

**5 March 2023**

**How to Prosper in all Areas of Your Life**

The Merriam Webster dictionary defines prosperity as: **the state of being prosperous or successful.**

The Bible states that the way to true prosperity is found in the Word of God Joshua 1:8.

**True prosperity is not just being rich:** Luke 12:16-21 the parable of the rich fool.

The Jewish people greet each other with the word “Shalom”.

According to Mounce’s Dictionary- **shalom**: “In addition to “peace,” this word can be translated as “**prosperity**, well-being, health, completeness, safety.” Mounce, W. D. (2006). In Mounce’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words (p. 546). Zondervan.

True prosperity is found in salvation in Jesus. Let us examine the fullness of salvation in Jesus.

1. To understand the fullness of our salvation we need to realize that we are tri-partite beings. Each person is a spirit, who has a soul (mind, will and emotions) and lives in a body. 1 Thess 5:23.
  - 1.1 Salvation is forgiveness of all our sins, receiving eternal life – John 3:16-17, Rom 10:9-10.
  - 1.2 Eternal life begins as soon as we receive Jesus John 5:24. Our spirit is indwelt by the Holy Spirit and we are born again. We become **spiritually prosperous** and enter into the truly abundant life. Rom 14:17, 2 Cor 5:21
- 2 Our soul (mind, will and emotions) prospers as we trust in Jesus. 3 John 2
  - 2.1 We are blessed in our souls by the Lord with His peace, love and joy (Rom 5:1-2, John 14:27, Rom 14:17). Rich people who don’t know the Lord don’t have that peace, joy and love of God.
  - 2.2 In addition, as we go through life we are transformed to be like Christ by the process called sanctification. (2 Cor 3:18)., We receive true **soul prosperity** through Jesus: peace and joy with our Father in Heaven –John 17:3, Phil 4:6-7.
- 3 We experience bodily blessings now and in the resurrection we’ll have glorious bodies like Jesus’ body 1 John 3:2
  - 3.1 Jesus provides healing for our bodies Isa 53:4-5, 1 Pet 2:24
  - 3.2 Jesus provides for all our financial needs, food, clothing and housing, as we trust Him. Matt 6:31-33, Phil 3:19. We demonstrate our trust in Jesus by faithfully supporting the work of the church 2 Cor 9:6-11,

Conclusion: Jesus brought us the prosperous life for our spirit, soul and body. He taught how everyone could receive and experience this life. Receive Jesus as your Savior and follow Him. He will lead you into a prosperous life in all three areas of your life: spirit, soul and body, even in financially difficult times.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is a prosperous life in spirit, soul and body? 2 Cor 5:21, Rom 14:17, Phil 3:19, 1 Pet 2:24.
2. According to Romans 10:9-10, what must we do to enter the prosperous life?
3. What do Phil 4:6-7 and Matt 6:31-33 say we must do to experience a prosperous life daily?