



Gayane Hakobyan

**POVERTY:
MENTALITY
OR SOCIAL
STATUS?**

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OR SOCIAL STATUS?**

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Dear Reader,

I recommend this book to everybody.

I know Gayane Hakobyan since 1991; everything she does is always beautiful and glorious. I think she is the perfect person to author this book.

I read this book several months before it was published. In this book, Gayane used a little of her personal experience and sound biblical teaching.

I read this book in one breath. I even thought, “I wish all heeded to her advice and acted according to it”.

One thing I know for sure: since you read these words, this book is already in your hands...

*Senior Pastor of
The Word of Life Church in Armenia,*

Dr. Artur Simonyan

INTRODUCTION

Dear Reader,
I present this book to you as a person who served God and people in Social Ministry for around 23 years. I can confidently answer the question: “Is poverty a mentality or a social status?” In my ministry, I communicated with many socially deprived people. There was a time when I lived with homeless people for almost three years. I studied the reasons of poverty of both men and women of different ages, and I concluded that regardless of one’s nationality or the country’s social conditions, be it England, the USA or Armenia, everything in a person’s life comes from inside themselves. A person’s life follows their own character. Frankly, in Armenia, there are no homeless people like those in Argentina or the USA. Oftentimes, the homeless in Armenia are

even polite people who will never allow themselves to become completely degraded.

It might seem that there are too many biblical quotations in the book. Please do read each one of them. I cannot remember how many times I read the Bible, but while copying out these Scriptures, I came to know God, the Sovereign Ruler of the universe, our Heavenly Father and the Lord of our life, in a new way and on a higher level.

In my life, I communicated with many people who were wealthy and successful in their work; and in ministry, I got to know many poor people. I drew many conclusions and developed many concepts about people in general. However, when writing this book, I did not reserve the right to commit to paper only my own experience, but prior to sitting at the computer, I knelt down before the Lord and asked for His wisdom and leading. I drew from my experience only by the leading of the Spirit, and I included in this book only what I received from the Lord.

Dear Reader, my desire is that in this book,

you could see the God Who loves you and cares for your life, and understand His will for your finances.

In this book, I refer to teachings of John Avanzini on receiving financial blessings according to God's will. I practiced them in my own life and was convinced that God's promises are true for each believer: "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away" (Mt. 24:35).

Money alone cannot make us happy. There has been no one in the whole world who was happy only because of having money, even billions of dollars. Being blessed by God does not mean to be a rich man, a billionaire, or to own illimitable wealth.

I do not think that there is even one sound person to consider themselves blessed if they have money, but have poor health or no peace in their heart or family. A person who possesses much wealth, perfect health and is doing well in their family, but has no personal relationship with their Creator is not blessed by God as well.

In this book, I discuss only one area of life of a blessed person that is finances. It is all-important both for us and for the Lord, Who created the heavens and the earth.

I wish you a blessed life.

*Director of
“Go and See...” Social Ministry*

Gayane Hakobyan

POVERTY: MENTALITY OR SOCIAL STATUS?

1. Poverty is a mentality

“The things that happen to you indicate the situations around you.

The things that happen inside you show your character.

The things that happen because of you reveal your charisma».

J. Maxwell

2. Poverty is a choice

No person in their right mind would choose to be poor. Instead, each person can make up their mind: “I will never be poor!”

A well-known talk show host, actress and producer Oprah Winfrey* spent her early childhood with her grandmother, a member of

* Using Oprah Winfrey’s example on the very first pages of my book, I by no means justify her morals and behavior. I use her example taking into account that she is a prominent person known around the world and the fact that she found a way out of a seemingly hopeless situation of today’s life.

a Baptist Church, who always took little Oprah to the church services. Oprah's grandmother was a house cleaner in a white American family. Her sisters and daughter, Oprah's mother, also were house cleaners in rich families. They lived in the state of Mississippi, where blacks suffered most brutal treatment. The best work Oprah's grandmother, her sisters and daughter could dream of was to serve as house cleaners in a kind wealthy person's home.

One day, when her grandmother was washing a rich man's clothes and little Oprah was sitting in front of her, she said to Oprah, "My dear, pray to God that when you grow up, you can find a work in a kind rich man's home who will never taunt you for being black." Oprah, who was only four years old then, made a decision in her mind: "Never!"*

Later she told that during church services, the pastor and other preachers often repeated

* Oprah Winfrey, Master Class, Part 1

Philippians 4:13: “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me”. She received these words with supernatural faith, and later she said, “We become what we believe.” At the age of four, she made a decision that she would never be poor and in all her life, and later, she always trusted Philippians 4:13. As a result, today she is among 100 most influential people in the world and is the first and the only black billionaire woman so far.

3. Poverty is a result of wrong mentality and character

In the 1980s, Donald Trump* was the national symbol of success in the USA. He built a number of beautiful skyscrapers, made millions of dollars, wrote a book *The Art of the Deal* that sold millions of copies, became a TV star, purchased airplanes and yachts, etc.

* Using Donald Trump’s example on the very first pages of my book, I by no means justify his morals and behavior. I use his example taking into account that he is a prominent person known around the world and the fact that he found a way out of a seemingly hopeless situation of today’s life.

Press constantly wrote, “Everything Donald Trump’s hand touches turns to gold!” “I believed it myself like a fool”, - Trump wrote in his book, *The Art of the Comeback*. – “I believed that my life was a success, and it could not be otherwise. In the beginning, I thought that everything in business would go smoothly. I allowed myself to relax to the extent I lost my purpose and was no longer focused on the work. Dark clouds gathered over my empire, but I did not notice it for quite some time. Basically, I stopped managing my business and developing my companies.”*

Then something happened. The U.S. Government passed several laws that abolished the existing tax privileges for real estate businesses and tightened the tax policy. Moreover, those laws extended not only to the deals made after their approval, but also to those made before.

“Politicians thought that the real estate market guys live too well, and decided to slightly tweak our lives”, - Trump wrote.

* Donald Trump, *The Art of the Comeback*

As a result, many real estate companies went bankrupt and no one ever heard about them again.

Because of these changes in the law, Donald Trump's fortune of 3.5 billion dollars turned to 9.5 billion debt.

Unlike the 90% of real estate business people who were in the same situation and closed their businesses once and for all, Trump did not give up even for a moment. While the mass media tirelessly announced Trump's failure, he studied and assessed the situation.

Later he wrote, "Short-sightedness and ignorance of the politicians were truly shocking. Many decisions and processes were against me and other businesses in the real estate market. Nevertheless, if I had not been so foolish in past to lose my vision because of my carelessness, I'd still have problems, but not that serious."

Looking back Trump saw his own mistakes. He admitted that he came to believe the mass

media that his hand turned everything to gold; he stopped managing his work, became careless, lost his purpose and did not work every day on development of his business.

Trump immediately got down to work. He invited the representatives of all the banks that demanded their loans back and presented to them an adventurous plan that could allow him not only to repay all his debts but also to be back in business as a billionaire. With forceful arguments, Trump got the consent of the banks he worked with and later realized the plan. He even repaid his debts ahead of time and was back in business as a billionaire.

How did he make it?

Although Trump clearly saw the mistakes of the politicians, he did not focus on what they did. He analyzed his own life and started to look for his own mistakes. He not only found those mistakes, but corrected them very soon and took

up his work with renewed effort. In *The Art of the Comeback*, he wrote that he never worked with such zeal. The main condition was to look for his own mistakes and to correct them.

4. Poverty is a result of ignorance of God's perfect will for people

A preacher compared the Bible with a traffic rules guide. Each driver is to know the rules written in the guide; otherwise, their life, as well as the lives of people around them will be in danger. The Bible is a Guide full of the Spirit of God: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Along with everything the Bible shows us about God's perfect will, it teaches us to live in such a way as to enjoy this earthly life. "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in

health, just as your soul prospers” (3 Jn. 2), and after death, spend the eternity with God Almighty, the Lord of the universe.

All things in this world are created with a specific purpose and none of the things can tell their own purpose. Only the Creator knows the purpose of the created things and only He can say how to properly use them and keep them from damage. No one can use a knife as a screwdriver, no matter how suitable it might seem. The opposite is also true: regardless of how much a screwdriver resembles a knife, it cannot cut meat. The sharp blade of a knife becomes blunt if washed with hot water, and no one can blame the creator of the knife and complain that they can no longer cut meat with it. That person must acknowledge that they violated the maintenance of the knife and that they probably did not even know that one could not wash a sharp knife with hot water. As a result, they lost their sharp knife and the opportunity to cut meat with ease.

Human beings are made by the Creator of the heavens and the earth, in His image and likeness: “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness’” (Genesis 1:26), “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them” (Gen. 1:27).

Anyone who does not acknowledge this is, to put it mildly, a fool. The Word of God says: “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God’” (Ps. 14:1). People need to read the Word of God to find out God’s will about themselves.

From the first chapter of Genesis to the last chapter of Revelation, people witness God’s infinite love toward them.

Many families make special preparations before bringing their newborn child home. They renovate the nursery, buy a special bed, new clothes, hygiene items, colorful toys that will be attractive for the baby. They also read special books on how to properly take care of and bring up their child.

Let us see what our Heavenly Father, the Sovereign Lord of the universe, the Alpha and the Omega did:

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

“Then God said, ‘Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.’ Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

“Then God said, ‘Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear’; and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth’; and it was so... So the evening and the morning were the third day.

“Then God said, ‘Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth’; and it was so. Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day

and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

“...Then God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind’... and it was so. ...And God saw that it was good” (Gen. 1:1-25).

He created the whole universe in five days, and then He made the man and gave him authority over every created thing, and allowed him to enjoy the Garden of Eden.

How can we describe the planet Earth? Look at the sky, oceans, birds, reptiles and nature... with its indescribable beauty, variety of life forms, flowers and scents, as well as with its exceptional splendor, the Earth relates the nature of God and His attitude toward man:

«The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first

foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoptase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass» (Rev. 21:18-21).

In Philippians 4:19, it is written: “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus”. Each person must be completely free of their narrow-minded, fearful thinking. They need to devote at least a day of those that God gave them to study their surroundings and the nature in general. They need to look at the sky at different parts of the day, to admire the beauty of the clouds, sunrises and dawns, to delight in fascinating chirp and trill of birds, to be amazed with scents and colors of flowers and to be astonished at their variety. To

expand their thinking, people can attend zoological gardens and see the beauty and variety of insects, reptiles and animals, and reflect on who is God and on His attitude toward man.

DOES GOD WANT PEOPLE TO BE WEALTHY?

What does the Bible say about wealth? Let us read more Scriptures in addition to Philippians 4:19 quoted above. Does God want people to be wealthy?

“And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day” (Deut. 8:18).

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers” (3 Jn. 2).

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;” (Is. 61:1).

What good tidings or good news is this about?

“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich” (2 Cor. 8:9).

And it's not all. The whole Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is full of assurance and promises that confirm God's will about man's prosperity. Jesus Christ came into this world to proclaim the perfect will of God for all mankind: "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor" (Is. 61:1).

He not only proclaimed it, but also died on the Cross of Calvary to set people free from the curse of poverty by the power of the Cross.

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich" (2 Cor. 8:9).

Let us read more Scriptures:

"I went by the field of the lazy man, and by the vineyard of the man devoid of understanding; and there it was, all overgrown with thorns; its surface was covered with nettles; its stone wall was broken down. When I saw it, I considered it well; I looked on it and received instruction: a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands

to rest; so shall your poverty come like a prowler, and your need like an armed man.” (Pr. 24:30-34).

“Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, which, having no captain, overseer or ruler, provides her supplies in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest. How long will you slumber, O sluggard? When will you rise from your sleep?” (Pr. 6:6-9).

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (Jn. 10:10).

People choose themselves. Each person chooses whether to live by the laws of poverty or prosperity. It is up to them whether to live under the destroying yoke of poverty or to accept the proposal of abundance made to them by the power of the Cross of Calvary.

The Bible tells about the ways of acquiring wealth, but at the same time warns:

“The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it” (Pr. 10:22).

“He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like foliage” (Pr. 11:28).

“Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.” (Pr. 11:4).

“A faithful man will abound with blessings, but he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished” (Pr. 28:20).

“So Jesus answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time – houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions – and in the age to come, eternal life’” (Mk. 10:29-30).

Jesus does not want people to cling to their belongings or to other people. He wants each person to completely dedicate themselves to Him as it will give them opportunities to have more. His desire is that people have everything in abundance, but that abundance never becomes an idol to them. God wants to free people from the heavy burden of idolatry.

MAKE UP YOUR MIND AND CARRY IT OUT

To make each decision a reality, one needs to draft a series of steps and plan the accomplishment of every one of them. For example, if someone decides to lose weight, they draft and plan certain steps for that purpose. This might look as follows:

- consult a nutritionist;
- specify how much weight one needs to lose and in what period of time;
- choose a diet;
- get a gym membership, etc.

In the same way, when someone decides to achieve financial prosperity, they need to study the Word of God and to do it.

So then, what does the Word of God say?

- Do not hurry to be rich:

“... he who hastens to be rich will not go unpunished” (Pr. 28:20).

- Do not worry, but seek the Kingdom of Heaven (spiritual things):

“Then He said to His disciples, ‘Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds? And which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? If you then are not able to do the least, why are you anxious for the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith? And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of

the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Lk. 12:22-32).

God does not ignore the needs of people; it is just a matter of the priorities of the people themselves. When a person literally puts the Kingdom of God first in their life committing themselves fully to Christ and believes without doubting that their body is a Temple of God, He will give them clothes, a car and all other things necessary for good life, as all these goods are already provided by Him. "Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labor in which he toils under the sun all the days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage" (Eccl. 5:18).

- Be righteous:

"Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death" (Pr. 11:4).

“The righteous is delivered from trouble, and it comes to the wicked instead” (Pr. 11:8).

A person must be righteous in everything, from motives to actions.

- Be merciful and have love:

“Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either... And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For

He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you” (Lk. 6:28-38).

Many people focus on the last sentence: “Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together...” God will never trust any wealth to an unforgiving person who has no love. Each person must keep in mind that they will reap what they sow only in case they fulfill the whole passage quoted above.

- Give your tithes:

Offerings or gifts to God are important, but they are voluntary. However, giving the 10% of one’s income is obligatory for each Christian.

“...from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you,’ says the Lord of hosts. ‘But you said, ‘In what way shall we return?’ ‘Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,’ says the Lord of hosts, ‘If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,’ says the Lord of hosts” (Mal. 3:7-11).

We give our tithes not only for the House of God to abound with food, but also for Heaven to be open over us and for God to rebuke the devourer, so that we have no losses. And most importantly, by giving our tithes we demonstrate our faithfulness and trust to God.

- Always sow, regardless of circumstances

“There is one who scatters, yet increases more; and there is one who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty. The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself” (Pr. 11:24-25).

”He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap. As you do not know what is the way of the wind, or how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child, so you do not know the works of God who makes everything. In the morning sow your seed, and in the evening do not withhold your hand; for you do not know which will prosper, either this or that, or whether both alike will be good” (Eccl. 11:4-6).

A person must sow in any situation, and even more during an economic crisis, because Heaven is the source of his financial prosperity.

“Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” (Ps. 126:5-6).

Wellbeing of people whose hope is in the Lord does not depend on the government or the economy. God's people live by supernatural faith. Remember the story of a prophet's wife:

“A certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, saying, ‘Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the Lord. And the creditor is coming to take my two sons to be his slaves.’ So Elisha said to her, ‘What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?’ And she said, ‘Your maidservant has nothing in the house but a jar of oil.’ Then he said, ‘Go, borrow vessels from everywhere, from all your neighbors—empty vessels; do not gather just a few. And when you have come in, you shall shut the door behind you and your sons; then pour it into all those vessels, and set aside the full ones.’ So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured it out. Now it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said to her son, ‘Bring me another vessel.’ And he said to her, ‘There is not another vessel.’ So the oil

ceased. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, 'Go, sell the oil and pay your debt; and you and your sons live on the rest'" (2 Kgs. 4:1-7).

Let us also remember the story of the poor widow who believed the Word of God and gave her bread to the prophet despite the fact that her country was in economic crisis caused by draught.

"Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.' So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, 'Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink.' And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, 'Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.' So she said, 'As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.'

And Elijah said to her, ‘Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth.’” So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days. The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah” (1 Kgs. 17:8-16).

- Without faith it is impossible to please God

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebr. 11:6).

God gave faith to each person: “For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God

has dealt to each one a measure of faith” (Rom. 12:3). Nevertheless, we need to develop that faith.

Each person has muscles, but to develop them, they need to exercise. Faith is developed through reading the Word of God: “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17).

Let us lift our eyes to the Author and Finisher of our faith, Jesus Christ: “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebr. 12:2), and learn from Him.

God wants His people to have complete faith in His Word and to live well. That is why He promised to give seed to the sower: “Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God” (2 Cor. 9:10-11).

It is God’s children who finance advancement of the Gospel. The devil’s aim is that God-fearing Christians remain poor. How a person

who has nothing or barely scrapes by can finance advancement of the Gospel around the globe by making TV shows, Christian websites and high-quality Christian movies, printing books and showing support to the anointed ministers who bring the Gospel of salvation to the nations? How a Christian who lives in need can fulfill Matthew 25:34-40?

“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’”

Those who trust God can strengthen their faith by praying in the Holy Spirit: “But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit” (Jude 20).

Each believer, who gives offerings to carry out God’s will on the earth, must believe in the law of sowing and reaping and in the power of the seed. The seed sown by faith in good soil will certainly bear fruit.

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith” (Gal. 6:7-10).

- Completely submit to the will of God

God decides where a person shall live and He opens a person’s eyes to the calling they shall enter and serve Him with: “There was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days

of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines, in Gerar. Then the Lord appeared to him and said: ‘Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land of which I shall tell you’” (Gen. 26:1-2).

Isaac did not go to Egypt. “Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord blessed him. The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous; for he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds and a great number of servants. So the Philistines envied him” (Gen. 26:12-14).

- Do not be proud

God hates pride: “For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: ‘I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones’” (Is. 57:15).

Pride keeps people from receiving God’s blessings: “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall” (Pr. 16:18).

- Have expectation

The person who believes in his sowing, speaks words of faith and does works that prove his faith, pleases God. God expects our worship with demonstration of our love and faith.

“Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, ‘Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little’” (Lk. 7:44-47). “Then He said to the woman, ‘Your faith has saved you. Go in peace’” (Lk. 7:50).

God gave people so much in both spiritual and material spheres! And He has expectations for everything He gave. If God had no expectations

from people, the Bible wouldn't say: "But without faith it is impossible to please Him" (Hebr. 11:6).

Faith itself shows expectation. The woman who had issue of blood for more than twelve years, expected healing, and her expectation, manifested through faith, was answered: "Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. And Jesus said, 'Who touched Me?' When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, 'Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" But Jesus said, 'Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me.' Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. And He said to her, 'Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace.'" (Lk. 8:43-48).

When a person sows much, they must expect to reap much: “Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you” (Lk. 6:38).

Some preachers say: “Give out of love for God, expecting nothing.” It’s a grave error!

The Lord of the universe and our merciful Heavenly Father created man in His image and likeness: “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them” (Gen. 1:27). He wants man to be like Him in everything.

God is the greatest Giver. He gave man His image and endowed them with His own characteristics. Today people make amazing discoveries, create ingenious works of art and invent unthinkable things... how is it possible? The only answer is that God created man in His likeness.

Not only God created man in His likeness, He also gave people this marvelous planet of exceptional beauty, full of treasures.

He gave salvation to mankind, which is the greatest gift: “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast” (Eph. 2:8-9).

Through works, no one can deserve salvation, which is freedom from the demonic curse and death of this world, in order to spend the eternity with the King of kings and Lord of lords. To give this salvation to mankind, God gave His only begotten Son: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (Jn. 3:16). God gave His son expecting to adopt us.

God gave salvation to man. Just as each person has a nose, a mouth, eyes, etc., they also have faith: “...as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith” (Rom. 12:3).

God gave His Word to nurture and strengthen our faith: “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17).

In addition to all these, God also gave people

the gifts of the Spirit: “But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills” (1 Cor. 12:7-11).

Through these gifts, we receive the extraordinary instruments that are necessary to bring happiness to people’s lives.

Furthermore, God also gave us the fruit of the Holy Spirit: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law” (Gal. 5:22-23).

Through Jesus Christ, God gave all these gifts to those who became His sons and daughters.

He did it because of His love and WITH THE EXPECTATION that by applying His gifts they will help one another and reveal Him:

“Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give” (Mt. 10:8).

If God had no expectation at all and simply said: “I sacrifice My only begotten Son solely because of My love for mankind”, or “I give to people the gifts of the Holy Spirit, – working of miracles, prophecies, etc., – expecting nothing, as it is only an expression of My love”; how could people ever benefit from them? If he did not explain the purpose of the gifts, people could even misuse them and harm themselves or others. Actually, God gave everything having a higher purpose in mind and high expectations. The Lord of lords fulfills His dreams and desires through giving. He gave His only begotten Son and received us in return; He gave the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and He keeps receiving in return healed people and nations that find salvation.

REPENTANCE AND NEW LIFE

Let us return to the question raised at the beginning of the book: is poverty a mentality or a social status? If everything you have read so far made you realize that poverty is a mentality and that God of gods and the Ruler of the universe, Who is our Heavenly Father, wants people to live financially sound: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich”, you can repent and start a new life.

What shall one repent of and how? A person shall repent of not diligently obeying the Word of God and not observing carefully all His commandments. If they diligently obeyed the Word of God and carefully observed it, they would already enjoy the blessings from Deuteronomy 28:1-14: “Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God,

to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God: Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out. The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you. The Lord will establish you as a holy people to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep

the commandments of the Lord your God and walk in His ways. Then all peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the Lord, and they shall be afraid of you. And the Lord will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you. The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them. So you shall not turn aside from any of the words which I command you this day, to the right or the left, to go after other gods to serve them.”

We must repent of religious mentality, also of unbelief and lack of faith. If a person completely trusted the Word of God, they would come to their

heavenly Father in time of need and did what the Bible says, while they hastily lend money from their neighbor instead of developing their God-given faith. Afterwards they decide that having a business can help and without receiving leading from God and assigning time to reflect on the Word of God, as written to Joshua 1:8: “This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success”, they hastily take a loan, which starts to grow like a snowball rolling down the hill, and with time, forces them out to far-away lands.

They must repent, as when they received a sign from Heaven to stop parading in debt and close their ‘business’ that was on the verge of bankruptcy, they did not obey and suffered all the consequences. Their mind was so occupied with lust for wealth, or they struggled so hard to come

out of the yoke of debt that they forgot the God Who gives power to get wealth.

“And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day” (Deut. 8:18).

They forgot the Word of God: “Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain” (Ps. 127:1) and tried to keep their family from poverty by their own strength.

Each person who comes to this world has a calling, and God is the One Who decides what they shall do in this life: “Surely you have things turned around! Shall the potter be esteemed as the clay; for shall the thing made say of him who made it, ‘He did not make me’? Or shall the thing formed say of him who formed it, ‘He has no understanding’?” (Isaiah 29:16). People must repent of not humbling themselves before the Lord Who created them and not asking Him: “Lord, what do you want me to do and how shall I do it?”

David knew that he was fulfilling God's desire when he decided to carry the Arc of the Covenant, but he did not ask the Lord about how to do it. He reserved to himself the right to decide how to carry what belonged to God. "Then David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, and with every leader... '...let us bring the ark of our God back to us...' ...So they carried the ark of God on a new cart from the house of Abinadab, and Uzza and Ahio drove the cart" (1 Ch. 13:1-14). However, the oxen stumbled and Uzza put out his hand to hold the Ark. The Lord became angry and struck Uzza. Uzza's death sobered David up; he stopped. Only some time later when he found out the perfect will of God, he carried the Arc of the Covenant in a proper way, according to God's will. "Then David said, 'No one may carry the ark of God but the Levites, for the Lord has chosen them to carry the ark of God and to minister before Him forever'... He said to them, 'You are the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites; sanctify yourselves, you and your

brethren, that you may bring up the ark of the Lord God of Israel to the place I have prepared for it. For because you did not do it the first time, the Lord our God broke out against us, because we did not consult Him about the proper order.’ ...And the children of the Levites bore the ark of God on their shoulders, by its poles, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the Lord” (1 Ch. 15:2-15).

Unfortunately, many do not come to their senses even having gone through troubles; they still do not understand the need to reconsider their relationship with the Lord of lords. Each person is to ask God: “Lord, You have created my bones, and Your breath is in my nostrils; what dreams and visions do You have for my life?”

So many things in a person’s life depends on whether they are in their true calling. If a person called by God to be an evangelist becomes a pastor, not only the church suffers, but also this evangelist turned pastor and his whole family. When a person called to be a teacher becomes a politician

or a businessperson, not only this politician or businessperson and the people around them suffer, but those who were to receive life-changing revelations from that might-have-been teacher.

“The wealthiest spot on this planet is not the oil fields of Kuwait, Iraq, or Saudi Arabia. Neither is it the gold and diamond mines of South Africa, the uranium mines of the Soviet Union, or the silver mines of Africa.

Though it may surprise you, the richest deposits on our planet lie just a few blocks from your house. They rest in your local cemetery or graveyard. Buried beneath the soil within the walls of those sacred grounds are dreams that never came to pass, songs that were never sung, books that were never written, paintings that never filled a canvas, ideas that were never shared, visions that never became reality, inventions that were never designed, plans that never went beyond the drawing board of the mind, and purposes that were never fulfilled. Our graveyards are filled

with potential that remained potential. What a tragedy!*

A person must repent of neglecting the Cross of the Calvary and the power of the blood of Jesus: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich” (2 Cor. 8:9) and allowing the financial blessings intended for them to be left hanging up in the air. And the tragedy is that they have not even allowed themselves to use such words as ‘wealth’ and ‘prosperity’.

Many spared no efforts to avoid expressions like ‘a wealthy Christian’ or ‘a prosperous Christian’, while the Bible calls things by their proper names. They must repent of such religiosity! What does hinder them from saying it? FEAR! Some are afraid that God’s people can lust after wealth and fall into idolatry, forsaking the God Who created them. Such people must repent

* Myles Monroe, Understanding Your Potential

twice. First, of their fear, as God did not give us a spirit of fear: “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind” (2 Tim. 1:7). Second, they shall repent of not receiving deeper teaching from the Word of God about God’s ways of growing rich.

The teachings we received and the life we built on their basis were just enough not to starve, to supply minimal daily living needs and to partly cover household running costs. We get what we speak.

People must repent of having no expectation after making offerings, and even speaking negative words. They must repent that they did not water their seeds with faith-filled proclamations, that they renounced the power of the Word and proclamations.

“A man’s stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth; from the produce of his lips he shall be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit” (Pr. 18:20-21).

It was by the power of the Word that the heavens and the earth, the visible and the invisible things, and things we yet have no clue about were created.

By the power of the Word proclaimed by faith, the fig tree withered away: "...as He (Jesus) returned to the city, He was hungry. And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, 'Let no fruit grow on you ever again.' Immediately the fig tree withered away" (Mt. 21:18-20).

By the power of the Word, the storm was calmed: "But as they sailed He fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water, and were in jeopardy. ...Then He arose and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water. And they ceased, and there was a calm" (Lk. 8:23-24).

As I already wrote, man is created in God's image and likeness, and God says: "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do

not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” (Is. 55:10-11). The words coming from mouths of people turn to actions as well.

When a person repents of all these and of other sins that the Holy Spirit will remind them, they can proclaim the following in their life:

“Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you” (Is. 60:1-2).

People can pray to the Lord of lords, and He will restore the things that are lost, as He says in His word: “So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the crawling locust,

the consuming locust, and the chewing locust, my great army which I sent among you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you..." (Jl 2:25-26).

We must pray with the authority that Jesus Christ gave to each believer.

Kenneth Hagin, a famous American preacher, wrote in his book "The Believer's Authority": "In 1952, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to me in a vision and talked to me for about an hour and a half about the devil, demons, and demon possession. At the end of that vision, an evil spirit that looked like a little monkey or elf ran between Jesus and me and spread something like a smoke screen or dark cloud. Then this demon began jumping up and down, crying in a shrill voice, 'Yakety-yak, yakety-yak, yakety-yak.' I couldn't see Jesus or understand what He was saying. (Through this entire experience, Jesus was teaching me something. And if you'll be attentive, you'll find the answer here to many things that

have troubled you.) I couldn't understand why Jesus allowed the demon to make such a racket. I wondered why Jesus didn't rebuke the demon so I could hear what He was saying. I waited a few moments, but Jesus didn't take any action against the demon. Jesus was still talking, but I couldn't understand a word He was saying—and I needed to, because He was giving instructions concerning the devil, demons, and how to exercise authority. I thought to myself, Doesn't the Lord know I'm not hearing what He wanted me to? I need to hear that. I'm missing it! I almost panicked. I became so desperate I cried out, 'In the Name of Jesus, you foul spirit, I command you to stop!' The minute I said that, the little demon hit the floor like a sack of salt, and the black cloud disappeared. The demon lay there trembling, whimpering, and whining like a whipped pup. He wouldn't look at me. 'Not only shut up, but get out of here in Jesus' Name!' I commanded. He ran off."

Hagin was amazed that Jesus did nothing to drive the demon away. Jesus the Savior answered

him from the Scriptures. It is not that He did not want to help Hagin; He simply could not do it. According to the New Testament, He already gave this authority to the Church. Jesus is the head of the Church, and the Church is His Body. Jesus explained to Hagin: “Not one single time in the New Testament is the Church ever told to pray that God the Father or Jesus would do anything against the devil. In fact, to do so is to waste your time. The believer is told to do something about the devil. ... unless believers do something about the devil, nothing will be done in a lot of areas.*”

Thus, all the prayers of people who asked God the Father or Jesus Christ to heal, save or solve financial or any other problems, are ineffectual. All of them will remain unanswered and it is not because God the Father or Jesus do not want to do anything; it is because They cannot: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away” (Mk. 13:31). According to the Word, Jesus by the will of the Father already gave

* Kenneth Hagin, *The Believer's Authority*

this authority to those who believe Him: “Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you” (Lk. 10:19). It is also written in 1 Peter 5:8-9: “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”

Note that according to the Word, the devil is the adversary (in the Armenian translation: the worst enemy), not just an opponent. This means that he wants to unsparingly torment and destroy each person. People themselves must be sober and vigilant; they must be steadfast in the faith, so that the devil takes flight, overcome and unable to reach his goal. People cannot ask Jesus “Lord, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!”, if they have not commanded the devil to flee in the name of Jesus. Of course, our Lord saves, our Lord shows mercy, but no matter how much He loves a person, He can

do nothing about it as He says in His Word: “And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it” (Jn. 14:13-14).

In the original Greek text, the word ‘demand’ is used instead of the word ‘ask’ in the translation. In Acts 3:6, Peter demanded the healing of the man born lame in the name of Jesus.

People must clearly understand that they do not demand from God; they demand from the devil, as by the power of the Cross of Calvary, Jesus the Savior already gave everything to those who received Him as their Lord and Savior. Those who believe in the power of the Cross of Jesus simply use their privileges.

It’s written in John 16:23-24: “And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.” In the original Greek, it is written: “Whatever you demand as your right and privilege...”

Each believer must be aware of their rights and use the authority entrusted to them by Jesus Christ against the devil. The devil always prevents us from receiving everything Jesus gave to mankind at the cost of His blood and by the power of the Cross of Calvary.

Some Christians even avoid speaking about the devil as if he does not exist at all. It is an error. Not only the devil exists; he is also the ruler of this world: “I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me” (Jn. 14:30). Each person must realize and deeply understand the truth and not be afraid of the devil but destroy his plans and works in the name of Jesus Christ. “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand” (Eph. 6:10-13).

If a Christian does not exercise the authority given to them by Jesus Christ, they neglect the power of the Cross and do not use all that is given to them at the price of the blood of Jesus Christ. Each believer must not only use the power given to them by Jesus Christ, but also recognize the authority of the name of Jesus. Each Christian must understand to the depth that their authority over the devil is valid solely because of the name of Jesus Christ: “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth’” (Mt. 28:18).

The name of Jesus means “Savior”. To be saved does not simply mean to receive the new birth from above in order to spend the eternity with Jesus. The name of Jesus (Savior) means salvation from all kinds of curses, fears, diseases, poverty and all negative things. “And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel

to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover” (Mk. 16:15-18).

The name of Jesus Christ is at the foundation of God’s miracles. However, simply pronouncing the name of Jesus Christ will avail nothing to a person if they do not understand to the depth that they need to have complete trust toward the omnipotence of the Bearer of this name. The Lord of lords works miracles FOR THE SAKE OF this NAME. The Bible itself says it: “And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full” (Jn. 16:23-24).

Only those who accepted Jesus Christ as the

only Lord and Savior of their lives and repented of all their knowingly and unknowingly committed sins can exercise the authority of the name of Jesus Christ. Otherwise, the devil will not submit to them and will continue to ruin their lives.

It is written in Acts 19:13-16 that when the sons of Sceva saw the miracles of Jesus and His disciples, they tried to use the name of Jesus themselves. They did not want to follow Jesus or advance the Kingdom of God with the disciples; they simply sought their own benefit: “Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, ‘We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.’ Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, ‘Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?’ Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.”

The name of Jesus has absolute authority over everything, and the goal of this authority is to destroy the works of the devil and to fulfill the will of God.

“But this is a people robbed and plundered; all of them are snared in holes, and they are hidden in prison houses; they are for prey, and no one delivers; for plunder, and no one says, ‘RESTORE!’ (in the Armenian translation: ‘GIVE BACK!’)” (Is. 42:22).

You must say: “Devil, restore! By the power of the Cross of Calvary, I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to give back everything that belongs to me! In the name of Jesus Christ, I demand you to restore... (each can list all the things the devil has stolen from them, their finances, house, happiness, etc.).”

Each person must realize that the reason of their misfortune is hidden in their own character, in ignorance of the Word of God and in the character of the devil as well, as it is written: “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and

to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (Jn. 10:10).

Please remember that before praying this prayer, you need to repent of everything listed above.

The love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.



In this book, **GAYANE HAKOBYAN** writes about God's attitude toward personal financial blessing and points to the keys with which one can enter into this blessing.

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