "I feel God has let me down." Then I tell them, "God has not let you down." There are some things that God cannot do. You say, "God can do anything," but I tell you, there are some things He cannot do. One thing He cannot do lie. His Word does not lie. Another thing God cannot do is fail. Don't we serve a wonderful God! He cannot fail and He has not failed you.

The Japanese Gentleman

I had some Japanese people come into my meeting once. One of the men said to me, "I do not believe in your God. What I see happening in your meetings is very real, but I do not believe in your God." I asked him, "Well, do you talk to your god?" He said, "Yes I do." I asked him, "Does he talk back to you?" He said, "No." Then I asked him, "Has your god ever set anybody free from drugs? Has your god ever healed anyone?" He said, "No." I said, "my God has. When I talk to my God, He talks back to me. The difference between your god and my God is that your god is dead and mine is alive." There is only one true God and that is the God whom I serve. All other gods are dead, but there is only one God who is alive."

This man was a newspaper reporter from Tokyo, Japan and he wrote "All other gods are dead, but there is only one God who is alive" in his report. They sent this story back to Tokyo and this statement was part of the article in the newspaper. That will get some devils riled up in Tokyo. After I had finished making that statement I thought, "Man, did you have to be so bold about it." "Yes, I said, and I will get even bolder.

Jesus Sets Himself Up for A Miracle

Mark 6:38 says, “And He said to them, How many loaves do you have? Go and see. And when they [had looked and] knew, they said, Five [loaves]and two fish.”

Five loaves and two fish. Now it seems like Jesus was not listening to what they were saying. He was not even paying attention to them. You know, if it had been us and the disciples had come and said, “Hey, five loaves and two fish.” We would have said, “Oh, my God. Well, see if you can buy lunch. We can snack on that, but that is a good idea, let's send these people away.” That is what we would have probably done. But listen to Jesus in Mark 6:39 and 40. He says,

“Then He commanded the people all to recline on the green grass by companies. So they threw themselves down in ranks of hundreds and fifties...”

They must have been hungry because the Bible says,

“...they threw themselves down...”

When you throw yourself down on the ground you had better know that you want to get fed fast. Now look at what Jesus did. He did not look at the five loaves and the two fish. We would have tried to get out the calculator and calculate how many crumbs each person should get. There are five thousand people, five loaves of bread and two fish. Really all you are going to do with that amount of bread and fish is just take it past their nose and say, “Smell, Smell.” They probably would have smelled the bread away by the time it went past five thousand people. Five loaves and two fish are not going to get very far. But Jesus, He was not even concerned about it.

Giving God First Place

Mark 6:41 says, “And taking the five loaves and two fish, He looked up to heaven...”

What did He do? He had His eyes fixed on God, not on the circumstances around Him. He had His eyes fixed on God. He had His eyes fixed up to heaven. “And, praising God...” This is the key right here. You take the little that you have and begin to praise God with it. Worship God with your giving. When you give, say, “Father, I thank you that I am giving into good soil and as I give I am giving based on Your Word. I am thanking

you, Lord, even in advance for the windows of heaven that are open above my head. Thank you, Lord Jesus, that you are supplying my every need.” He supplies our need far more than we could begin to imagine. “...He looked up to heaven and, praising God, gave thanks... ”

Moaning and Groaning As Always

If it had been us, we would have looked up to heaven and said, "God, what do you expect us to do with this?" We would have moaned, groaned, and griped. We wonder why our financial situation is in a mess. Giving is something you have to catch a hold of in your heart. God has to bum this down in your heart. It has to become a reality to you; a revelation to you. People say, "Why do you preach so hard about giving? Why do you keep hitting on it over and over and over?" Because it is a revelation to me and it is working for me. If it can work for me, it can work for any one. I do not want to see people going down the tubes. I cannot stand to see people financially oppressed. It grieves me. I know what it is like to be financially oppressed.

It's Because I Am A Preacher

People are always looking at preachers and saying, "Oh, well, you have always been blessed. You are a preacher." No, we have not always been blessed. My wife and I have been through some real hard times. We have had no money for gas. I can remember many times my wife would take Coke bottles to the store to get money so that we could buy bread.

It is not a case of always being blessed. People look at preachers and say, "Well, you get two offerings a day. You should be blessed." I do not get two offerings a day. Our ministry gets the offerings. We get a salary just like everyone else. How many of you get a salary? Well, we also, get a salary just like everyone else. I do not touch one dime of what comes into the offering. It is all accounted for. So, we can shoot that one in the head right now.

We have to believe God's Word for us just like you have to believe God's Word for you. I have to do just what you have to do. I have to give just like you have to give. I am not exempt from this.

Little Becomes Much

When God's Word gets a hold of your heart and burns down into your heart and you catch a hold of what God's Word says about giving, you will never look back again. You will never regret it and you will always be blessed. You might have two dollars to your name. You take what you have and put it into the hands of God and God will turn it around into much. The Bible says in Mark 6:41, "...He looked up to heaven and, praising God, gave thanks and broke the loaves and kept..." Listen to this, "...kept on giving them to the disciples to set before the people; and He [also] divided the two fish among [them] all." So here is Jesus with five loaves and two fish. He looked up to heaven, praised God, gave thanks, broke the bread, broke a piece of fish and gave it to one disciple and said, "Go and give it away." He gave it to another disciple and said, "Go give it away." He gave it to another disciple and kept on breaking the food and they went out and gave to one person. Then they came back and there was Jesus still breaking bread and the disciples are going, "Man, what is happening to this stuff? He is just breaking it off and I have already given away to fifteen or twenty people. This is impossible."

They are probably looking around behind Jesus, wanting to see if He had some secret stash behind him. They were probably grumbling and groaning as they went and gave the food away; totally confused. But, there was a miracle taking place. The little that was put in the hands of Jesus; He took it and put it back into the hands of God and God multiplied it. Jesus continually kept on giving it out.

Filled to the Full

Listen to this. In Mark 6:42 it says, "And they all ate and were satisfied." How many of you have been to a luncheon? How many of you have eaten and were satisfied? Some people have eaten and were more than satisfied, but one person's plate might not have satisfied another person. Some people might have needed two plates to satisfy them, some maybe three, but all of these people ate and they all were satisfied.

More Than Enough

Mark 6:43 & 44 says, "And they took up twelve [small hand] baskets full of broken pieces [from the loaves] and of the fish. And those who ate the loaves were 5,000 men." In other words, Jesus fed the five

thousand men with five loaves and two fish. They all ate. They all had enough to eat and were satisfied. They were not hungry after that. They could not eat any more. Not only did Jesus meet the need of the people, but He took up twelve baskets full after everybody was satisfied. What does that tell you? That tells me that when you take the little that you have and you put it into the hands of God, God is not only going to multiply it so that we are all satisfied, but He is going to multiply it in such a way that there is more than enough.

God is not the God of break-even. Some people are so happy when they are blessed financially and they break even for the month. They say, “Oh, thank you, Jesus, you have blessed us this month. We are breaking even.” No, there is still more, you are only breaking even. Every time there are blessings attached to giving in God’s Word, you will notice that it is always more than what they needed. God is not the God of break-even. He is the God of more than enough. He satisfies you to the full and then some. You do not have to walk around in poverty.

People try to explain the miracles that Jesus did. They say, “You know back in the Bible days they made very large loaves.” This was a little boy’s lunch. I mean, how large can a lunch be for a little boy. Five loaves and a whale? Even if you bake a very large loaf, it is not going to be enough to feed five thousand people. It was a little boy’s lunch. God wants to take what you have and multiply it. Many times in our walk we make statements to God, like, “God, if you meet my needs and if you give me finances, I will give it away.” God wants you to give of what you have right now. Do not try to wait until your circumstances are sorted out because they never will be. Some have been waiting for three or four years for God to sort it out. Start doing something now and God will take care of it. You take one step toward God and He will take fifteen or twenty steps towards you. But we have to take that first step.

Five Thousand — Maybe More

We always say, “God, you go ahead and do it. Then I will go ahead and do it.” No, it works the other way around. You see, God does not have to have His faith in you, you have to have your faith in Him. You cannot out-give God. The Bible talks about five thousand men, five loaves and two fish. Well, I guarantee you, when you get five thousand men together, the

chances of having five thousand women close by is very good. Would you agree to that? When you have five thousand men and five thousand women together, the chances of at least having more than five thousand children is also very good. Each family probably had three or four children. Now all of a sudden this miracle is just getting totally way out there. I mean, in our little human brain we still could not imagine five thousand men, five loaves and two fish. Maybe there is a chance of something happening like that, but now we are talking about an extra five thousand women, and maybe five or ten thousand children. Now, suddenly, we are talking about twenty thousand, maybe twenty-five thousand people.

Out of the Natural

You say, “Now, this is getting totally way out there.” Everything God does is way out there.

If we look at it in the natural, we will never understand it because you cannot work with the things of God in the natural. Just look at the revival. Why do grown people who have been in the ministry for twenty-one years come into a meeting like this and sit on the front row slouched over and drunk in the Holy Ghost. In the natural, your brain thinks, “I do not understand it.” I tell you what, God is moving by His Spirit. God is touching people. God is setting people free even if it is out of the natural.

I saw a video where the head usher was on his head slapping his feet together. You know when God touches the head usher, He has just raised the dead. I have been in some churches where the head ushers are more dead than a door nail. Now some are not, but some are. God does so many things in our hearts and lives that are not in the natural, so let us stop trying to work out God’s Word in the natural. If God’s Word says, “Give,” then go ahead and do it. Just do it, it is a simple thing. Take what you have got and put it into the hands of God. There are some people who need to step right out of the boat.

God Will Come Through

Some people have been giving and have never seen a return. Why? Because they are giving out of their abundance. They look at their financial situation and say, “Well, if I just go ahead and give this, it is not going to affect me. It is not going to put any pressure on me whatsoever.”

When you are in this situation you do not have to have your faith and trust in God. You do not have to believe Him for anything. Some people just need to throw “caution overboard,” step out of the boat and start walking on the water. You know, get yourself out so far that God has got to come through for you; otherwise, you are finished. When you get yourself out there so far that God has to come through; He will. When you get yourself out there that far your faith and trust is going to be in God. It is not going to be in your finances in the bank. I would rather be a wet water walker than a dry boat sitter. There are a lot of dry boat sitters in the Body of Christ. It is time to get out of the boat and get your feet wet.

Sinner’s Prayer

Father, I come to you in the name of Jesus. Lord, You said in Your Word if I confess with my mouth that Jesus is Lord and that God has raised Jesus from the dead, I would be saved. So Father, right now I confess Jesus, You are my Lord and Savior. Come into my heart. Take out the stony heart and put in a heart of flesh. Change me, Lord. Change me, Lord. Let me never be the same again. I thank You, Lord, from this moment on that You are my Father and I am Your Child. When You come back for me, I’ll be ready and waiting. I love You, Jesus. Thank You, Lord, for saving my soul, for making me whole, for setting me free. Use me, Lord, in these days. I ask this all in the name of Jesus. Amen.

If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, I would like to hear from you, that I may rejoice with you and pray for you. I would also like to send you a tape that I believe will be a real blessing to you.

About Basil Howard-Browne:

Basil Howard-Browne is founder and President of Basil Howard-Browne Evangelistic Ministry, Inc. He along with his wife, Ann, have been called by God as missionaries to the United States from South Africa. In 1992, they and their three children, Bradley, Kayley and Jessica came to America. Basil worked alongside his brother, Dr. Rodney Howard-Browne, in the ministry for one year. God's power and anointing continued to increase in his life to minister the Word under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit with signs and wonders following.

Beginning January 1, 1994, he has carried Revival across the United States, spanning from Florida to Alaska, and from California to New York and Hawaii. Many have experienced the healing restoring power of God in Basil's meetings. Witnessing many salvations, the churches are being stirred up to bring in the lost and the backslidden in heart as they are witnessing the Power of God to save and restore lives in these meetings.

There has been a special anointing over this ministry in seeing people come into financial freedom and the abundant provision God has for them. There have been countless testimonies of financial breakthrough in the lives of people, as they have acted on the Word of God in sowing and reaping. Church finances have doubled and sometimes tripled after a week of revival meetings. The truth holds within itself the power to free up finances in the local church. As the Word is sown in truth, the harvest has been financial breakthrough for the church corporately and the people individually.

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