

# Oral Roberts

# ATTACK

# YOUR LACK

*of money  
of health*

*of good relationships  
of joy and peace of mind*

# 12

Spiritual Tools to help you get your lack FULLY FILLED — from the man who has learned how to use these tools!

**ATTACK  
YOUR  
LACK**

By  
Oral  
Roberts

Unless otherwise indicated,  
all Scripture quotations  
are from the King James Version  
of the Bible.

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*Chapter 1*

# Do You Know What Your Real Problem Is?

Do you know what your real problem is as a Christian believer?

Getting to heaven?

Avoiding hell?

Death?

The national government budget deficit?

Threat of nuclear war?

No!

The single most urgent problem you face as a Christian believer is *not* whether you are going to heaven when you die. You know in your inner self that your faith in Jesus Christ of Nazareth, who received you into His kingdom, *guarantees* your eternal destiny will be with God. Death holds no fears for you. It is only a transition to a greater life God has for you.

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And while national and international issues are important, they are not the key issue of your life, every hour of every day.

The most urgent problem facing you is HOW TO GET *YOUR* NEED MET WHILE YOU LIVE ON THIS EARTH ON YOUR WAY TO HEAVEN SPIRITUALLY PHYSICALLY FINANCIALLY AS YOU WITNESS FOR CHRIST AND CARRY ON HIS WORK.

Thousands of persons write me every month. They are from the mainstream of the human race, but every one of them, without exception, eventually gets to the *Key Issue*...to the main thing they are facing and must overcome in order to be a happy and successful person. It is a need they are facing that they can't handle and they want help from God. They ask, "Can you help me?"

The need changes from time to time, but the fact of life is that when one need is met, another need presents itself. You are never without a need. Your need challenges your walk with the Lord. It taxes your ability to get along in life successfully.

This need, in its never-relenting opposition, seems like a storm cloud blotting out the sun. It tries to hide God from your view. It fills you with anxiety and fear, and it births doubt that causes



you to question if you are saved, if God cares about your existence on earth, if you can make it in a world filled with unbelief, cursed with sickness and disease, filled with lack, and which defies you every day of your life.

When this need—in whatever form spiritually ...physically...financially—is not being met in a way that gives some breathing room, some peace of mind, some evidence that you are going to make it, there is a feeling of giving up.

*Frustration* arises inside because the need just won't go away. "Why has this happened to me? What have I done to deserve it?" These questions, often unanswerable, increase your frustration.

Then the bottom-line question begins to rise up in you, "Why me? Is there something wrong with me?"

## **When the Doubter Comes**

At this point the Doubter of all Doubters, Satan, slips in and begins to insinuate that being born again is not so great...walking with the Lord doesn't pay...many who don't even believe in the Lord are getting along better than you are... your prayers are not being answered... so where is God?

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Need after need hits you with hammer-like blows...day after day...week after week...year after year. It pounds at you, wears you, weakens you, scares you, pulls you down... down... down.

You go to church and often you find you can't relate to the preacher's message. He doesn't appear to be talking about you or your needs or where you are in life. Others appear to enjoy the message and the church services. The fact that the church is even there is comforting. You greet friends, someone says hello to you or gives you a "God bless you." You go home, however, to the same old problem...your need is still facing you.

Over a period of time you may begin to feel as if you're just a fixture in the church services, like the chair you sit on, or the hymnbook you sing from, or the choir singing, or the ushers receiving the tithes and offerings, or the building being there. You're there, but the life of God is not pulsating in you. You don't feel the EXCITEMENT of being a Christian.

Oh, you enjoy the atmosphere where Christians gather. You especially like the stories in the sermon. An occasional point made from the Bible makes sense to you or gives you inspiration to hang on to your faith in God.

But overall you begin to develop a face when

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you talk about God or the church that is different from the one you live with the other 167 hours of the week when you face your problems outside the church service.

It's like your "Christian" face is wearing a mask. You've learned to conceal what you really think and feel, what you hurt over, are frustrated by, the fears that haunt you, the pain you bear, the feeling that things are not getting better and probably won't. Satan slips in again with his insinuations. "Why doesn't the sermon get down to where you live in the nitty-gritty of your day-by-day needs? The singing lifted you up, but why are you so down again? The prayers at church inspired you that better things are coming, but where are they? When are they going to get here? You heard all this the last time you were at church and the times before that. But nothing is happening. Why? Why? Why?" You cry, "Why doesn't the devil leave me alone?"

You open the Bible to do what a good Christian should: read and study and let God speak to you from His Holy Word. You read, but you wonder what it means. You read where it all happened back there thousands of years ago to people you question as being a real person like yourself.

Did they go through the things the Bible says

they did? Were their problems as real as yours? Didn't they have mighty prophets who said, "Thus saith the Lord, do this and things will work out for you even if God has to give you a miracle!" Where are such mighty men and women of God today? Who can get a prayer through to heaven in these mind-boggling times? Why isn't the Bible easier to understand or to apply to my situation IN THE NOW? Can I really expect a miracle to happen to me? To my life? To my physical body? To my finances? To my family? To my spiritual life?

## **When Things Look So Easy**

Television makes everything look so easy. The instant crimes, one-night sex, violence, and horrors come right into your living room...yet you feel no sting of hate, anger, or grief. You see people shot or mutilated...and you don't care. It's just make-believe. You see wars breaking out, world leaders trying to keep the lid on and smiling cheerfully...but if you look closely, their faces show their fear that the world is out of control. "My God, what's going to happen next?"

The commercials suddenly appear, momentarily shutting off the ugly stories, giving you the most powerful sales pitch you've ever

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had about enticing cosmetics, instant foods, glamorous clothes, the newest touch-button cars, and every sort of gadget that promises if you will only run out and buy it, it will fix you up and you'll be happy... happy... happy. "Oh, really?"

Only after you've seen so many of them, you finally figure out the commercials are better than life and you feel cheated that you don't have all that "stuff" that you can reach out and touch on TV but can't possess. You feel poor.

Sickness hits. The job market gets bad. Taxes go up. Bills pile up. Trouble in your family. There's too much month left and the money has run out. Pain. Bad news. Noise. Headaches. More bad news. No vacation. Vacation but it was horrible.

Car breaks down. Roof leaks. Cop stops you for a taillight burned out, running a red light, going 40 miles an hour in a 30 mile zone. More doctor bills. A flat tire. Church wants more money. Another sick child. Need new clothes. Shoes hurt your feet. Sore throat. Burnt the roast. No roast.

Food prices up. How to cut out something else? More sickness. Cancer. Shoulder hurts. Arthritis. Colon trouble. Surgery needed. Prayed, no answer. Read Bible again. "Why doesn't God

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Speak to me?"

Woke up feeling good. At 3 o'clock got more bad news. Couldn't sleep last night. It's raining again. Car's in the shop. "Blah, blah, blah. What's the use to go on?"

A relation died. More divorces. Will I be next? Drugs. Alcohol. "Why don't they get off my back?"

Tried to pray. Felt better. Didn't last. "Why me, Lord?"

Heard this preacher on TV. Like him. Talks about miracles. "Miracles? Really? Wonder if I could get one, just one?"

You begin to think, "Miracles. They're for somebody else. God doesn't know my address.

Doesn't care anyway. Why should He, what have I ever done for Him? I've done a lot, always helping somebody. Gave \$5 in church. Always thought it'd be nice to tithe. Never have enough money for myself, how could I give a tenth to God who doesn't need it anyway? Oh, great, just what I need: another problem."

Pain in my chest. Coughing. Bad breath. That kid of mine, will he ever straighten out? My neighbor's nosy, always buttin' in. Car won't run again. Hurt my leg. So-and-so wouldn't speak, looked right at me and walked on by. "Who

cares?"

Look at that on TV, another terrorist bombing. "Why doesn't the government do something? Fat chance!"

Bill collector called again. Snow predicted. Wish summer was here. Wish I wasn't here. My brother wants me to loan him some money. His wife has b.o. "Why don't they work like I have to?"

Gotta go to a funeral. We all die...sometime. "Will I die?" Won't think about it.

I'm hurting again. Can't sleep. "I'm nervous. I need help. Who can I talk to? Write to? Who'll help me? Does prayer really work? Plant a seed? What's a seed? Talking about my faith being a seed I plant, what does that mean? Source? God being my Source? How's that? God can meet all my needs? Go on. Really? All my needs? All? HOW? WHEN? God help me... please?"

This is the world we live in, not the heaven we're going to someday. This is where you hurt... where you lack health, money, friends, hope. This is *need*. This is where the battle is. This is where the struggle never goes away. This is the real world.

## **Is There An Answer?**

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Is there an answer?

Is there a Bible formula for success and prosperity?

Are there key principles of Seed-Faith you can apply and know they will work for you? Seeds you can plant out of your need and get yourself in position to EXPECT A MIRACLE? And receive miracles? You? Here? Now?

Yes, there is an answer. The Word of God is as close as your reaching out and picking it up and opening it and looking up that Scripture that speaks directly to you at the point of your need. Preachers are in churches and on television who do know God and care for you and are able to help you into Faith-Talk rather than doubt-talk or fear-talk or give-up-talk.

The 3 Key Principles of Seed-Faith are profoundly simple and they work if you will only work them by taking a step of faith beginning right now.

God is real and He means exactly what He says when the Word says, *"My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 4:19).

But you have to take control of yourself and say, "Self, believe it. Self, go for it. Self, you can do it. Self, you will do it, for God will help you do it."



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You must order yourself to believe the Word of God is true, that God still speaks today, and that He speaks to you if you'll only take time to listen.

You must accept the servants of God who are called and empowered by Him to help you as a person, as one created by God and for whom Jesus died and rose again and is closer to you in your need than your breath.

You must... and you can if you will to do it... believe in your heart the God I'm talking about exists...He is at work on this earth...He is a rewarder of you when you seek Him with your whole heart...and He will multiply the seeds of faith you sow and He'll give you—yes, *you*—miracle after miracle so that you will say, "*Greater is He who is in me than Satan who is in the world*" (1 John 4:4).

If you will listen with your heart to what I'm about to tell you next, I know that I know that here on earth, while you're on your way to heaven, you will discover God's ways to meet your needs time after time after time.

But if you hold back... if you take the Scriptures in the Word of God I'm about to give you and say they're not for you... if you refuse to let me minister God's miracle power to you, then

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I can't help you and we'll both miss the golden opportunity to make miracles happen in your life in the here and now.

I ask you again, do you know what your problem is?

Your problem is your NEED. And another way to say need is to say LACK. You have a LACK of health... a LACK of enough money... a LACK of good friends... a LACK in family relationships... a LACK of joy and peace of mind in your soul ...a LACK of feeling close to God.

And when you have a LACK, it's like a vacuum in your life. Trouble comes rushing in to fill up the LACK Disease takes hold. Debts overrun you. Worry, doubt, bitterness take hold. Angry words lodge in your spirit.

Your need comes because of your LACK. All of your lack taken together makes up THE NEED... the *continual* pounding of Satan against you as he uses the LACK in your life as his entry point to strike against you.

Let me give you an example. You are alone. You don't seem to have any friends. That's a *lack*.

What happens? Loneliness begins to brew in you. You start feeling sorry for yourself. Lethargy takes over. You just don't feel like getting up, getting dressed, and going out of your home. You

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begin to get more and more depressed. Suddenly you find yourself ill. Something doesn't *feel* right in your body. You stop to think, "Nobody cares. I don't have any friends who care." The sickness gets worse. Your depression gets darker and deeper. By now you have a major *problem*. You have a great need.

Then what happens? Your sickness drives you to seek medical help. Bills come. There isn't enough money. You begin to worry. The worry piles in on top of the loneliness, depression, and sickness.

Do you see how it is?

And it all stems from a LACK in your life. Your need has rushed in because of a void of something good.

Let me point out something to you. A weed can only grow because somebody didn't plant a GOOD SEED in that plot of soil. Think about it. If somebody had planted a GOOD SEED, one that would bear fruit—something useful or beautiful for our lives—a weed couldn't grow in that spot.

What about another example?

Your employer needs to cut back. You lose your job. What happens? You have a LACK of work. You have a LACK of wages. You suddenly have a LACK of money.

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You start to think about it. Why did I lose my job? Why not someone else? What's wrong with me? What's wrong with God?

You start to look for another job. Nobody has anything. You get more depressed about it. You try to put on a cheery attitude, but somehow your depression shows through. Is it what is keeping you from finding another job?

Your wife and children get discouraged too. More pressure. The angry words start. The frustrations pile up. The cupboards get bare. The bills multiply. You need even MORE money. You get more discouraged. Then sickness starts to take hold. Even more bills.

You have a major problem. You try alcohol or drugs to get rid of the reality. That doesn't help. You still feel miserable, but now you're hooked. Your problems begin to have problems!

Do you see how it is?

And it all stems from a LACK in your life. Your NEED comes because of your LACK

What can we do?

### 1. GO ON THE ATTACK!

I know a way to get at your need in its changing forms, yet deal with it as one continuous need... one continuous lack. It's to go

on the attack. WHEN YOU ARE FACED WITH A LACK...ATTACK!...ATTACK! ...ATTACK!

During the dark days of the Civil War, the bloodiest war in our nation's history, when General U. S. Grant, commander of the Federal forces, saw his armies being thrown back time and time again, he sent word to his officers, "Attack! Attack! Attack!"

When President Lincoln's advisers urged him to fire Grant, he answered, "I can't fire that man. He's the only general I have who will fight."

After the Civil War of the United States was over, after General Grant had served two terms as President, after his bad debts had piled up and he seemed a hopeless old man, after he was struck with cancer in his jaw and he sat brooding day after day, rejected and alone...he attacked!

Through the kind offer of a friend he went to a house up in the mountains north of New York City. He went there alone to write his memoirs, which still provide the best history and description of the Civil War conflict. Suffering agonizing pain, and often so cold he had to wrap himself in blankets as he wrote, he hung on to life by sheer faith and determination. He held off cancer until he had finished the last page, assured that all his debts would be paid by the sale of the

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book. With a knowing in his heart that he had helped save the nation, he bowed his head and let his soul go to God.

There was a lack in General Grant that had dogged him all the days of his life. It was the belief of people that he was a no-good, a man without ambition or goals, a person who was destined to be a failure and fade into oblivion. It caused a LACK of feeling self-worth.

Again and again he attacked that lack. He attacked and attacked and attacked. He never quit until on that lonely mountain he gathered his last strength to push his pen across the pages until the final detail was written, the last word said.

Looking the last time at the sun muted by the mist over the valleys, he bowed his head and died, a man of faith and courage. The lack he had attacked all his life was gone.

What is *your* need today?

What LACK did it grow out of?

What does God say about your lack?

How can you begin to ATTACK YOUR LACK?

## Chapter 2

# You Attack Your Lack With the Faith You Already Have

Let me tell you four things about how God sees your lack and your faith:

First, God has ordered that you "*lack for nothing*" (1 Thessalonians 4:12).

What does that mean?

It means God is on your side. He doesn't *want* you to have lack.

Second, God has set in motion the power to "supply your lack" (Philippians 2:30). He shows us here that He sends men and women of God across your path to show you His provision for your lack and to show you how to get it. It is no accident you are reading this book. It is part of God's SUPPLY for your lack.

Third, God calls to your attention the time when His people believed and "*they lacked*

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*nothing*" (Deuteronomy 2:7). After Jesus' death, resurrection, ascension, and His sending the Holy Spirit, we are told "*neither was there any among them that lacked...*" (Acts 4:34). Yes, it's possible to overcome your lack. It doesn't happen automatically or even easily, but it is *possible* to attack and win.

And fourth, God has provided the MEANS for you to use in overcoming your lack.

What is that MEANS?

It is your faith.

But, you say, how do I get faith?

My friend, you already *have* it. Paul said in Romans 12:3, "*God hath given to every man the measure of faith.*" That includes *you*.

I used to pray for God to give me faith. I pleaded, I begged, I cried for it. Then one day I opened my Bible and read Romans 12:3. I was so excited that I took my pen and wrote my name next to the verse so it read, "God has given every man—that includes Oral Roberts—the measure of faith."

It came like a flash: faith is not something I have to get, it's something God has already put inside me. I have faith, you have faith, we know it because God says we do. And we know it because



we have the ability to release our faith to God—to send it up from our heart to Him. We know it because we see other ordinary people, warts and all, do mighty works for God because they release their faith.

Faith in what?

Actually it's faith in WHOM. It's having faith in a good God, who is the Source of your life, now and forever.

Another Scripture that opened my eyes to the faith I already had is Hebrews 11:6, "*For he that cometh to God must believe that he [God] is... and that he [God] is a rewarder of them who earnestly seek him.*"

I began to realize I, you—even you—can believe God *is...* because He said He had given us the ability to believe that He exists.

Also, He gave us the ability to believe He is a *rewarder* when we believe He is God, He is *our* God, and we earnestly seek after Him!

Faith is that part of you that responds to GOD and to God alone. It's that part of you that longs to communicate with God...to please God...to feel God's presence. It's that part of your will that you can commit to doing things GOD'S way. It's the part of you that BELIEVES God's Word... BELIEVES Jesus Christ is the Son of God...

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BELIEVES that the shed blood of Jesus covers your sins... BELIEVES that God can make a way for you when there doesn't seem to be a way... BELIEVES that God is God and that God is always God and that God is always *your* God and that God is still God no matter the circumstances or situations surrounding you.

Your faith is, therefore, your number-one tool to attack your lack. And as a Christian believer, you have this ACTIVE faith. You can use it to ATTACK.

You already know your lack is attacking you, causing needs to rise up that will destroy you if you don't do something about them. Now you know something greater. You can attack your lack...and God will reward you for it.

God intends for you to win!

You already have all the tools you need to go on a FAITH ATTACK—a FAITH WAR, a FAITH FIGHT. You have what it takes. I urge you: Attack! Attack! Attack!

### *Chapter 3*

## Learn From the Bible How to Start Your Attack

In 2 Kings 6 and 7, we are told the city of Samaria was surrounded on all sides by the overwhelming forces of the mighty Syrian army. The people of the city were shut up inside the walls, slowly being starved to death by the Syrian blockade. They had given up and were now eating the flesh of their own children. No more hideous scene of lack is described in the Bible.

Five men rose up and struck a blow for deliverance. These five men attacked their lack! Four of these men were lepers sitting at the entrance of the gate of Samaria and the fifth was a man of God living inside the walls where all the giving-up was.

The man inside was Elisha the prophet who was sent there by God to sit where the people sat, to feel what they felt, to give a word of

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Revelational Knowledge that would destroy the brutal forces starving the city into submission and to save the people—if only someone would ask for his help.

When all human hope was gone, someone in the king's court remembered God and His prophet, Elisha. Several people finally felt their need enough to ask for divine intervention. They called on Elisha. Immediately he interceded before God and received the word of deliverance by Revelational Knowledge. He boldly said to the king and the people:

"In 24 hours God is going to send deliverance. Food that is now so scarce no amount of money can buy it, will be so plentiful by this time tomorrow that you can buy all you need for pennies."

An aide of the king, full of doubt and totally rejecting these words of Revelational Knowledge by the man of God, sneered, "If God were to open windows in heaven, could this thing be done?"

The prophet replied, "You doubter! In 24 hours you will SEE the deliverance of the people with your own eyes, but you won't get any of it!" In other words, if he held on to his doubt when he could throw it away and start believing the words of the man of God, he wouldn't get a thing. In fact,

he would die before his time! It was his choice to make.

## **When Things Are at Their Worst— Attack!**

Meanwhile the four lepers were sitting at the gate of the city. They were doomed to die. As lepers, they were not allowed inside the city. They relied on those going in and out of the city gates to toss them morsels of food. But now the invading armies surrounded the city. Nobody was going in or out. Nobody inside had food. Talk about being stuck between a rock and a hard place! These men lived on the edge of disaster—caught between a cruel enemy army and a starving city—with bodies riddled by disease and discouragement overwhelming their souls.

Finally they asked themselves, "Why sit we here until we die?" Then they said, "If we continue just to sit here, we *will* die. If we go back into the city, we will die. Come, let us march to the enemy camps. If they save us, we will live. If they kill us, well, we're going to die anyway!"

The Bible tells us they "rose up" in the twilight to go against the army of the Syrians.

They didn't know about the Revelational

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Knowledge of the prophet Elisha promising deliverance in 24 hours. They didn't even have the *hope* of his prophecy in their hearts. All they knew was that if they did not attack their lack at that very hour, they would die.

What *did* they know?

They knew they—as four men, all lepers—were no match for the 100,000 fighting men of the enemy army. They also knew twilight was not a good time to march. The brief time between sundown and dark made it hard to see where they were going.

Even facing all these negatives, they knew they must attack their lack! So they took a step of faith. By the sheer force of their will and their faith, they went from a step of faith into a *march of faith*.

Had you seen them as the sun was going down leave their so-called "safe" place at the gate of the city and go stumbling in their hunger and disease toward the enemy, it would have been hard to believe theirs was a march of faith through which they were *attacking their lack*. "Look at those crazy guys! They're going to get themselves killed."

They were hurting, but they attacked.

They were scared to death, but they attacked.

They stumbled, fell, got up, fell again, but they attacked.

It was twilight, the worst time of all, but they attacked.

## **Remember the Bumblebee**

The scientists tell us that the bumblebee cannot fly. Its wingspread is too small for the size of its body. But the bumblebee doesn't know it, so it goes ahead and flies anyway.

The four gaunt, hungry, sick, and weak men didn't know they couldn't make their march of faith. They didn't know they didn't have what it takes to attack, so they attacked anyway.

As they approached the tents of the Syrians, all the soldiers lay asleep, not fearing an attack.

But God who never sleeps saw the four faith attackers coming against the army of Syria. God spoke to His angels to hook "horses of fire to chariots of fire" and pull them above the tents of the Syrian soldiers and make them sound like the noise of a mighty conquering army.

The Syrians suddenly awakened and *heard* the sounds of the drumming hoofbeats of horses, the marching feet of soldiers, the rumbling roar of chariots, and in panic, "every man fled in the

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night," leaving everything behind.

When the four men who came marching in faith to attack their lack reached the first row of tents, they found them empty! Yes, empty! I tell you... you never know what your faith sounds like to the devil...how it frightens him...how it puts him on the run. I'm talking about your faith ...your faith.

There was plenty of food and gold and clothes and everything they lacked. They went to the next row of tents. They were empty too! And the next and the next. The entire camp was empty! After they had eaten and loaded themselves with gold and silver, they said, "Let us rush back to the city and tell the people."

Elisha's 24-hour period was now at an end. Things were happening exactly as he had predicted. The people rushed out of the city and plundered what the Syrian army had left behind. Food was so abundant it was just as the prophet had said-pennies would buy all the food a person needed.

The king's aide who had sneered at Elisha's prophecy of deliverance in 24 hours, and doubted it in his heart, tried to stop the rush of people out to the Syrian camp. In his doubt he was crying, "It's not real. Don't be deceived. You're crazy to



do this. Stop!" He got caught in the rush and was trampled underfoot and died. He had failed to attack his lack because he refused to believe the Word of God from the mouth of the man of God...and to act on it.

What does this mean to you today?

Are you desperate?

Are you caught in a crisis that crowds you in from all sides?

I've got good news from the Word of God.

Because of *your faith in God*, you too can **ATTACK YOUR LACK**.

The fact is, God is at the point of your need. Your lack is His concern even more than it is yours. He cares more about you than you can possibly care about yourself. God is that good!

God gets no pleasure out of your lack. And He has made a way for you.

What must YOU do?

You must *start* to attack.

You must start to arouse your faith inside you and start your march against your lack. You must rise up and take action—now!

Read the story in 2 Kings 6 and 7 for yourself. You'll discover something important. These men

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STARTED to march BEFORE God caused the angels to act and the Syrian enemy to hear the sounds of soldiers, panic, and flee. These men did something with their faith before God moved in. As these men rose up, a miracle was put into motion in their personal behalf. When these men rose to their feet and set their face toward the Syrians, it was like the key being put into the ignition of a car...like the faucet being turned on...like the light switch being touched. God's delivering power began to flow toward removing their lack.

When *you* turn all your faith loose and start to march against your lack, a miracle of God is literally poured out to sweep the enemy forces away... to reveal plenty is there for you to receive.

But the opposite is also true.

God *cannot* release His miracle supply until you START to ATTACK YOUR LACK! Again I say to you: Attack! Attack! Attack!

Chapter 4

## How a Mother's Faith Attacked—And Won!

When a mother came before me with her little son in the healing line in the Jacksonville, Florida, crusade and asked me to pray for God to give him a new hip socket, it just blew my mind.

She was asking me to pray and believe for a *creative miracle*. There is a difference. A healing is a recovery of something in the physical body that has been damaged or weakened by sickness or disease. A creative miracle is when God creates something that has never been there before.

The Lord speaks of prayer for "the sick to recover" and for "the Lord to raise them up," or to "heal them."

There was no experience in my healing ministry when I had seen God put something in the body that was not there before.

I reached down and placed my hand on this

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young boy's right hip and it was flat. I asked his mother why it was flat. "The doctors say he was born without a hip socket," she replied.

I said, "Well, I have to tell you that I do not believe God will give a creative miracle in this life. But in the resurrection, whatever is missing will be completely restored and he'll have a new body. So in all honesty, I can't pray for your son because I don't believe God will give him a new hip socket."

She looked at me with a determination on her face I had never seen before. The tears were flowing down her cheeks, her lips were quivering. Suddenly her eyes flashed and she said with indignation, "Oral Roberts, I don't ask you to believe for my son. All I ask is that you pray as a Point of Contact. *I'll* do the believing."

I remember it like it was this morning. I was unmoved by what she said. But the 10,000 people witnessing this *were* moved. I heard a sound coming from all over the audience. It was like a deep sigh, like a release of pent-up emotions they'd had all their lives.

I said to the crowd, "Because this mother has asked me to pray, I'll do it. But I publicly state that the way I understand the Word of God, she is asking for a creative miracle and I believe that

will come in the resurrection."

I usually asked people to lay their hands on the back of the chair in front of them as their Point of Contact while I prayed. This time I didn't ask the audience to release their faith and use that Point of Contact. I simply said a few words of prayer. But the people touched the chairs anyway and their prayers ascended like a powerful gust of wind.

The next night when I arrived for the service, one of my associates met me as I got out of the car. "You remember the little boy without a hip socket you prayed for last night?"

"Yes, what about him?"

"God has given him a new hip socket!"

"What?"

"Yes, God has given him a new hip socket. And we've had him walking back and forth on the platform without his crutches. He's not only walking but running and leaping like any normal boy. The crowd has been crying and praising God."

I became angry because it frustrated me. "You know we never bring someone before an audience with a healing unless we have evidence of the healing," I said sharply.

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My associates looked pityingly at me. "Come and see for yourself."

I heard the loud praises of the audience and hurried to the platform. Sure enough, the little boy was holding his crutches high over his head and walking and running.

I asked that he be brought behind the stage. His mother came with him and stood there triumphantly. The little fellow threw his arms around my legs and began to cry. I was still not impressed.

I put my hand on his right hip as I had done the night before when it was flat. To my absolute amazement it had filled in and as I touched it and the left hip, they felt exactly the same.

"What has happened?" I asked the mother. "God has given him a new hip socket," she said sweetly.

"Have you taken him back to his doctor to examine him?"

"Yes, I have. When we got up this morning and found my son's hip was restored, I called the doctor and he said to bring him in immediately. He examined him every way possible. He said he didn't understand it, but from all he could determine, a new hip socket had formed!"

When she told me this, I said, "Bring him on the platform again." To the audience I said, "You remember last night I prayed for this boy but stated publicly this would require a creative miracle and that I believe creative miracles are reserved for the resurrection." They began to laugh and applaud before I could finish. I said, "Well, here he is with a new hip socket!"

That crowd leaped to their feet to praise God. I joined in with them, weeping and telling God I didn't understand it but I thanked Him for it.

In this case, it was not the mother who was out of options. All she wanted was for the prayer of a man of God to be her Point of Contact to release her faith to God for this miracle. It was I who thought this boy was out of options, but he wasn't.

During the duration of that 16-day crusade, she brought her little son each night and let the people see him as he walked normally for the first time in his life. The faith of the people rose higher and higher until one night near the close of the crusade the MASS MIRACLE that I had been saying was coming almost happened in front of our eyes.

## **A Mass Miracle**

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After I finished my sermon and made the invitation to the people to receive Christ as their personal Savior, I sat down in my chair at the front of the platform and began praying for the sick as they came one by one up the ramp to stand before me.

This woman had been looking for a creative miracle for her son's hip socket. For months I had been looking for a MASS MIRACLE to come and heal an entire audience at one time. The Lord had spoken to me and said the time would come when entire audiences and groups would be healed in a MASS MIRACLE. I believed it and was preaching it and expecting it.

To believe for a creative miracle was beyond me; the MASS MIRACLE was not.

It's strange how our faith works, what we find ourselves able to believe for and not to believe for. We're human. We have faith, but it's limited by our humanness. But God isn't limited to our faith. He is greater and He sometimes leaps over our faith in a sovereign act of His own nature.

I was nearing the end of a line of people who were coming for prayer, when suddenly I felt the Spirit of God touch my entire being and rush through me. It had happened before but not with the force it did this time.



In a few moments it happened again, only this time it was so strong I yelled at the top of my voice. I remember I thought I was seeing thousands of lights flashing on and off and the power of God was going through me like an electrical current although it was not hurting me like electricity would. Instead, I was feeling something like a burst of light and energy totally engulfing me, making me feel as if I could lift that entire audience of 10,000 people with my hands.

The third time God's power hit me, it lifted me off my chair and I heard myself shouting, "People, it's here. God's MASS MIRACLE I've been telling you about is near."

That's all I remember saying. The audience rose up together like a covey of quail and began rushing forward. It seemed in seconds the entire front was filled and dozens of wheelchairs were packed together before me.

I stood there not saying a word but experiencing the power of God flowing in my body and spirit in powerful currents.

As if by a signal, those in wheelchairs began coming out of them, people on crutches dropped them, and suddenly there was pandemonium as the power of God struck a mighty blow to heal that audience in a MASS MIRACLE.

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This lasted for about ten minutes. As suddenly as the power of God swept down on that crowd, just that suddenly it lifted. A calm, like that which follows a fierce wind, settled on us and soon we dismissed the service.

The next morning my associates in the tent crew gathered up armloads of crutches, hearing aids, and eye glasses. They parked dozens of wheelchairs in a section where those who no longer needed them could come and get them later. As I walked over the grounds seeing all this, I remembered the mother's faith for a creative miracle and mine for a MASS MIRACLE. She got hers and I got mine. But I knew that I knew someday, somewhere, the MASS MIRACLE would strike again and again and again. That's when I began to believe for the first time that when we think we're out-believing what God can do—when we think that what we're asking for is beyond God's ability—it's not.

You can never out-believe God. You can never believe for something that is beyond God's ability to do.

The Bible tells a story of a young man who was born blind from birth. (See John 9.) He had never had sight. In fact, the original Greek words that the Bible was written in give the impression that there were no eyeballs in this man's eye

sockets. Jesus took clay and put it in that man's eye sockets. Oh, can't you see Him. Just as in the beginning God took the clay and molded Adam and breathed His life into him... Jesus now takes the clay, forms eyes for this man, and says, "Go wash now." And when the man went... and washed his eyes... he could see perfectly!

The Bible tells about a man who had a withered hand. (See Mark 3.) The muscles had shriveled. The tissues had become twisted and gnarled. Jesus spotted this man while He was in the middle of preaching a sermon. He called to him... had him stand up...and when He spoke to that man to stretch out his hand, he did...the arm filled out, unknotted itself...and the use of his hand was restored!

The Bible tells about Lazarus, who had been dead for four days when Jesus arrived on the scene. (See John 11.) Lazarus' body had been wrapped in long strips of cloth, spices packed around it. The tomb was sealed with a stone.

"He's been dead four days," Martha said to Jesus, when He ordered the stone removed. "His body is starting to rot. It stinks," she said. "Nobody who has been dead four days has ever lived again." Jesus lifted His head toward heaven and prayed ...then He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth," ...and Lazarus walked out of

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that tomb, graveclothes and all!

No, friend, NOTHING is too difficult for God.

When you feel your LACK is too big for God to fill...it isn't.

When you feel your LACK is too great for God to make a way... it isn't.

When you feel your problems are out of control and can never be solved...they can be.

When you feel that you're asking God to do something He can't do...He can.

That's why we never stop attacking. We ATTACK... ATTACK... ATTACK our lack. We always ... always... always expect God to honor His Word, to keep His promise, to do what He has said He will do.

Again I say: Attack! Attack! Attack!

## Chapter 5

# You Can Attack Your Lack With Your Giving

According to the Word of God, you can attack your lack by giving... and by expecting to receive back from your giving. "Do you really mean I should expect *back* from my giving?"

I'm asked that question more times than I am anything else. Perhaps you have asked it too.

I gave to God a long time before I really enjoyed it. You see, I'd been taught as a Christian that I was to give. I was also taught that I was *not* to expect to receive anything back. If I did I was being sacrilegious. The first part of the teaching was right. The second part was wrong.

I saw that the Word of God teaches us to give, so I gave and gave and gave. I never could understand though why it was such a one-sided affair of my giving but not receiving anything back. Even among us humans in our daily affairs, we know that life is a two-

way street. Both sides have to profit or it's a bad deal.

"What's wrong with God, anyhow?" was a question I held inside me but never said out loud.

Somewhere a light was shining inside me and I could hear a little bell going off in my mind. A truth was on the edge of my consciousness but I couldn't quite get it into focus. What was happening?

God was trying to get through all the bad teaching I had heard about receiving.

## **Your Salvation Was A Part Of God's Receiving Something Back From His Giving**

God was trying to show me that He gave... and He—God himself—expected to receive and DID receive as a result of His giving. I had not been close enough to God to understand this. One reason was that in my first 17 years of life I had never wanted to receive Jesus Christ into my heart as my personal Savior. That's a sad fact but it's a fact nonetheless.

Papa was a preacher. I grew up in church and under the preaching of the Word of God. But I dreamed of being a lawyer and walking in the footsteps of Amos Pleasant Roberts who had been

a judge in Indian Territory in Oklahoma where I was born and raised...and who was my grandfather and my hero.

That dream was so big in me I couldn't care less about getting saved. In fact, I falsely believed if I got saved that would mean I would never get to go to law school and become a lawyer—and later fulfill my highest dream of someday becoming governor of Oklahoma.

Three events changed my mind.

First, I was struck down at 17 with tuberculosis. I had no hope of a cure in that day when there were no medicines to cure TB as there are now.

Second, after people of the church—who didn't believe it was God's will to heal—came to me and nearly turned me off from God forever, my sister Jewel came to my bedside and said seven words that changed my life: "Oral, God is going to heal you."

Third, Papa believed I was going to die and, wanting me to get saved so I would go to heaven when that happened, said, "Oral, I'm going to kneel here and pray for you to be saved tonight. I will not get off my knees unless you give your heart to God." I lay listening to my father's prayers for me to get saved. I felt nothing, no

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desire at all to repent of my sins and ask God to save my soul. I had never felt any feelings that I wanted to be saved.

But as Papa raised up on his knees and lifted his voice so that I could look right down over my body to the end of the bed and see his face, I must have had a vision. Suddenly Papa's face faded and I saw the countenance of Jesus, and in that instant everything inside me broke loose.

Seeing Jesus, I wanted Him. I heard myself say, "Jesus! Jesus! Save me!"

My conversion was powerful and God got hold of my life forever. Instantly I knew I was not to be a lawyer, but a preacher of the gospel!

What does this have to do with GIVING and with RECEIVING?

Everything! Jesus is the GIFT God the Father gave to save Oral Roberts. Jesus is the GIFT God has given to everyone who will believe and receive Him.

It finally dawned on me that God now has me, my life, my works, my everything because I accepted His gift of Jesus into my spirit. *I am part of what God has received back from His giving of Jesus.* So is everyone else He's ever saved and who has obeyed Him. And that's millions of people multiplied through the centuries to this



present hour...plus all those who are *going* to believe on Jesus and be saved!

That, my friend and Partner, is awesome. It's stupendous. It's an eye-opener on giving—AND RECEIVING BACK!

It means all God has is a result of what He has given.

I am able at last to understand, and I believe you are too, that when Adam sinned in the garden of Eden and fell from his sinless relationship with God, all his descendants fell also. Both spiritually and organically we were lost from God who created us.

God lost us *all!*

Evelyn and I have lost two of our four children to death, and one of our grandchildren. They are gone. We still hurt. But we have not lost ALL of our children and ALL of our grandchildren. We don't know how that feels. God does. He lost us ALL.

From every standpoint of reason, God was out of options. Man, whom He had created and to whom He had given His own nature and class, had willfully used his divinely given power of choice to say NO to God and go his own way, not God's.

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The grief of God is indescribable, even as the smaller grief of Evelyn and me cannot be described but can only be experienced.

But God knew He was NOT out of options; He had one left. He could give. And He chose not an angel, not another creation, but HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON—HIS ONE SON—and He gave Him.

And here's the punchline. God gave Jesus to *get something back!* He didn't give just to be giving. He was planting a seed—the promised seed of the woman, the seed of Abraham, the seed of David—so He could reap the miracle harvest of my salvation, your salvation, and the salvation of every lost son and daughter of Adam!

Do you hear me? God didn't say, "Jesus, Son, I'm going to send You to die on the cross just to see You suffer... to hear You scream... to watch You die. I want to see how You'll take it."

**NO... GOD DIDN'T GIVE JESUS LIKE THAT.**

He so loved us that He gave Jesus for the thing He DESIRED to get most: to get *us* back from the clutches and darkness of Satan who had stolen us away from Him so he could destroy us.

God is our Example, our Pattern, our Role Model in giving AND RECEIVING BACK.

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God gave one Son...and He got back many sons and daughters.

God gave His love...and got back our love.

God gave...and God received back from His giving.

I repeat: God gave *to get a return*. What He gave produced back to Him all He has of us, including all those who will yet love and serve Him.

In the same manner, you give to get back a return. What you give produces back to you all you have...plus all you *will* receive through the seed you continue to plant.

Hebrews 12:2 says that Jesus endured the shame and death of the cross for "the joy that was set before him." The joy of the harvest! The joy of your salvation and restoration to God!

This is the joy set before you too! You are to receive, you are receiving, and you will continue to receive on and on and on. You are with God and God is with you in the joy and the power of your Seed-Faith. You are giving of your time, money, talents, love. Therefore you are to RECEIVE. There's reason for you to live... to be in JOY.

I'm excited about it and constantly feel the joy

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of expecting a miracle from the Lord. In fact, while I was writing this chapter I got a call from a totally unexpected source of a gift of money I had to have before the sun goes down this evening. It was exactly what I had to have, plus a little more! Praise God, I received it! And I had opportunity to bless the person on the other end of the line with an idea from God greater than his gift!

What does this have to do with **ATTACKING YOUR LACK?**

It means that your **LACK** is **ATTACKABLE**. Your **LACK** can be overcome. You **CAN** win. You **CAN** find fulfillment and joy in this life. It's **DOABLE**. It's **POSSIBLE**. It's **ACHIEVABLE**. By **YOU!**

You can expect your very giving to result in receiving. And as you receive the things of God, they begin to fill up your lack. You begin to have a life that's filled with miracles...with goodness...with God's presence...with "everything" required to meet your need. Remember, it's the good things of God that fill up the lack. And as the good things flow in to fill up the lack, the bad things can't take you under.

In my personal experience of attacking my lack through my giving, then going from my act of giving into my expecting to receive, again I had to

start learning what I had not been taught. And that was to attack my lack by an act of my faith—and my will—to receive.

What I mean is that just as I had to shift gears in my thinking about giving...planting my seed ... then I had to shift gears again in my thinking AFTER I had given. I had to get into Faith-Talk and say, "Oral, God wants you to receive back just as He receives back from His giving."

Time after time Evelyn would see me finding it difficult to receive, especially on a personal level. She would say, "Oral, you give of yourself for your ministry and you eagerly receive for the ministry. But in our personal giving you are reluctant to receive for our personal needs."

There was that old bad teaching influencing me again. In effect, it was like I was hating myself, I was not worthy, I was not supposed to receive back for myself.

Evelyn had seen me give all but a tiny part of everything I am and earned to the ministry and only a fraction to myself and family. She was much clearer-eyed on this than I was.

Gradually God spoke to me through her to practice what I preached to others: Give AND receive. It was for me too.

The way I began to change was to see that

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God had received back, and who was I to try to be different or better than God? Just as it took an act of God's love and faith for Him to give, and the same kind of act of love and faith for Him to receive back, it took the same for me. I saw it. It became real and alive inside me. "I've given... now I'm going to receive." It worked and each time it drew me closer to God and filled me with a joy that carried over to people I ministered to.

I'm still working at it and improving all the time.

How do you **ATTACK** your lack?

You attack it by your giving **AND** by your receiving. By your **SEED-FAITH**.

Why is it called Seed-Faith? Because God shows us it takes a seed for you to give... to plant with...to order your harvest in advance. And it takes faith both to sow it and to expect to reap—or receive back—from it.

Your seed and your faith are inseparably linked together.

Once again I say: take your Seed-Faith and attack your lack. **Attack! Attack! Attack!**

Chapter 6

On Reaping Your Harvest,  
God Says, "GIVE It Time! and  
Don't Give Up!"

When I was a child growing up on a farm, I, like other farm children, began early to help Papa plant and harvest our crops.

I remember how Papa had to teach me about the *growing time* of a seed.

After we planted I'd run out the next day or two to see if the radishes or onions or tomatoes were already up or rush out to the fields to see if the cotton or corn or wheat had grown enough to be ready to harvest.

As a child I was ignorant of God's laws of growth for the seed.

Papa would say, "Oral, give it *time!* Give it *time!*"

As I grew older and became more

experienced in planting seed with Papa and my brother Vaden, I began to understand there is a growing time that comes between seedtime and harvesttime.

During the growing time we would water the seed when the rains didn't come. Then we would hoe around the young plant to remove the weeds from hindering its growth. We tended the plant to give it the best chance possible to grow and mature.

## **There Is a Growing Time for Your Miracles**

When I became a Christian the first thing I did was to start tithing, giving the first tenth of my earnings to the Lord's work. Unconsciously I reverted to my childhood and expected God's miracle return to come overnight.

It didn't occur to me there is a growing time in the spiritual laws of seedtime and harvest just as there is in the natural realm.

Worse still, I had no one to teach me, "Oral, give it time! Give it time!" When the return didn't come quickly I fell into a self-defeating habit of not expecting anything ever to come back from God from the tithes and offerings I was planting



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into His kingdom. It was as if I'd planted corn and didn't find a crop the next day so I just wandered off.

No one in the church, including the pastors and evangelists, taught that our tithes and offerings were seeds we sowed. We didn't have any perspective that if we SOWED our giving, God would GROW it and we would REAP from it. Therefore we didn't think about the INCREASE or HARVESTTIME due us from the seed we planted.

The preachers had to bear down on paying tithes and offerings. They didn't dare prosper because all the emphasis was on PAYING rather than our giving being balanced with RECEIVING back from God.

As a result, we made a fatal mistake of becoming great in our giving, faithful to the point of sacrifice, but poor in our receiving. We felt we "ought" to PAY our tithes and offerings, but we had no knowledge that we were supposed to expect the increase and reap the harvest that God inevitably gives to those who give to Him.

Often it became a burden to pay the first tenth of what we earned-and we were earning precious little. We had no scriptural concept that our earnings were meant to increase through regular harvest times God had promised us.

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In short, we grew poorer and poorer. We were ten percent poorer with each dollar we gave, when all the time we could have been increasing our incomes had we known we were supposed to reap our harvests from our seed sown.

This was one of the chief reasons that we gradually were drawn into Satan's net of false believing that if we became a Christian we were supposed to be poor.

### **Poverty Is Not a Blessing**

Of course, had we really understood the teaching of the Word of God on giving and receiving, sowing and reaping, seedtime and harvest, we would have seen that if poverty is God's way to bless us, then most everybody in the entire world would be automatically blessed for they are poor!

If poverty would save souls, then two thirds of the world's population who go to bed hungry every night would be super spiritual Christians already!

It's not poverty that saves, but faith in the shed blood of Jesus and His resurrection from the dead. It's not poverty that meets our needs on our way to heaven, it's our Seed-Faith of planting our

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seeds first, then reaping our harvests which is God's *absolute* promise to us.

This thing of "PAYING" God through our tithes and offerings has not only hurt God's ministers from being seen as "workmen worthy of their hire" (Luke 10:7) and having their needs met to inspire others to get their needs met, it has also hurt many lay people and caused them to get a bad view of their ministers.

A woman put it aptly when she said to a minister friend of mine who was urging the lay people to sacrifice: "The trouble is, preacher, you *sac* it and we *fice* it."

When he told me this I replied, "Good for her. I feel the same way. Because God's giving and receiving works both ways for Him and for each of us whether we're a minister or a lay believer."

He said, "She opened my eyes and since then I've got away from this PAYING thing, this sacrifice thing, and preached the Word of God as it is on giving and receiving, sowing and reaping, and seedtime and harvest."

I've discovered you can't attack your lack as long as you are under bondage of "PAYING" God your tithes and offerings. Why? Because you can never pay. For that reason God sent His Son to the

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cross and there He paid the debt for us. Therefore your giving is NOT a debt you OWE but a seed you SOW!

The same is true for every other type of giving.

I've used tithes and offerings here because we human beings tend to think of giving as relating to our money. And that's true. Our money *is* us. It represents our time, our energy, our work, our talents, our skills. It is a medium of exchange for who and what we are.

But what's true for giving tithes and offerings is true for other types of giving.

You can't PAY God for loving you by just loving someone on this earth.

You can't PAY God for sending Jesus to this earth by spending time in volunteer service.

You can't PAY God by being good...doing the "right things"...getting involved in the right activities.

No, you can never PAY God back. It's impossible.

The Bible is very clear on that point. It's not your WORKS that save you, but your faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8,9).

You can't pay God off.

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You can't pay God back.

You can't pay God at all.

All you can do is GIVE as a seed you sow, then expect God's law of seedtime and harvest to go into effect to meet your needs.

## **Why Do We Give Then?**

As a little boy helping plant seeds, I remember the excitement we all felt about what we were going to get back when harvesttime came. It didn't take long for me to see that the harvests that came in late summer or fall were hundreds of times greater than the small number of seeds we had planted the previous spring. From a few pounds of seed...we'd get TONS of produce.

Planting time was joyous because we thought of harvesttime. And when we had picked our cotton, Vaden and I would go with Papa to the cotton gin in town to sell it. We knew Papa would get money to buy the things we needed, including giving us some money to buy candy and soda pop! It turned the work into an exciting expectation of receiving better things for the entire family.

We didn't get that excitement in church when

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the pastor said, "Now everyone pay your tithes and offerings this morning to the Lord," for he didn't say anything at all about God opening the windows of heaven and pouring blessings directly upon us, or that God would rebuke the devourers for our sake because we had honored Him with the firstfruits of our increase. (Read Malachi 3:10,11.)

This grew into a spirit of poverty that brought us into bondage as far as prospering as God's children was concerned. I know one thing, it took a lot of the joy out of serving the Lord.

It was more than 12 years after I became a tither that I first began to learn to accept the cross as "paid in full" for all I owed. Then I could give as a seed I sowed and from it expect God to give me His rich harvests back in the form of my need. That's when my walk with Christ took on the sparkling excitement that continues to grow as I learn better how to live in Seed-Faith day after day.

Why do you give?

You give *seeds* so that we might get harvests.

Your time.

Your money.

Your acts of kindness.

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Your smiles and encouraging words.

They are SEEDS. They are compacted bundles of miracles that can burst forth. They are HARVEST-PRODUCING gifts unto God.

## **Our Seed Grows Invisibly**

A second important thing I learned as a child was that the seed we planted grew *invisibly*. As a very young child I thought when we put the seed in the ground and covered it up with the dirt, it disappeared! It was gone and we had nothing to show for our labor.

What I didn't know was that God's Word teaches that everything visible came from something invisible (Hebrews 11:3).

I'd rush around pestering Papa about where the seed went. He'd say, "It's growing." "Papa, how do you *know*?" He'd shake his head and say, "Just wait and you'll see."

As a Christian I went for those miserable first 12 years of "paying" all my tithes and offerings, never missing once, not realizing that my seeds were growing all the time.

When my tithes and offerings left my hands I couldn't see them anymore. I didn't know they, like the natural seeds I'd planted, were now in the

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"good soil" of the gospel. Just as my physical eyes couldn't see the seed growing under the soil, my spiritual eyes were not seeing my tithes and offerings growing.

Neither did I know the methods to apply to tend my seed in the spiritual realm. I had learned what it meant to irrigate, cultivate, weed, and so forth in the *natural*—but not in the *spiritual* I had to learn how to tend the soil I planted in, to keep my eyes on God who would multiply what I had sown, to speak FAITH-talk instead of doubt-talk, to weed out of my mind my impatience, my doubt, my worry, and my feelings that I was to give but not receive back a harvest.

What do I do in the "growing time" of my seed?

I confess with my mouth that I have given to God my tithes and offerings of every dollar I've earned to date and they are in God's hands *as seeds of my faith*.

I confess with my mouth that my seed is sown and God is growing it *invisibly but absolutely*.

I confess with my mouth that He is changing my seedtime into *harvesttime*.

I confess with my mouth He is rebuking the devourers *for my sake*.



*On Reaping Your Harvest, God Says, "GIVE It Time! and Don't Give Up!"*

I confess with my mouth that my giving is causing the windows of heaven to unlock...to open... and God is pouring out *ideas and insights into my mind* greater than I can contain about what to do and how to make miracles happen in my life.

It's a miracle for the seed sown to burst forth through the soil and become plants that produce fruit into a mighty harvest—*but it's a miracle that doesn't just happen—IT MUST BE MADE TO HAPPEN!*

What do I mean by "confess with my mouth"?

I mean that I actually SPEAK ALOUD those words. I SAY them. I quote out loud the Scriptures that say God is at work on my behalf.

LUKE 6:38.

MALACHI 3:10,11.

3 JOHN 2.

JOHN 10:10.

MATTHEW 9:22.

ISAIAH 55:10,11.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:8.

Look up these verses. Write them down. Read them out loud. Memorize them. Keep them where

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you can look at them often.

Papa would wait until our seeds began to sprout and push their way up as plants through the earth so we could see them. Then he'd say to Vaden and me, "Come on, boys. Let's go see how big the plants are."

I remember he'd stand there and study the field of those little shoots coming up out of the ground, often stooping down and feeling around them to see how healthy they were.

Then he would say, "Let's go back to the house. They're growing good."

It was such a great feeling.

It took me many years to throw off the old teaching—or lack of teaching—that I was to give but not expect anything back. When I finally began to get my breakthrough I saw that God himself is the "good soil"—the soil I can't see but which is eternal and ever abundant and faithful in reproducing my seed sown into harvests for me to receive. I began to lose that old sinking feeling that when my tithes and offerings left my hand they were gone, just gone. I gained the exciting feeling that they were being placed in God's hands, who would see that not one of my seeds would fail to grow or multiply. I couldn't see it but I could KNOW it because I saw it in God's

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Word and I knew His Word could never fail me.

## **A Personal Harvest Too!**

A third thing emerged from my childhood experience in planting seed and being part of the harvesttime. I came to know that the harvest wasn't just good for my family and others in our town. It was good for ME. Personally. Individually.

As a Christian there were many times I gave without believing that God would *not only* use my giving for the gospel's sake but also use my giving for *my* sake. I gave believing God would use my gift out there somewhere, for someone, to meet some need. But I never thought about it meeting *my* need or coming back in a harvest that would touch my life.

That was a spirit exactly opposite the way I felt about our *seeding* and *harvesting* in the natural.

What happened to the harvest in the natural?

It helped the entire family. We paid the rent... the utilities...put gas in the car we were able to buy.

The harvest also helped ME...Oral...the youngest son. I got new shoes. I got clothes. I

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even got that soda pop and bit of candy now and again.

And when we bought those things, that helped other people in our town. They could eat and use part of our harvest.

The harvest helped ME... and it helped OTHERS. It was a dual harvest.

The same is true in the spiritual. Your giving creates a harvest for you. It creates a harvest for others.

### **The Double-Release**

When I saw that dual harvest, I began to get into the habit of a *double-release*. First, I released my tithes and offerings as seed; second, I released my faith to God, believing He would multiply my seed sown into harvests for others AND for ME to receive back for MY greater needs. I wrapped my SEED with my FAITH. Today I call it SEED-FAITH.

How happy I've been in my giving since! I know now that receiving follows my giving. I will have joy in receiving which in turn gives me joy in my giving and brings me into a more special relationship with God. I know what He means when He says, "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

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There cannot be "cheerfulness" in giving unless *you know that you know* you will RECEIVE greater harvests in return. The entire law of sowing and reaping in the Word of God guarantees this if we will only grasp it and practice it out of the joy of our expecting from our God who is a good God.

## **How the Harvest Comes**

I remember when I discovered Jesus' words in Luke 6:38, *"Give, and it shall be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom..."*

I'd done the giving, always given first as Jesus said here in Luke 6:38. I'd dreamed of the good measure and running over that was promised. But I'd never understood the part that said, "Men shall give unto your bosom."

Then it came to me. As a little boy going to town with Papa to sell our cotton and corn and other yields, it was always men who wrote him the checks.

I remembered the change that would come over my father. He had worked so hard for this harvest to come, had put in the seed, tended it, and waited through good weather and bad,

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hoping against hope we'd have an abundant harvest, one that would be "good measure and running over." When we put the harvest on the scales in town to be measured, it would determine what amount men—the buyers—would give us in money.

With the check in his hand Papa would say, "Come on, boys, we're going to the store." That meant we had the money to buy what we needed for the winter and for next year's planting.

Papa would straighten his shoulders, lift his head, start smiling, and pat us on the back. Men had given to our bosom and it was a great day.

As a Christian beginning to understand the laws of sowing and reaping, I began to see that God wasn't going to rain money down from heaven, nor would He rain down clothes or cars or houses and lands or food or any other material thing we needed. That comes from men and women—human beings—who control portions of God's earth. It is *people* who are the instruments God our Source works through to give to our bosom—or to our need.

It's so simple once I saw it. It's so powerful once I put it into practice as a way of life for my giving and receiving.

You see, the things you lack as a Christian believer ultimately involve people.

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If you lack LOVE...you are lacking a loving friend, a loving parent, a loving husband or wife. Love comes to you through people.

If you lack MONEY...you are lacking an employer, a partnership relationship with someone, a customer, a contributor, a friend. Money comes to you through people.

If you lack TIME...you are struggling with facing demands placed upon you by people (including yourself). Feelings of stress and pressure come because of obligations you feel toward people, or obligations you put on yourself. It's a people situation.

If you lack ABILITY...you are lacking a teacher, a helper, a coworker. Your lack of ability can be solved if you are in relationship with a *person* who can help you.

If you lack PEACE...you are involved in a negative relationship (somewhere along the line) with a person. Is it a difficulty in your marriage, in your relationship with a child, in your relationship with a neighbor? Difficulties with other human beings are what get us into arguments, hate, strife, war.

Can you see it?

Your LACK is a people situation. And when you give... you become a giving person. Other people benefit from your giving. Your giving opens you up to other people. You can begin to receive back from them. And

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when you do receive back, it comes as a flood —"pressed down, running over." Men, human beings, people give back to your heart, your bosom, your soul, your life, your need, your lack.

Don't shut off people who want to give to you. Don't get stubborn and think you can survive totally on your own and that you don't need what others are offering to do. Learn to RECEIVE.

It's the way God is going to get at your LACK.

Hear it again and do it: Attack your lack. Attack! Attack! Attack!



## Chapter 7

# You Have a Divine Right to Ask, "LORD, What's in It for Me?"

A prosperous young man came to Jesus one day. He asked Jesus to give him life—real life. He wanted an answer so badly that he came running and knelt down and asked what he must do. (See Mark 10:17.)

Jesus said, "Keep the commandments."

He replied, "Master, all these have I kept from my youth up."

Right here I want to point out to you that keeping God's commandments was the *reason* this young man had become prosperous. Back in Deuteronomy 8:18 God said, "*But you shall remember the Lord your God: for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant with you which he swore to your fathers,*

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*as it is this day."*

This young man had kept the covenant made by God with Abraham. He had kept the commandments God had laid down for His people.

Let me point out to you that there is no substitute for *your* keeping God's commandments.

Jesus said He came to fulfill the law, not to replace it. (See Matthew 5:17.) Think about that word *fulfill*. It means what it says, "FULL-FILL, fully filled, no lack." Jesus supplied the missing parts that made the law FULLY FILLED, without lack. God's commandments are still necessary for your provision and prosperity. (See Romans 7:12.)

Through obeying the commands of God this young ruler had become very prosperous. But now something has gone wrong. He feels *lack*, a lack that is keeping him from receiving the fullness of Jesus' life in his being.

Read on: "*Then Jesus looking at him loved him.*" Jesus didn't stop loving him because he had money. Jesus is not against people having money. He's the one who gives the ability to earn money. As Moses said, "He gives you power to get wealth that he may establish his covenant with you." In

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other words, it takes money to operate God's great work. In giving us power to get money, God is enabling us to ESTABLISH the covenant of love with other men.

## **The Lack You Haven't Attacked Yet**

Then Jesus said to the rich young ruler, "*One thing you lack*," meaning, "Young man, you have a lack you haven't attacked yet."

Can you understand how Jesus can say this same thing to you? "You have done many things and you've got many things, but there's only one thing you're not doing! There's one thing you don't have. You're attacking many things that are wrong in your life *except* one thing."

We'd probably say, "Jesus, You mean I've done everything like You want me to, except one thing? Please tell me what it is so I can fix it!"

That is the way the conversation went with this man. Jesus said, "The one thing you lack will come to you when you sell what you've accumulated in wealth and give it...and come follow Me and you'll have treasures in heaven."

Right here is where the rubber meets the road for this man and for us today. In Mark 10:22 we read, "*He was sad at that saying, and went*

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*away grieved: for he had great possessions."*

Now Abraham had great possessions, but he didn't trust in them. He trusted in the God who gave them to him. Abraham looked to God as his Source, never to any man or thing. This young man had gained his wealth the same way Abraham had, but somewhere along the line he had CHANGED SOURCES. He had kept God's commands and God had prospered him. Now he has his eyes off God. He has his eyes on his material wealth and he is looking to it as his source.

Jesus knew this. *"And Jesus said unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!"* (Mark 10:23).

Now don't misinterpret Jesus' words here. He wasn't saying that people who have wealth can't get to heaven. If that were true, then everybody would have to be poor in order to serve the Lord. That's not scriptural at all. It's foolish to think that way.

What Jesus really is saying is this, "How impossible it is for people who *trust* in their money as their source to be saved." That's the reason this man went away with deep grief in his heart. He had switched from trusting God as his Source to trusting his money as his source. He

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was doing exactly what God in Deuteronomy said NOT to do: *"When you are wealthy, when you have great possessions, forget not the Lord your God"* (Deuteronomy 8:7-20).

When this man got prosperous, he started trusting in his money instead of the Lord. Now he finds it's not in his spirit to go back to trusting in God.

It isn't that Jesus doesn't want to supply your lack of money or the things you need. But when you're trusting in material things you're not trusting in God. You can only put your trust in one thing. It is not possible to have more than one Source.

In the very first commandment, God said, *"You shall have no other gods before me"* (Exodus 20:3).

"Before me." That means nothing out in front of God. That means God is not first. When you see other things in front of God, repent. Turn around. Get back to having God FIRST.

This man's money was standing in front of God—it was a god to him. He had broken God's commandment not to have any other god BEFORE HIM. Jesus saw it and said, "It's impossible for people to get to heaven who trust in riches or anything else as a source. God is the

*only SOURCE."*

## **It's Not Either/Or**

You don't have to make a choice between God and having the money you need. It's not either/or.

For example, the disciples said, *"Who then can be saved?"* Jesus answered, *"With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible"* (Mark 10:26,27).

At that point Peter spoke up, *"Jesus, we who follow you have left all. What shall we have therefore?"* (Mark 10:28).

I love what Peter said here. He was saying, "Jesus, we have taken everything out from in front of God. God is FIRST in our lives. He's our Source. We have ceased trusting in anything as our Source except You. Everything but You we have left behind."

That's terrific! It's the position God wants you and me to be in today so that He may bless and prosper us.

I love Peter's question that followed: "Lord, what's in it for us?" It's the right question. A lot of Christians feel Peter was sacrilegious. I don't. Certainly Jesus didn't.

God does not expect us to put Him first—putting nothing in front of Him—and then to expect NOTHING back from Him.

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Jesus was quick to answer Peter in the most positive way: "There is no man...not you Peter ...not any of you my followers...there is not a person who has left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's...but he shall receive—HE SHALL GET—a 100-fold now in this time—IN THE NOW OF THIS LIFE—houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands (REAL ESTATE), with persecution—(SOME WILL BE JEALOUS OF YOU PROSPERING!) and in the world to come eternal life" (Mark 10:29,30).

What Jesus is doing here is putting everything in proper order. He is explaining that as we keep God's commands and put Him FIRST in our lives, trusting only in God as the SOURCE OF OUR TOTAL SUPPLY, His eternal law of prosperity will work exactly as it has from the beginning.

Just as God blessed Abraham with prosperity by his keeping God's commands and doing it by faith, just as there was something in it for Abraham far more than he gave up, so Jesus is telling us there's something in it for us. He says, "Nobody who turns from trusting material things or loved ones as a god or a source loses. You get something in return."

Jesus says, "If you risk everything to trust in Me and make Me your Source, then in giving like this I will cause *greater* things and *more* things to come back to you now... in this life... but there will be 100-fold

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*persecution* with the 100-fold blessings I give you. Satan won't like it. Some people won't like it. But I don't intend for you to give everything to Me without Me giving everything I have to you."

Praise God!

Jesus never planned for His disciples then, or us in the now, to be in poverty. God did not say, "It is God who gives you power to get poverty"—NO! He said, "It is God who gives you power to get wealth—prosperity." God never planned for you to be covered up with sickness, loneliness, worry, guilt, fear, depression. He wants you to have HIS BEST.

Jesus personally and clearly promised us His 100-fold return in this life of following Him with our whole heart.

He tells us to attack our lack, to attack... attack... ATTACK.

## **Don't Hate Yourself**

I strongly believe Jesus is saying you should not hate yourself. You should not get a poverty-complex or attitude that to be His follower you have to be poor or downtrodden.

He wasn't saying to the rich young ruler or to Peter and us His followers today that we are to have nothing for following Him. He was saying in this life we need



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friends, loved ones, real estate, money, health, influence, etc. But we don't have a need to make them a god to us—or to look to them as our source. He is saying God is our God, God is our Source—period! Once we make Jesus our personal Savior, give Him our best seed and look only to Him as our Lord and as our Source, then we have a divine right in times of lack to say, "Lord, I've given up everything to serve You and trust You, what's in it for me?"

He lovingly tells you what's in it for you. He authorizes you to speak to your lack: "Lack, you be gone!"

He authorizes you to speak to His spiritual resources: "Spiritual power, you come into my life."

He authorizes you to speak to His healing resources, "Health, you come into my physical and mortal being."

He authorizes you to speak to His financial resources, backed by all the riches in heaven, "Money, you come to me."

He authorizes you to speak to His angels, "Ministering spirits, bring these things into my life."

He told the rich young ruler if he would give and trust only in God as his Source, "You shall have treasures in heaven."

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TREASURES! TREASURES IN HEAVEN!

Some Christians say, "When I get to heaven I'll be rich."

NO, THEY'RE WRONG—100 PERCENT WRONG!

Why do I say they are wrong?

First, rich is the opposite of poor. In heaven there won't be any poverty. You won't lack anything that you need money or wealth to pay for. Heaven itself is rich and abundant and everything you need will automatically be yours. You will have a body that never gets sick. You will have all the love, time, beauty, energy, and joy you crave. So will everyone else. The struggle, the competition for wealth and power, will be over. You won't *NEED* treasures to use and spend once you are in heaven.

Second, when Jesus says by giving and following Him you'll have "treasures in heaven," He is referring to Philippians 4:19, "*For my God shall supply all your need according to his riches by Christ Jesus in heaven.*"

"You shall have treasures in heaven." That means you have them right *now*. And it is those very treasures—riches—in heaven that God is going to pour out to you to supply all your need in the here and now. You need treasures in heaven to be opened up and poured out to you here on the earth.

Listen, Jesus doesn't leave you with LACK down

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here just to give you His SUPPLY up there.

He doesn't desert you in your need here to accept you when you reach heaven.

He doesn't demand you to be poor on earth in order to make you rich in the eternal world.

I challenge you in Jesus' name, by His love and care for you personally, have the courage to believe the Word of God. Based on your following Jesus and giving as He said, ask Him, "Lord, what's in it for me?"

Then believe what He says here in Mark 10 and all the rest of the Word of God. See that God wants you to be able to say, "I'm blessed. All my needs are met or are being met according to His riches, His health, His spiritual power in heaven."

Get joy in your walk with Jesus on this earth. Feel good about God. Feel good about yourself. Enjoy your blessings. Thank God for what money you have, the health you have, the spiritual life you have. Don't separate them; they are supposed to go together in your life. God intends for you to be a blessed child of God in every area of your life.

He means for you not to accept your lack but to attack it with all your faith, all your courage and determination. He intends for you to win over your lack and to be successful for His glory!

## **Have You Made God Your Source?**

But, you say, I don't know if God *is* my Source. I don't know that I've ever made Him my Source. I think there's something standing in the way that I trust more than I trust God.

Friend, I encourage you to make God your Source TODAY. Do it right now.

How can you make God your Source?

First, repent of the fact that you're trusting in someone or something else more than you're trusting in God. That's what "sin" is. It's putting something ahead of God.

Decide that you are going to make God first.

Accept God's plan. Choose to accept Jesus as God's Son. Ask Him to enter your being, to fill you with His Holy Spirit. Ask Him to help you every day of your life to KEEP God as your Source.

Talk to God. Talk to Him just like you would a person who is there in the room with you. You can say this prayer or one like it.

"God, I know I haven't put You first in my life. I want to. I'm sorry I've put other things in front of You. I want to make a new beginning. I believe that Jesus is Your Son and that He is my Savior. I want to follow Jesus. I want to be filled with Your Holy Spirit. I want to

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learn to do things the way You do them, to think the way You think, to get into Your kind of giving-and-receiving, to have YOU fill up my lack with our good things that are poured out to me from heaven's treasure chests. Please forgive me. I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen."

Talk to God often. Tell Him how you feel. Tell Him you're trusting HIM as your Source. This is the way to continually *attack your lack*.



*Chapter 8*

## Roses Will Bloom Again!

One day a pastor went to pray for a man who was suffering with a bad case of arthritis. His joints were badly swollen and he was in constant pain.

This sick man also had a doctor friend who came each week to work with him. Despite the prayers of the minister and the medicine of the physician, there came a day when the man believed he would not get well and his spirit fell. The smile vanished from his face and soon a terrible bitterness came over him.

Neighbors who had been bringing food didn't come anymore because he didn't welcome them anymore. The only person left was his nurse. And she didn't really want to be on the case because he had become so bitter and hard to deal with in both body and spirit.

The pastor said, "When I went to see Robert, I used my cheeriest voice. But there he lay drawn up in a knot. He refused to look at me... to speak ...or to try to smile. I wanted so desperately to reach him at least one more

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time in the hope my prayers would get through."

While the pastor was still by the man's bedside, his friend the doctor came.

After examining him again, he gave him a shot and then said, "Robert, you're a very sick man. But I've been thinking of all the good things you've done with your life. I've got good news."

The man whispered, "Oh, yeah?"

"I have a new medicine that's going to turn your life around and you're going to be amazed by its results."

"Do you have it with you?"

"Yes."

"For God's sake, doctor, give it to me."

"Well, here it is. Robert, CHEER UP! ROSES WILL BLOOM AGAIN!" And he closed his little bag and left.

In a few minutes the nurse came in wiping her eyes. She had been crying. She had been in another room trying to get rid of her frustrations. She had requested the doctor to release her from the case but he had refused. She walked back into the room, ready to announce she was quitting this case anyway, but then she looked again at the man on the bed.

Suddenly something began to happen. She saw him begin to open his hands... to move his swollen joints... to inch his way over to the side of the bed.



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In a few minutes he put his feet on the floor, then he slowly pushed himself up until, trembling, he stood on his feet.

Soon he gained his balance and stood looking around the room. He saw the nurse and smiled at her and said, "NURSE, CHEER UP! ROSES WILL BLOOM AGAIN!"

The pastor watched all this. Deeply moved, he slipped out of the room. As he drove away he was exhilarated, uplifted by the Spirit of God.

Later he said, "I had to drive downtown on some business. As I parked my car and got out, a friend saw me. He said, 'Preacher, do you have a moment?'"

"Sure, what can I do for you?"

"Well, you know how bad business has been. I'm in the process of filing for bankruptcy. It hurts. But what hurts me most are the people who have worked for me, some of them for many years. It seems those I have to let go first need the job the most.' "

The minister started to sympathize. Then he remembered what had happened back at that house. He said to his friend, "Listen, I've got good news."

"Well, what is it? Tell me."

"CHEER UP! ROSES WILL BLOOM AGAIN!"

After the conversation the pastor walked on down the street and met his congressman. He said, "Hello,

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Congressman, how are things in Washington?"

"Well, pastor, I'm sorry to tell you things aren't good. The deficit is soaring and nothing seems to work. It looks to me like we're in for some real trouble. This country may fall apart."

The pastor said, "Congressman, haven't you forgotten something?"

"What is that?"

"ROSES WILL BLOOM AGAIN!"

The congressman thought a moment. He smiled and said, "You know, I had forgotten the secret of life itself—that roses will bloom again. Thank you, pastor, you've made my day."

Later as the pastor drove home, he decided to visit a young couple whose child had died and been buried a few days before. When he arrived, he found the young father home from work early. His wife sat staring in space. Without lifting her head she said, "Pastor, do you really believe in life after death?"

He said, "Yes, I believe in the resurrection of the dead through the Lord Jesus Christ. I believe God will raise the dead."

Again, without lifting her head, she said, "Will you please explain that a little more?"

"Well," he said, "in terms of the passing of your little child—yes, your little child lives. He is alive forever

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with Jesus. But more than that, the resurrection means there are a series of resurrections in our lives here on earth. Many resurrections are going to happen to you and your husband from time to time. You're going to feel inspired, uplifted, strengthened in many ways in the days and years ahead."

She still had her head down. He said, "As I sat there looking at her, I felt the joy of what I was saying and I just smiled. I smiled until she looked up as if to say, 'Well, what is there to smile about?' And I said, My dear, ROSES WILL BLOOM AGAIN!" and I left."

A few weeks later, the pastor was retracing his rounds and he came back to Robert's house. Robert was no longer in bed. He was out in the yard doing some light work!

The same day the pastor saw his business friend who said, "Pastor, I'm glad to see you. I've had a turnaround. The last two months have been amazing. Orders have come in from everywhere. I've rehired all my people and even hired new people. We're the only business in this town that's booming like this and I hope we're the forerunner of many more. ROSES ARE BLOOMING AGAIN!"

The pastor decided he would stop by the young couple's house and see how they were. When he arrived they were there to meet him. They said, "Pastor, how do you think the people will feel if we

come back to church on Sunday?"

He said, "They'll feel just great! They've been very concerned about you and have been praying for you."

The young mother smiled. "Look for us on Sunday. ROSES ARE BLOOMING AGAIN!"

## **God Is Not Through Blessing You**

I first told this story ten years ago on one of our prime-time television specials. Right after the program aired, Evelyn and I took a trip across the deserts of the southwestern United States. In one of the most barren areas we stopped our car and walked a few hundred steps into the desert. And for the first time I saw the desert rose up close.

As I stood there looking at it, I stooped down and touched it, wondering how it could grow out of that hard-packed cracked earth. And the Scripture came to me from Isaiah 35:1 where God said.

*"And the desert shall blossom like the rose."*

Friend, it takes God to put the bloom on the rose. It takes God to make the roses bloom again. But there's something in this story that's very important to you today, and it's this:

## **It Takes Your Faith to Believe God**

## **Will Make the Roses Bloom Again for You**

What is God trying to say to you in your lack? He's saying He's not through blessing you. He's saying His miracles are not over for you.

He's saying that your faith can work *again* ... and *again*... and *again*.

*"I will hope continually"* (Psalm 71:14).

Do you know who said those words? King David. What had David lacked in his life?

He had lost his best friend...Jonathan.

He had struggled most of his life to stay alive. He had been threatened by wild animals... giants and their armies...and a king who was enraged by jealousy against him. He had huddled in dark caves, alone with his men in the wilderness, to escape years of persecution.

He had lost an infant son. He lost a beloved son Absalom who had rebelled against him. Incest had invaded his family.

He had lost battles.

He had suffered sickness and injury.

He saw his sons feuding.

And he wrote, "But I will hope continually."

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And what did David hope in?

*"I hope in thy word"* (Psalm 119:81).

David trusted God to be true to His word. He trusted God to be his rewarder, every time, every time, every time tragedy struck him... every time, every time, every time he felt LACK.

You may have lost a loved one. You may have something terribly wrong in your body. There may be a problem that's eating you up. There may be some personal tragedy. You may need an answer desperately. But I say to you...

God is alive in the NOW OF YOUR LIFE. He's at the point of your need right now. He's ready and willing to work with you to overcome your lack.

Rise up and attack and attack and attack.

**Cheer Up. Roses Will Bloom Again.**

## Chapter 9

# Do You Want Miracles by the Teaspoon or Trainload?

As I have watched Evelyn cook, I have noticed how familiar she is with units of measure. She uses measuring cups and spoons and other utensils. She puts in a cup of this, or a spoon of that, or a pinch of something else in her cooking. I watch in amazement, especially when she gets it cooked and puts it on the table and I eat it. I say, "Ummmm, this is good." Yet I wonder how the measured units she used somehow went together to make the meal come out so perfectly.

God bases His giving on a divine and precise measurement. In Luke 6:38 Jesus describes this measurement:

*"Give, and it shall be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, shall men give to you."*

Then He adds, *"For with what measure you give shall be measured back to you again."*

## *Attack Your Lack*

God is saying a powerful thing to you here about your giving and your receiving.

You, the giver, are the one who determines the measure—or extent—of how MEN WILL GIVE TO YOU. "For with what measurement you give, it will be measured to you again," Jesus said.

The question is, do you want God's miracles poured back to you by the spoonful, the cupful, the barrel-full, the tank-car-full?

In other words, Jesus is telling you that you give and the way you measure or count up your giving establishes the unit of measure that men will use in responding to you with their giving.

God says YOU determine by what measure you will GET (or RECEIVE). You establish that by the measure in which you give.

What is God's measuring unit? First, God's measuring unit is a PERCENTAGE, not an exact amount. He looks at what you give in relationship to the total amount you have to give.

The Bible tells a story about a poor widow woman who went to the temple one day and put her offering to the Lord in the giant trumpet-shaped containers that were scattered about the temple for that purpose. Jesus and His disciples were off to the side and they noticed this woman putting in her offering. They also saw the rich putting in their offerings, using loud prayers and



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gestures to call attention to their gifts.

What did the widow woman give?

Two mites.

Now that would be less than a penny in our money today! Very little. And yet Jesus turned to His disciples and said, "This woman has given more than all the rest."

Mathematically that isn't possible.

But it is the way GOD measures. This woman had given her ALL. She had given out of her need. She had given out of her want. She was trusting God with EVERYTHING she had.

A brother in the Lord began to prosper in a big way. At the same time he was given the opportunity to plant big. His wife was ready. But he went to his accountant who told him he shouldn't give big because of tax reasons.

When it came to my attention I asked him, "Are you a tither?"

"I was before I got this kind of money."

"You aren't now?"

"No."

I said, "I advise you to pray about this and remember who your Source is. A rejected opportunity to give is a lost opportunity to receive."

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He didn't reply.

It came to me with such force that it scared me: this brother is in the worst danger of his life! He was a tither, God has blessed him big, now he's stopped and he doesn't seem to care!

I know one thing for certain: it's better to deal God in than to deal Him out in your giving ... and your receiving.

Consider the measure God used in giving His Son on the cross for us. He had only one Son. He could have used another kind of measuring unit. The measurement could have been giving one or more of the uncounted number of angels God has created. But that wasn't the type of measurement that God wanted to RECEIVE by.

God didn't stoop to see how small He could give...but how BIG.

God didn't see how inexpensive His gift might be...but how costly.

God didn't give something He wouldn't miss... but the One who would cost Him the most to give up!

God risked EVERYTHING.

That's the GOD-kind of giving.

*This is why all God has is the result of what He has given. It is why He has you, me, and millions of others redeemed back to Him. He gave His life to get your life.*

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*God gave His most precious possession of all. Jesus. He received back a precious possession—YOU!*

It's important for you to notice that God doesn't *lose* what He gives. God still *has* His only begotten Son *because* He gave Him. *You too will have, because you give.*

The only difference is that with God, if you give one cupful you don't get one cupful back. He says He will give thirty, sixty, a HUNDRED cupfuls back (Mark 4:20). In the God-kind of giving and receiving, this is the way the measurement system works. It runs by the law of multiplication.

God is still getting, still harvesting souls from His gift of Jesus. God gave for a DESIRED RESULT and He is still getting that desired result every hour, every day. He's RECEIVING the recovery of lost souls, healing of sick bodies, supplying of lack in human beings, rejoicing of angels over lost sinners who repent, deliverance of His masterpiece creation—man—from the clutches of the enemy Satan.

God GETS by the measure He gave. God HAS what He gave.

The same is true for you. And for me. This should cause us to examine very closely what we have and what we give of it, being sure that we plant our best seed every time.

When He receives our best, He gives back to us His

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best. We receive it. And that's the way we continue  
ATTACKING OUR LACK

*Chapter 10*

# The God-Kind of Prosperity and the Man-Kind of Prosperity—Here's the Difference

The level of prosperity God himself has for you depends on your giving and receiving like *God* does, not like man does.

Man hasn't learned to give and receive like God does because, in general, man has not been "born again" by the Spirit into the kingdom of God. The unsaved man's life is caught up in the fear that he won't get his share and he goes about scared to death he's not going to "get enough." Getting enough has become his way of life. It hasn't even crossed his mind that the God-kind of getting—or receiving—comes from giving. He hasn't understood that it's his giving that *generates* what he receives. He hasn't understood that the God-kind of giving and receiving has a BLESSING on it that goes far beyond the visible treasures of this earth.

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In his relentless pursuit of getting, man in general isn't "reaching toward God." And the things he receives don't reflect "God reaching toward man." When you strive to GET without God being involved, the things you receive never satisfy. They don't *fulfill* you. They don't FULLY FILL every part of you. They don't bring you rest ...peace...deep JOY in your innermost spirit. Yes, there is a distinct difference in GETTING the man-way and in GETTING or RECEIVING the God-way.

I remember spending a few days with a man who has spent his life in getting. He is friendly, gracious, and he won't cheat. But when it comes to giving he simply cannot find it within himself to give money or time to the Lord's work. He holds on to his dollars like he'll never get any more.

This man was showing me through his beautiful vacation home one day. It was well appointed and everything seemed perfect. He waved his hand at the house, then at the magnificent lake out in front, and said, "Oral, this is what it's all about."

I said, "In what way?"

He said, "Oh, you know. This is why I work so hard to earn money. I want to enjoy it."

It was all I could do to keep my tongue still. I wanted to say, "But Jesus says in Luke 12:15 that a man's life does not consist in the things he possesses. And St. Paul says in Ephesians 4:28 that a man should

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work so he will know how to give." I didn't say it because I felt God would someday give me an opportunity to talk with this man when he was not under the spell of his material possessions.

Several years passed. I made everything I earned a basis for my giving. In other words, I had decided to give away nearly everything I received. I had earned through my work as much or more than this man, but I had poured it into building a university where I could raise up young people to get an education and at the same time learn to hear God's voice and to spend their lives in His service to lost and suffering humanity. I had poured my receiving into the City of Faith Health-Care Center so God's healing streams of prayer and medicine could be merged and miracles could abound. And I had done it all under much persecution from people in high and low places doubting my motives.

## **The Essence Of Life**

I had discovered that the essence of life itself is in our giving and receiving because God will then see to it there are no shortages in our lives ...no LACK.

One day I received an urgent call that this friend had to see me on an emergency basis. When he arrived he was deeply agitated. He said he had to have my help. Would I guarantee something at the bank for him? I reminded him I wasn't personally worth the amount of

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money he was asking me to guarantee. He said, "Yes, I know. You've put your money into this university and in the City of Faith. But you *owe* no money and your name is such that if you tell the bank you will stand with me, they'll listen."

I was astounded. Here was a man who had earned millions. He had kept ALL he earned. I had helped to bring in hundreds of millions to build for God but had kept less than one tenth of one percent. And here he was asking ME to stand up for him financially.

I was complimented on the one hand, saddened on the other. He was a "getter" without any thought of being a giver first. So he had no way of knowing that it is in our GIVING that we learn the God-kind of RECEIVING, which is the only way that what we get is going to satisfy our hearts and fulfill our lives.

Although I did not have the money he had I was willing to stand with him morally and to vouch that he was an honest man. I could not help but remember when he waved his hand over that beautiful vacation home and told me this was what life was all about...and why he worked so hard to get money, so he could "live it up." It didn't help him any now. The man who didn't personally possess financial resources but who had worked just as hard to earn so he could give was now the only one he knew whose word the bank would take and help him out of his jam.



## **The Place of Miracles**

Another thing this man had said to me through the years was, "I don't believe in miracles." I always said back, "You will when you need one."

Well, sitting there that day asking for my help he started to say, "I don't believe in miracles," but he caught himself. He said instead, "I believe in miracles but they sure cost, don't they?"

I said, "Yes, miracles cost God the giving of His only begotten Son, Jesus. Our giving costs us too. Without giving, both on God's part and our part, there are no miracles. Without our planting our seed there will be no miracle harvest, the kind that counts when the chips are down like they are with you today." And I really believe that.

## **The God-Kind of Giving Makes Us More Like God**

Giving is God's nature, His character, the essence of His being. To keep everything for himself is foreign to His nature. What He has He freely gives. Jesus said God even *"clothes the lilies of the field and is concerned when a lowly sparrow falls."* (See Matthew 6:25-34,10:29-31.)

People have often said to me, "Oral, my problem is that I find it hard to believe in God." I tell them, "That's

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not my problem at all. My problem is not believing in God, but in believing that HE believes in ME." I am so overwhelmed to know that God believes in a human being like Oral Roberts who went for years without a serious thought about God, with no feelings toward Him, and without a single desire to consider Him as important to his life. Yet all that time God was thinking about me, showing His feelings of concern toward me, carrying a deep desire that I would finally awaken to His dream for my life and future. And when I lay ill with tuberculosis, forgotten by the world and with no hope of recovery. He came to me through my parents and sister and two brothers with the message He would save and heal me.

When I think of that now it just breaks me up and I want to give and give and give—and I do!

## **The God-Kind of Giving Is Based on Love**

God expands himself through us and our giving. Have you ever stopped to think about that? After we're saved by the shed blood of His Son at Calvary, we are filled with God's Holy Spirit and that means that we have EXTENDED God's Spirit on this earth through one more life. We have EXTENDED God's influence in the world. We are one more WITNESS of God's power and love.

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God's essential nature, the primary element of His personality, is that He *loves so much He gives* (John 3:16). And as we see the God-kind of loving, giving, and receiving, and consider that God's nature is to be our essential nature too, then we can begin loving, giving, and receiving like God does. We too "so love that we give..."

## **The God-Kind of Giving Results in Joy**

Now the God-kind of giving is not a one-way street. God gives and ALWAYS gives. But God also RECEIVES and always receives as a result of His giving. It is His giving that generates what He receives. The seeds God sows come back to Him in harvests of our salvation, in the recovering of our lives that had been stolen away by Satan.

When God GETS me back, you back, or anyone else back, that is the two-way street of "giving and receiving, of sowing and reaping, of seedtime and harvest" that God engages in 24 hours a day.

Jesus reminds us that when a sinner recognizes that God's gift of salvation is freely offered to him and he repents and is saved, "*There is joy among the angels in heaven over one sinner that repents*" (Luke 15:7).

If there is joy among God's angels over ONE of us

repenting and returning to God, think of the joy that God gets!

## **The God-Kind of Giving and Receiving Involves People—But as Means, Methods, Instruments**

You are actually dealing with God himself when you give to further His work on this earth. And God alone determines which men He chooses to give back to you. They may not be, and usually aren't, the ones that YOU choose, but the men He chooses will go out of their way, if need be, to help you as God has promised.

I remember a man who sent me a sizable check for this ministry. I had never met him nor heard about him. In his letter with the check he wrote, "Don't think I'm giving this to you because I like you. I wouldn't walk across the street to hear you preach. But God showed me you are building a university based on the Holy Spirit and the authority of God, and I'm giving to you for that reason." Then he added that he was pretty sure that I would want to send his check back. "Don't," he wrote. "God told me to send it and to obey Him. I must obey, whether I like you or not."

Well, he was reading my mind about the part where he thought I might want to send his check back to him. At first I wrestled and said I didn't want any

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money from a person who didn't want me to have it. Then God calmed me down with Luke 6:38 and reminded me that God himself causes *men to give to my bosom*. So I received his check according to God's Word and discovered that it spent just as well as if the man had liked me. His money was planted in the good soil of Oral Roberts University and is still paying off in the lives of the students and in harvests back to the man who gave.

I love the way God does things!

It thrills me that in the final analysis God is in control of what we give, of the seed we plant, and of the harvest we receive. Many a person may give to you without realizing just WHY they are doing what they are doing. But now you know. God has the harvest under control. God is doing the multiplying. And God is measuring out to you HIS reward.

Pursue the God-kind of prosperity.  
ATTACK...ATTACK...ATTACK your lack according to  
*God's way!*



*Chapter 11*

# When You Think You're Out of Options—the Word of God Says You're Not

Do you ever feel you're all out of options?

Let me give you a story from the Bible that will speak directly to you when you feel that way.

In Judges 14-16, we have the story of Samson, who had everything going for him. Then he disobeyed God, lost his power, and got into bondage so deep he felt he would never have another option—but he did.

Samson was gifted of God to deliver his people, the children of Israel, from the oppression of the Philistines. As the Spirit of God would come upon Samson, his body received superior strength and he would successfully attack the strongholds of the Philistines.

For example, once he was trapped inside one of their fortified cities when they rushed to kill him. There was no way out except through the huge gate in the

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wall. Samson, feeling the Spirit coursing through his body, took hold of the heavy door and wrenched it off its hinges and carried it off on his shoulders.

Another time a thousand soldiers of the Philistines caught him alone and swept down on his camp. Having no weapon and no one to help him, he picked up the jawbone of a dead animal and attacked. As they came at him in waves ...wave after wave after wave...he attacked and attacked and attacked. When the battle was over, Samson still stood and one thousand soldiers of the enemy lay dead!

The word swept throughout the land, "Samson will deliver us! Samson will deliver us!"

## **Know Who Your Source Is**

But Samson was not the source of his own strength. God was. Without depending on God and obeying Him, Samson was like any other man. This came home to him and the people when Samson grew careless, let his guard down against Satan, and thought he could handle things by himself.

The Philistines paid the most beautiful and cunning woman in their midst to discover the secret of Samson's success. When Delilah came with her sexual wiles, Samson got his mind off God, off his mission, off his dream. He developed a sinful relationship with this woman, who was an enemy Philistine. She took him



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easily, crying and pouting until she got Samson to reveal to her the secret of his strength: his vow to God. Samson's vow was symbolized by not cutting his hair but allowing it to grow in seven locks. As Samson lay asleep in Delilah's arms, she was able to cut off his hair. Then the alarm sounded inside him. Samson awoke knowing his vow had been broken. He felt the power of God leave him, and for the first time, he could not repel the attack of the Philistines.

The Philistines took Samson, gouged out his eyes, and hooked him up in the place of a mule to grind at the mill of their god, Dagon.

Round and round and round he went, grinding at the mill day after day, his sight gone, his vow shattered, his God-given strength gone, his dream gone, the hopes of his people gone. Everything... gone.

One hot day he was grinding at the mill, sweating, hurting, bound to the mill wheel with brass fetters, out of options, when he felt something on the nape of his neck. His hair! It was growing again! He had been shaven by the Philistines, stripped of the one thing that indicated his vow to God. But the Philistines hadn't counted on the obvious fact that Samson's hair would grow again. There...just a wisp of hair touching the back of his neck. And Samson began to believe again. He felt the Spirit of God moving in his spirit. "It's God," he cried. "God is giving me a second chance!"

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In that moment, Samson made a new decision to obey God. Samson had been careless in the way he had obeyed God. Delilah had taken him all too easily because he had not fully appreciated what God was doing in his life. The moment he felt God return, he settled it in his mind that *never again* would he disobey or fail God.

### **Obedience Is the Key**

When a person starts obeying God, it causes Satan *always* to make mistakes!

About that time the Philistine leaders, three thousand of them, were meeting in the temple of their god, celebrating their victory over Israel by taking Samson captive, blinding his eyes and reducing him to a beast of burden.

As he entered the temple, packed with the lords and ladies of the Philistines, a cheer went up to the god Dagon. The sightless Samson stood in the center alone.

*"And they set him between the pillars that held up the temple"* (Judges 16:25). They shouldn't have done it!

While grinding at the mill because of his disobedience and break with the Spirit of God, Samson was out of options. His attacking days were over.

Standing now between the two pillars that

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supported the structure and height of the entire temple, his commitment to the Lord God renewed, Samson saw *a new option*. With God's power beginning to well up inside him, Samson asked his captors to let him feel the very pillars that were the central support for the temple's roof. His captors no doubt laughed and sneered but they let Samson feel those pillars. They shouldn't have done it!

Samson put his arms around the two pillars and leaned his weight against them and prayed.

The Bible records his prayer as he stood alone among the three thousand who hated him.

Wrapping his arms around the pillars and raising his sightless eyes, Samson prayed, *"O Lord God, remember me. Remember me just this once, I pray thee, that I may be avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes."*

Jesus said, *"Men ought always to pray, and not to give up"* (Luke 18:1). What is another option good for unless you and I pray, attacking with our prayers Satan who has willed our failure and destruction?

It's so easy to give up, to lie down and declare it's all over, to let Satan have his way rather than God.

It's so easy to give in to the feeling that you're not worth anything anymore, the enemies are right: you're no good, a failure, another one to fade into oblivion.

It's so easy to believe the devil's lie: you've messed

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it up, you don't deserve another chance, you'd just throw it away like you did before.

It's so easy to believe you're out of options, that God himself has no more options for you.

*But prayer still changes people and people change things.*

Samson could have said, "Sure, I once carried off the gate of a city and killed a thousand Philistine soldiers with nothing but a jawbone, but how can I believe I can pull these two pillars down and bring the whole temple down with all the enemies of the Lord God of Israel and of myself? I've failed the Lord and myself, so I'm out of options." He could have refused to attack because his option seemed so limited, so unpromising: just two pillars the temple and what chance did he have to pull them off their foundation and cause that temple roof to collapse?

Instead Samson prayed. He asked God to remember him in spite of his failures and mistakes. He asked God to grant him the Spirit to flow through his arms once more, making them like bands of steel, so he could pull that place down.

Friend, God remembers you. He remembers you even if you have failed and let Him down again and again. I assure you in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, you can confidently pray and call on Him in your desperate need. You will discover you have a new

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option! The option of trying again and seeing your dreams come true after they have seemed shattered forever.

The crowd hooted and taunted, "Look! Samson is struggling against those pillars. Do you suppose he's trying to pull the temple down? Ha. Ha. What a fool! Can't he see how helpless he is? Does he think he still has strength?"

No, Samson didn't think he had strength. He **KNEW** he had it. He could feel the power of Almighty God coursing through his veins. As he put his arms around the pillars Samson whispered, "O Lord, remember me just this once." The Spirit of God whipped through him like a wind and flashed through him like a fire. The pillars moved under his arms. The building began to shake.

"His God! His God has come back to Samson! Get out of here. Run!"

While 3,000 God-hating Philistines screamed, spectators of their own doom, Samson locked himself with all his new-found might and pushed the pillars over off their foundation and the roof began to collapse.

The temple fell... the god Dagon crashed... the Philistines were crushed... all because a man got a new option and attacked and attacked and attacked! Had you and I been there and found Samson just after he

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had won his greatest victory, I believe we would have heard him say, "For my eyes have seen the glory of the Lord."

Samson was no different from you. He was a man.

He made a commitment of his life to God. You can too.

He had the Spirit of God flowing in his life. You can too.

He trusted God as his Source. So can you.

And, friend, God isn't out of options. God can never be backed into a corner He can't get out of.

The Red Sea couldn't stop God. (See Exodus 14.)

The fiery furnace couldn't destroy Him. (See Daniel 3.)

The prophets of Baal couldn't ruin His reputation. (See 1 Kings 18.)

Enemy kings couldn't kill Him. (See Matthew 2.)

The grave couldn't hold Him! (See John 20.)

In Philippians 4:13 we read, "I can do *all* things through Christ which *strengthened* me."

With an unlimited-options God on your side—as Source of your life—you are NEVER out of options.

There's a lot of glory of the Lord still waiting for you. It's not over for you yet. There's a new beginning

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for you. This is your hour to attack your lack: **ATTACK!**  
**ATTACK! ATTACK!**





Chapter 12

# Have You Heard About the Man Who Sowed in Famine and Reaped a 100-Fold Harvest?

Good times and bad times.

God teaches us to give in both.

In good times we may have more to give than in bad times but in each case we give as a seed we plant, that is, *a seed we sow for God to grow*.

God shows us that we are to give in good times not only because we're thankful but so that His supply will *continue* to come in advance preparation for bad times—or *even in famine itself*.

He also teaches when the bad times come—so bad we're in famine or almost total lack—we are still to seed! We are *always* to seed. *Always* to believe. *Always* to attack...attack...attack!

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The Bible teaches this in the very first book. Genesis. Abraham gave to God. The Bible says he gave "*tithes of all*" (Genesis 14:20). God gave back to him and his wife Sarah a son, Isaac, when it seemed impossible. Then God told Abraham to teach Isaac how to give in good times and bad times. Isaac learned the lesson so well he literally "sowed in famine."

This is a story you should know and study. It's in Genesis 26:1-14. It has profoundly affected my sowing and reaping...giving and receiving.

In Genesis 26:1 we're told, "*And there was famine in the land.*"

Abraham, Isaac's father, had seen famine. But he had continued to give of what he had to God no matter how little it was. By his faith Abraham had taken on God's nature and the essential elements of His character. By his faith he refused to vary his giving according to his circumstances. He gave God tithes of *all* he had. He gave first out of gratitude for what God had given him; second, he gave as a seed to *generate* more and on a continuing basis from God his Source.

This is most important for you to know and to practice, for it will pay dividends to you whether times are good or times are bad. It will pay because God says, "*I am the Lord, I change not*" (Malachi 3:6).

When you trust God as your Source as Abraham did, then good times or bad times do not affect you as

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they do those who look to the economy and to themselves as their sources. You won't become proud and self-centered in good times or down and out in bad times. With the unchanging God as your Source, you can trust Him always to multiply your seeds sown so you can receive back to fill your lack.

Getting it right down to where we live, your giving must be *continual and continuous*. Day in, day out. Month in, month out. Year in, year out. No excuses. No giving in to circumstances.

Your seeding must become as steady and constant as your believing.

I do not understand how people say, "I believe, but I don't give." Or they say, "I've trusted in God...but I haven't given."

Giving and believing go together. Seeding and faith go together. SEED-FAITH.

You really can't have one without the other and expect to have the steady flow of God's power, miracles, and supply coming back into your life.

The Bible teaches this.

It says faith without works is dead (James 2:20).

It also says that works are of no use to your eternal soul without faith (Ephesians 2:8,9).

Faith and works are to go together. You are to put

your faith and your seeds together!

Seeds and faith are the two sides of one coin. SEED-FAITH.

## **What About the Faith Side?**

Your faith must be based on the Word of God if it is going to be a steady faith...a faith that doesn't waver but holds steady in good times and bad times. Your faith must be continual, continuous. It must ENDURE. It must have staying power, steadying power, stabilizing power.

How do you get that kind of faith?

*"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God"* (Romans 10:17). Everything I'm telling you in this book is in the Word of God. As I write these words to you, you are hearing them inside yourself and they can cause your faith *to come*.

When I was a young boy I lived in Pontotoc County, Oklahoma. I lived there when the oil fields struck. Papa sold his farm to go preach full-time one year before oil was discovered on it. His two brothers and many of our neighbors got oil on their land. I used to go and watch the workers drill for oil. They would build a wood derrick over a spot of ground and drive drill bits down through it into the ground, pushing them by force to depths that were hundreds of feet into the earth. When

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the drill bits struck the areas where the oil was, the oil would force itself up suddenly through the drill pipe, flowing completely over the derrick. We called it a "gusher."

This was before all the modern oil equipment began to be used that contained the oil automatically. Back then the oil simply started coming up out of the ground and they had to quickly dig earthen ponds to hold it so it would not run off into the ravines and be lost.

Oil which had been deep in the ground for centuries would *COME*.

That's the way your faith is. Faith is deep in your spirit. But it's got to "come up" out of you and go to God in order for it to work for you.

They used drill bits to go down and cause the oil to come up. The Word of God works in the same way with your faith. As you study the Word of God and as you "hear" it preached, it causes your faith to *COME*... to come up out of you and be released to God.

In Matthew 17:20 Jesus explained it like this: "If you can make your faith as a seed you plant, you can speak to your mountain to be removed and it will obey you. And nothing shall be impossible to you."

Your faith is like a seed, just as your giving is like a seed. A seed is ultimately what every *living* thing comes

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from. You came from the seed of your parents in conception and birth. Your food comes from seed planted. So does most of your clothing and the items in the house you live in and just about everything else you need and use daily. Seeds are the carriers of life. For your faith to come alive, it must work like a seed. It must grow, bear fruit, mature, bear even more fruit. Your faith must come up out of your spirit and grow and produce. The preaching of the Word of God causes the seed of your faith to begin to grow... and grow... and *grow*.

I know this personally, when I preach my faith comes up strongly out of me and soars. When I hear preaching of the Word by men and women who are anointed, my faith comes up out of me and SOARS!

### **Follow the Order Jesus Gives**

Jesus gives the divine order for this process. You wrap your faith around the seeds of your giving, you sow your seeds of faith in the good soil of God's work, and THEN and only then do you SPEAK TO YOUR MOUNTAIN OF LACK and *command* it to BE REMOVED and it obeys you!

As you practice this and make it your way of life NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE TO YOU. You and God become a majority over your lack!

*Have You Heard About the Man Who Sowed in Famine and Reaped a 100-Fold Harvest?*

## **Isaac Had Steady Faith, Steady Giving**

We're told that when Isaac saw the famine in the land he wanted to leave and go to Egypt where there was said to be plenty. But God talked to him instead about seeds...about staying right there and planting his seeds in the earth that was in drought, without rain, and without promise of rain anytime soon.

Isaac was faced with a decision to use his SEED-FAITH or to get up and run. He had hit a famine. Bad times.

In Genesis 26:2, God said, *"Do not go down into Egypt. Stay here and I will bless you."*

God said, "I will prosper you even in famine if you sow your seeds in faith." And God said, "I will do it to you from the oath I swore to your father Abraham, the man of faith, the man who gave tithes of all, who was a giver."

Now look at verse 12, *"Then Isaac sowed in that land."* THAT land, the land of famine. He believed God. Then he went and sowed literal seeds. He didn't hold back but went ahead and sowed even when his friends and enemies would not.

What happened? What was the result? Logically he had to fail. Seed will not grow in soil that has had no

water and is hard and unproductive.

The Bible says, "*Then Isaac sowed in the land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him*" (Genesis 26:12).

Hallelujah! Praise be to God of the universe! Glory be to the God of seedtime and harvest, sowing and reaping, giving and receiving!

## **Risk Everything to Do What God Says**

Isaac used his faith to sow in famine...to give out of his need...to risk everything to do what God said...to attack his lack. It was an act of the man's faith that he would sow and trust God as the Source who would multiply his seed sown—and give him a harvest to receive back **EVEN IF IT TOOK A MIRACLE!**

My friend and Partner, I want you to take this into your being, into your faith-system, into your dreams and goals for your life. *That same year God gave Isaac a hundredfold return!*

He didn't have to wait until the second year or the third year or a lifetime. Isaac sowed in famine. He sowed out of his need. *He sowed his need.* And he sowed his need as an act of his faith beyond himself...faith in the God of his father Abraham, faith in the word God had said to him... and he got it all back



*Have You Heard About the Man Who Sowed in Famine and Reaped a 100-Fold Harvest?*

100 times the very same year!

Notice, he sowed according to God's word, not out of presumption.

He didn't say, "Well, I'm going to sow just to show folks it can be done." No. Isaac sowed believing God spoke His word to him to sow even in famine, even out of his need, yes, *even to sow his need!*

You've got to act not on your "wishes" but upon your thoughts that line up with God's thoughts. Line up your words with God's Word. Line up your acts with God's acts.

Again I remind you, "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by...**ACCORDING TO, PRECISELY LIKE, IN AGREEMENT WITH...** the Word of God" (Romans 10:17).

## **By the Word Of God**

What was God's word to Isaac?

God said, "Isaac, go to the land I show you. Stay there. Don't move. Hold steady. I will bless you there. I will multiply your seed. I will do it because I have a covenant with Abraham. Remember how I took care of Abraham. Remember how he kept My commandments. I will take care of you the same way if you sow your seed."

## *Attack Your Lack*

What does God say to YOU today?

*"Go to the place I show you?"* Are you in the place where God wants you? Do you feel His peace about it? Are you in the church where He wants you to be? Are you active in the things He wants you to be active in? Are you doing what He has asked you to do?

*"Sojourn there."* In other words, stay there. Don't look for an escape. Are you considering running away from your problem? Moving to another city to escape your debts? Running away from your responsibilities? Trying to escape the difficult moments of your life through drugs or alcohol? God says to you, don't try to run away. Stay where you are.

*"I will bless you"* God can work out your problems *with you* where you are. He can turn your situation around. He can give you a second chance in the midst of your bad circumstances.

He can cause something GOOD to happen to you.

God doesn't want you to be in poverty or to have lack spiritually or physically or financially. God desires that *all* your needs be met according to His riches in heaven by Jesus. God wants you to get into the God-kind of giving and receiving. God wants to BLESS YOU.

*"I will make your seed to multiply:"* God's laws about seedtime and harvest...God's laws about giving and receiving...God's laws of multiplication don't vary. Seeds sown in famine will multiply just as surely as

*Have You Heard About the Man Who Sowed in Famine and Reaped a 100-Fold Harvest?*

seeds sown in favorable conditions.

*"I will do what I say because of My covenant."* What is the covenant God has with you today? It's the shed blood of Jesus Christ. God is saying to you, "I will do this because of your relationship with Jesus. I will do this because of your Seed-Faith through Jesus Christ today."

## **How Do You Give in Famine?**

How do you give when you have overwhelming LACK?

The Bible says that God gives *seed to the sower*. God will give you a little of what you lack in order for you to plant it, to give it.

Do you lack money? Very few people are totally penniless, totally without a single cent. Use a little of what you DO have as a seed.

Do you lack friends? Very few people live on a desert island alone. (In fact, I don't know of any!) There are people around you. Smile. Give a friendly word. You have those things to seed.

Do you lack time? You have 24 hours a day. Set aside time to GIVE it in some way that furthers God's work on this earth.

Do you lack love? Search your heart. There's love there. Give a little of it to someone who is hurting as

badly as you are.

"I can't afford to give," some say to me.

I reply, "I can't afford *not* to give."

When I have a need, I *have* to give part of it away. Otherwise I'm just stuck with my need and don't have any hope of a seed multiplying in God's hand. I have to give. That's the only way I can know without any doubt and according to His Word that God is working in my situation for me to receive back from Him.

## **Get Your Eyes on the God of the 100-Fold Return**

I ask you, are you fed up with your LACK? Do you have righteous indignation over your LACK? Are you mad at the devil because of your LACK? Are you determined to ATTACK YOUR LACK?

If your answer is a positive YES, then act on God's Word, even if you don't feel like it...even if times are tough...even if everything around you is falling apart.

I tell you, God kept His Word with Isaac when Isaac by an act of his faith went out there on those famine-struck fields and "sowed in famine." God gave Isaac a 100-FOLD RETURN IN THE SAME YEAR (Genesis 26:12).

I ask you to pay close attention that it came back to

*Have You Heard About the Man Who Sowed in Famine and Reaped a 100-Fold Harvest?*

Isaac "in the same year"—in a definite time period.

Friend, every seed has a *due season* of harvest. Look for it.

Friend, every seed has *multiplication power*. Expect it. Seeds don't operate on a one-to-one principle. Seeds *always* multiply.

And don't overlook the next verse. Genesis 26:13 says, "*And the man [Isaac] waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great.*"

## **Don't Stop Sowing When Good Times Come**

Isaac didn't rest on his 100-fold return. He didn't say, "Well, I'm blessed. That's the end of my need to give."

No. He gave again and again and again. He *waxed great*. That means he *grew into* greatness. He got a rhythm going. He got a cycle started. He went from great to greater to greater to greater. The final phrase says he became *very great*. He had flocks and herds and servants. He was the envy of all the people. He had wells of water, which were very precious in the desert. Wells meant that when rain didn't come, you could still water your flocks and your plants! Wells meant the end of drought... the end of famine... the end of his LACK!

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Finally, Isaac grew so great that he was even greater than the king of the land. He moved on. Not to escape the famine, but to enter into even greater prosperity.

He kept seeding. He also kept believing. The Bible says that everywhere he went he built an altar to the Lord. In other words, he kept God first in his life. He kept his faith alive. He kept believing.

In good times.

In bad times.

Giving.

Believing.

Seeds.

Faith.

SEED-FAITH.

It's the way you get rid of your lack and STAY rid of it. It's the ENDURING power of attacking and attacking and attacking. It's what makes you RELENTLESS in your pursuit of miracles. It's what keeps your needs from totally destroying you. You ENDURE because you attack ... and attack... and attack.

### *Chapter 13*

## How to Attack Your Lack by Using God's Vocabulary

My friend Charles Capps is now a noted businessman and preacher. He once was a dirt-poor farmer in Arkansas at a time when that state ranked among the poorest in America, and he knew nothing about the power of his faith to attack his lack and turn things around in his life.

"I was a Christian," he said, "and had been for years. I went to church, I gave what little I could, and I hoped some day I would make it to heaven."

"I thought a lot about heaven then. Being on this earth brought me discouragement, sickness, poverty, and a feeling that I was ashamed to admit that Christianity was not working for me. I figured when I got to heaven I would not have those doubts and troubles. All my needs would be met up there. But on earth I didn't know how to use my faith for the things I had to have to live before I got to heaven."

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Inside Charles Capps had a potential no one could see, not even himself. He was in the negative stream. He said, "One day when my crops failed and my bank loan was due, I woke up sick in body and head over heels in debt. I was supernaturally in debt. I figured I couldn't get in debt that bad *naturally*, so it had to be supernaturally."

One day Charles Capps did the most important thing a person in trouble can do. He asked the right question..."Is this all there is to life?" In trying to find out, he went to church. He read the Bible. He went to Sunday school. But whatever faith he had in God was not working in his life.

He identified his position and it spelled LACK. In spite of believing the Word of God as the truth, he didn't know that the Word was something he could apply in everyday life to the nitty-gritty problems he faced.

Two small books came into his hands. The first was one by Dr. Kenneth Hagin, a leader in the charismatic and faith-teaching ministry: *RIGHT AND WRONG THINKING*. In that book he saw how to *think the way God talks*.

He secured some of Dr. Hagin's tapes. He said, "I began to get my head screwed on straight. I discovered I could be right with God in my heart but wrong in my head with my thinking. I realized when I thought wrong, I believed wrong, and when I believed wrong, I



acted wrong in the practical matters of my life."

For the first time he saw he couldn't leave everything up to God. He had talked this way: "Well, if it's the will of God for me to be healed of this sickness, it will happen anyway. If He wants me to prosper and get out of debt, it will happen. If not, it won't happen. But I was unable to make the comparison with that way of thinking and my farming. In farming, if I left it up to God I was going to have a bunch of weeds instead of crops I had planted for."

## **He Began to See Something in the Word of God**

The next step was that he began to see in the Word of God that he could pray and believe God to meet his needs, and if he believed it and did not doubt in his heart, he could attack his lack and have God's supply. "That woke me up to the fact that I'd been believing and saying the wrong things," he said. "I hadn't got hold of God's position in His Word and put it to work in my life of need and lack."

Charles had turned negative in his life because he had been indoctrinated to think wrong and he had fallen into believing—and saying—what other people said about God, instead of what God himself said in His Word. One day he realized any old dead fish can float downstream. But it takes a live one to go upstream.

## *Attack Your Lack*

"I began reading my Bible with an ear to what God said. Jesus had told us to let His sayings sink down deep into our hearts. *I'd made the mistake of listening to what other people said about what they had heard somebody else say they thought God had said.* They really didn't know the Word of God themselves and it was their talk about God that I was listening to. So God's Word was not alive and moving in my heart or on my lips. And without knowing God's words and saying His words I began to see that was where I had missed it."

To hear Charles Capps explain these things today, knowing how small he had been in his thinking on his hardscrabble little farm, it's hard to believe he could be where he is now in following-and enjoying—God's formula for success and prosperity as a Christian.

He explained, "One day I was trying to pray, which was never easy for me. I was never comfortable with prayer. Here I was on the earth, which was something I could see and feel, trying to reach Someone I couldn't see in a place I thought was so far away it was more of a dream than reality. I just blurted out what I was thinking: 'Lord, things are not working. Things are getting worse.'"

It never occurred to him that God would speak to people today. He was shocked when he heard the Lord say something back to him in his spirit. It wasn't a voice but an impression in his spirit that gave him these words: "Who told you that?" He stopped and thought a

minute. He said, "Lord, it sure wasn't You. It must have been the devil."

The Lord said, "Yes, and I would appreciate it if you would quit telling Me what the devil said."

Shock waves went through his system. He had heard God speak to him—a poor little dirt farmer who didn't amount to anything, who was sick and who was in debt with no way out. The impression in his spirit came again, "You have been quoting the devil more than you have been quoting Me. You have been praying for Me to do something about your finances and about your physical body, but everything that comes out of your mouth is negative. It's the way the devil talks. If you don't change to believe My words and to say My words, it will not get better, it will get worse."

Charles said, "Lord, I've had all the worse I can stand. I'm ready to change my talking if You will show me how to do it. What do I do?"

The Lord's impression in his spirit was, "Read and study My Word and find out what I said about it, then start saying and praying the things I said about you instead of what the devil says."

## **Faith Comes by Hearing**

It was like a million lights had come on in his understanding when he heard God's Word in his spirit,

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*"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."*

It was then that Charles realized that whether you hear God or whether you hear the devil, faith comes by hearing. He said, "I saw I had more faith in what the devil had been saying than I did in what God had said."

Charles felt a strong leading to find out in the Word of God what God said about him as a believer *and to make a list of it*. He wrote down every Scripture he found about God's promises to the believer. He then applied them to himself personally by confessing them as a fact daily.

Friends learned what he was doing and said, "Charles, you're confessing to a lie. Those things are not happening in your life. You're sick, you're dirt-poor, you'll never get out of debt, yet you're confessing them as if they are real."

He said, "My life is being destroyed, yet I'm a Christian. I know I'm going to heaven but God's got to mean something to me in a practical way here...now. I've been down and beaten up by all these negative things hitting me. If there's something to this, I'm going to find it. I believe I am finding it. I'm confessing it by my faith in God until I can see it working in my life."

In every person's life, the time comes when he must decide to tune out the critics and tune God in.

The list that he carried of God's promises became a

daily part of him. When he was well enough to plow and to plant seed for a new crop, he would pause at the end of the row, get out his list, and confess God's words.

Often he would fall back into the negative stream and say, "Lord, You know I don't feel what I'm saying. I feel like I'm lying."

The Lord said, "Son, how could you be lying when you're saying what I said?"

Then he would realize what he had been saying all the years before, he'd been lying. He saw that in the past when he prayed he'd been praying the problem, the need, the lack. He'd pray, "God, You know the money's not coming in. You know I won't have the money to pay the note at the end of the year. You know I don't know what I am going to do."

Slowly he began to understand that the Lord was showing him he'd gotten into negative praying, the reverse kind of prayer from the Word-of-God kind of prayer. This meant he had faith, but he was using it to believe he was not going to be able to meet his obligations. He had faith that he was going to fail even more than he was already failing.

Time after time he would hear in his spirit, "Turn your praying around. Start saying what I have said about you."

Some days he carried his Bible to the fields with him. While eating his brown sack lunch under the

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shade of a tree, he would find a word God said. Then he would pray, "Father, Your Word says, 'Whatsoever things I desire when I pray, believe that I receive them and I shall have them.' Therefore in the name of Jesus I pray, believing that my needs are met."

At this point there was a roadblock to his breakthrough. A second book fell into his hands, *MIRACLE OF SEED-FAITH* (by Oral Roberts). In it he found the key to *activate* the promises of God.

As a farmer he understood the natural laws of sowing and reaping God had placed in the universe, in the very soil he was planting to get a crop. He had failed to grasp in his faith-walk with the Lord that when he had a need he had to plant a seed—wrapped up in his faith—to attack that lack. In other words, if it's a financial need, he had to give finances, however small the amount to the Lord's work. As his seed left his hand to be planted in the good soil of the gospel, he was to pray over it and focus it on a desired result, then believe God for a return on it—in fact, to expect to receive a miracle harvest back!

He saw he literally had to believe God would multiply it back 100-fold according to Jesus' own words in Mark 10:29,30. And he was to expect a return in the area he had planted.

## **Water in the Desert**

Of all the things God says about giving and receiving, Luke 6:38 stood out like water in the desert to Charles. He wrote it down on his list: "*Give, and it shall be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, shall men give to your bosom...*"

Charles had been a giver of one tenth of his meager income, the tithes, but without understanding it was not a *debt* he owed but a *seed* he sowed. Up to now he had made no confession that when he gave, it would be given to him. He was a *giver* to the best of his ability, but he was not a *receiver* to the best of his ability. His GIVER was working but not his EXPECTER or his RECEIVER!

One day he was praying what God said in Luke 6:38. He had read Jesus' words on when you give it shall be given to you so often that it was like he could hear Jesus talking directly to him. The words began to come alive in him and he was living them. As he prayed those words Jesus had said, he heard himself say, "Thank God because I have given, it is given to me. Lord, You said if I give, it shall be given to me. I don't have it now. I don't see it with my natural eyes. But as sure as You said it in Your Holy Word, it's already given. Now it's a matter of my receiving it. So I now look for and expect a miracle return to come to me."

When Charles did this, it changed his confession of only words coming from his mouth to a confession of

## *Attack Your Lack*

an "*inner image*" in which he began to see himself in his spirit as being prosperous before he ever was. THEN when he said it with his mouth, it was the words of his spirit and his faith that he based on the absolute reality of what God had said about him, Charles Capps, a poor dirt farmer.

At the time, outwardly he had nothing. Actually, less than nothing. His body was sick. He owed the bank. Other debts covered him. His land was poor. Between sickness bouts he barely had the strength to farm and get seed in the ground. Worst of all he had no hope of this ever changing. He could see no light at the end of the tunnel.

Solomon said, "*Hope deferred makes the heart sick*" (Proverbs 13:12). Charles Capps' heart was sick, and therefore *he* was sick.

But he had got hold of the Word of God on SEED-FAITH and it began to take root in him. While outward circumstances were still bleak, when he didn't know if he'd be able to borrow another dollar to farm another year or whether he'd be in bed sick or up long enough to plow and plant, he was confessing that he had given, and therefore "*it was given to him!*" He was saying, "I confess on the authority of the Word of God that my seeds of faith are planted. Therefore I have attacked my lack and I see myself in a state of receiving the health and the money. In my spirit I have the image of money being no problem in any area of my life."



## **Using God's Words**

The devil refused to give up on Charles. Over and over he would insinuate, "You're trying to act like God. You're using God's words."

Each time Charles would say, "Yeah, that's what I'm doing. I'm using God's Word. I've used the words of you, the devil, for years. And it's got me into nothing but bad situations. And I'm going to keep on believing and saying God's words until they happen to me!"

Gradually Satan's insinuations faded and God's words became loud and clear in Charles as he spoke them more forcefully daily and loosed his faith to God his Source for miracles.

Charles knew inwardly he was getting closer and closer to having what he confessed by his faith in what God said about him as a believer... as a SEED-FAITHER. He could sense it coming. Day by day, one bad situation after another, he held on for the manifestation of what he had seeded for.

One day a woman called. "Charles, we're going to sell our farm. Do you want to buy it?"

He had gotten far enough in the confession of his faith that he believed he was going to reap the harvest of his giving, and he said, "Yes, I'll buy it."

When he hung up the phone, his wife said,

*Attack Your Lack*

"Charles, what are you going to buy?"

"I'm going to buy a farm."

"What are you going to use for money?"

"Money is no problem."

Now what had happened? He had seeded to God, he had given, and now he knew *it was given*. Although he had not received the harvest from what was already given, he had confessed by his faith in the living God that whatsoever he desired when he prayed, and did not doubt in his heart, *he would have it*. It came right out of his spirit into his mind and over his lips and up to God and right back into his spirit and into his mind and in his words, "I'll buy it. Money is no problem."

When he went to close the deal they asked for no money down, not one dollar. While the deal was still in escrow, an opportunity came for him to sell 40 acres of it to the school district to build a new school on, and when the title came to him he had \$57,000 equity in the farm and he hadn't paid a dime for it.

Today Charles Capps' favorite saying is, "I am blessed."

When asked what he means he says, "When I saw what God was saying to me in His Word and I began to believe and confess it and to call it into my life, in less than one year I'd broken the devil's supernatural hold over me.

"I saw SEED-FAITH as doing what the Word of God says: if we give, He will give to us 100-fold. Each seed I planted I had given, and what I had given *is given*. Jesus says, 'If you give, it shall be given.' That's future tense. But once you've given, it's given unto you. Oh, I didn't have it then. I didn't see it with my naked eye, but I began to experience a *knowing* inside that as sure as Jesus said it in His Word, it's already given. Now it's a matter of releasing our faith to receive it. So I began to look and expect a miracle to come to get me out of sickness, my poverty, my misery. When I began doing that, it changed the way I felt about God and the way I felt about myself. It changed my inner image. I began to see myself healed...and being prosperous as a child of God.

"I mean I began to see myself being healed while I was sick and to see myself prosperous when I was poor. First, Satan tried to get me to think I was out of my mind and just dreaming. He was trying to trick me into doubt-talk that I'd get sicker and poorer. But when Oral told us to talk faith-talk, to say God's words rather than negative words, to believe what God says rather than what the devil says, I saw myself in my spirit believing that my sickness and poverty were no problem for God to heal.

"By the end of that year, I was a well man. I was a SEED-FAITH Christian, and I was able to pay off my debts and hold my head up. People began asking me to

## *Attack Your Lack*

share my testimony. I didn't know I could talk in public. I'd had such a poor image of myself it scared me to death to open my mouth about God to somebody else.

"The more people asked me, the more I opened up. Pretty soon some said I was talking like Oral Roberts. I said, That's O.K. Oral talks like God talks. God talks seedtime and harvest and Oral talks it. God talks healing for our souls and bodies and minds and finances. Oral talks it. God is using Oral and I want Him to use me."

"I was excited about God and I excited others about Him. Pretty soon about half of my friends had Oral's book *MIRACLE OF SEED-FAITH*. We turned into a community of Seed-Fathers. In a poverty part of this country, God our Source began to meet our needs, to make us prosperous, happy Christians. And God is moving in our area!"

What about you today?

Listen to yourself.

Are you attacking your lack with *God's* words? Are you talking about God's provision... His promises... His blessings...His Supply for your lack?

Or are you still in the rut of the old habit of saying the devil's words that you're not going to make it...you're going to be sicker and sicker... poorer and poorer... more defeated than ever.

*How to Attack Your Lack by Using God's Vocabulary*

Change your vocabulary!

King David said, *"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer"* (Psalm 19:14).

By thinking God's words in your heart and speaking them with your mouth, attack your lack. Attack! Attack! Attack!



*Chapter 14*

## What's Your Decision?

What about you today?

Have you decided to **ATTACK** your lack?

Have you recognized that faith is your number-one tool in attacking your lack...and that you have the faith you need?

Have you decided that you'll start **ATTACKING** right NOW?

Have you accepted God's promise that your lack **CAN** be attacked...that you can overcome your needs and problems...that you can have a fulfilled—a **FULLY FILLED**—life?

Have you put your **GIVING** and your **BELIEVING** together? Have you started a walk of **SEEDING** and **BELIEVING**... of **SEED-FAITH**?

Have you started making your giving a **SEED**, expecting back a miracle harvest from God's treasure-supply in heaven?

## *Attack Your Lack*

Have you made God the Source of the Supply that will fill your lack?

Have you determined to KEEP ON attacking, with faith believing that things will turn around, that roses WILL bloom again in your life?

Have you determined to give your BEST seed... and then expect God's best?

Have you chosen the God-kind of prosperity?

Have you decided that with God as your Source, you are never out of options?

Have you determined that you will never cease to ATTACK, that you will keep on attacking the lack Satan tries to create in you, and that you will attack every day of your life?

Have you determined that you will speak more about your FULL-FILLED life than about your LACK? Are you expecting BY WHAT YOU SAY that God will meet your need... fill your lack... solve your problem...give you the miracle you need? Are you talking about God's provision or about your lack?

Yes or no?

If you are answering "no" to any of these questions, go back and reread the chapter that deals with that issue in your life. Read it and reread it until it soaks into your spirit. Use the ARSENAL OF SPIRITUAL WEAPONS that begins on the next page.



*What's Your Decision?*

And never forget...

God wants you to **ATTACK YOUR LACK**.

He wants you to **WIN**.

He wants you to have **TOTAL** provision.

He wants you to have a **FULL, FILLED LIFE**.

He wants you to have an **ABUNDANT LIFE**,  
overflowing with His presence, His goodness.

And so do I.



*Chapter 15*

## Summed Up: Twelve Spiritual Tools to Help You Attack Your Lack

No matter how you have poured yourself into reading this book or grasped new concepts and ideas with which to attack your lack, I want to give you the twelve concepts that are in this book in a way you can use them day after day the rest of your life on this earth while you are on your way to heaven. They are like TWELVE SPIRITUAL TOOLS in your hand as you attack your lack.

If you missed some things in the book, then these twelve tools will help you pull them all together and I believe you will never forget them.

Here they are in plaque form that you can take out of the book if you desire.

Put a plaque on your desk or dresser drawer or kitchen windowsill or under a magnet on the


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refrigerator where you can read it.

You can also use a plaque as a bookmark for your Bible...for THIS book you are holding... your appointment book.

On the inside of this plaque are the twelve tools I've shared with you in this book. USE THEM TO ATTACK YOUR LACK

Go to the end of the book to find your tear-out cards.



If you  
need prayer . . .  
ANYTIME  
DAY OR NIGHT  
Dial  
918 • 495-7777

The Prayer Tower, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma



City of Faith Health-Care Center Tulsa, Oklahoma  
FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL...  
918 • 493-8181

# I Will **ATTACK** My Lack

# I Will **ATTACK** My Lack

fold here

We're here to help you attack your lack!

*Oral Roberts*     *Richard Roberts*

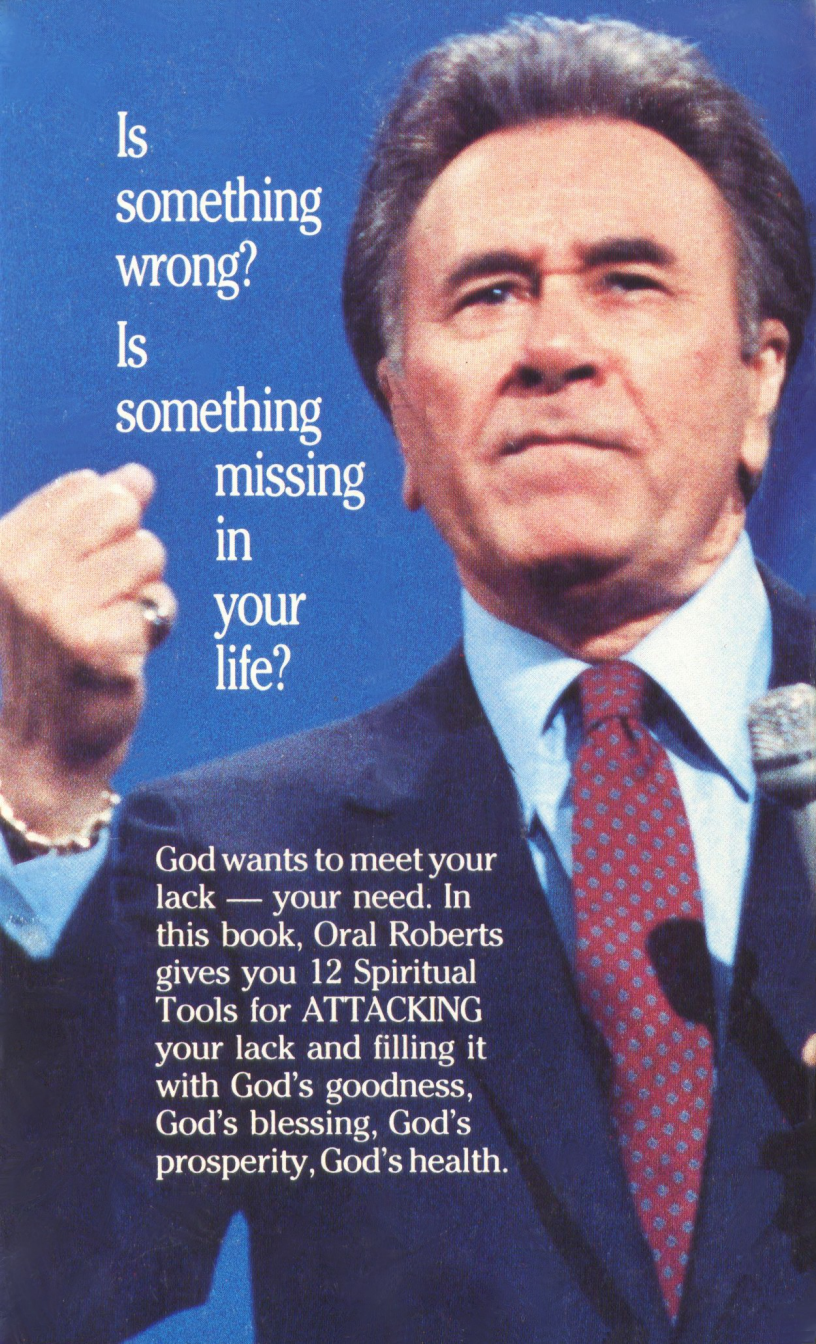
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## I Will ATTACK My Lack

1. I already have the faith I need to attack my lack.
2. I will start attacking my lack TODAY.
3. My lack isn't beyond God's ability.
4. I can attack my lack through my giving and my RECEIVING.
5. God has a personal harvest for me.
6. I will trust God as the Source of my Supply.
7. I will cheer up —roses will bloom again for me.
8. I will plant my best seeds!
9. I will pursue the God-kind of prosperity.
10. I am not out of options.
11. I will plant my seeds even during hard times.
12. I will use God's vocabulary.

A photograph of Oral Roberts, a prominent televangelist, speaking at a podium. He is wearing a dark suit, a light blue shirt, and a red tie with a small pattern. He has a serious expression and is looking slightly upwards and to the right. His right hand is raised in a fist, and a microphone is visible in the foreground. The background is a solid blue color.

Is  
something  
wrong?

Is  
something  
missing  
in  
your  
life?

God wants to meet your lack — your need. In this book, Oral Roberts gives you 12 Spiritual Tools for **ATTACKING** your lack and filling it with God's goodness, God's blessing, God's prosperity, God's health.