



making a **difference**



“Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the LORD. That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives.



“But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.” Jer. 17



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This is God's Word for my life in this Place and at this Time. Today I am a new creation in Christ, I am God's very own, and I KNOW He has a purpose for my life.



GOD will form you as a people holy to him, just as he promised you, if you keep the commandments of GOD, your God, and live the way he has shown you.

All the peoples on Earth will see you living under the Name of GOD and hold you in respectful awe.



God will lavish you with good things: children from your womb, offspring from your animals, and crops from your land, the land that God promised your ancestors that he would give you. God will throw open the doors of his sky vaults and pour rain on your land on schedule and bless the work you take in



hand. You will lend to many nations but you yourself won't have to take out a loan. GOD will make you the head, not the tail; you'll always be the top dog, never the bottom dog, as you obediently listen to and diligently keep the commands of GOD, your God, that I am commanding you today.



Don't swerve an inch to the right or left from the words that I command you today by going off following and worshiping other gods.

Deuteronomy 28:9-16



THE PROBLEMS WITH PLENTY



“Make sure that when you eat and are satisfied, build pleasant houses and settle in, see more and more money come in, watch your standard of living going up—make sure you don’t become so full of yourself and your things that you forget GOD, your God.” Deut 8:13-14 (Msg)



Seeds of Arrogance: *one's superiority toward others*



Seeds of Indulgence: *What's in it for me?*



Seeds of Despair: “a chasing after the wind...”



Stewardship

being committed to the mission of God



Calling: *being formed as a holy people*

Confidence: *personally connected to God*

Control: *a purposeful use of resources*

Contribution: *people will see you and be in awe*



“The incomplete joys of this world will never satisfy the Human Heart.”

Alexis de Tocqueville