

HEROES

NORMAL CHRISTIAN LIVING

Supernatural Provision

God is in the Habit of Providing Supernaturally for His People

Elijah and the Widow – 1 Kings 17

15 She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. 16 For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

The Israelites in the wilderness – Deut 8

3 He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then fed you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.
4 Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years.

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Jesus feeding the 5000 – Matt 14

17 "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.....

20 They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

21 The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Paying taxes – Matt 17

"But so that we may not offend them, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."

1. God is **still** in the habit of providing supernaturally for His People

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to **prosper you** and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Phil 4:19

And my God will supply **all your needs** according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

3 John 1:2

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in **all things** and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

2 Cor 9:8

And God is able to provide you with **every blessing** in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work.

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2. Why

2 Cor 9:8

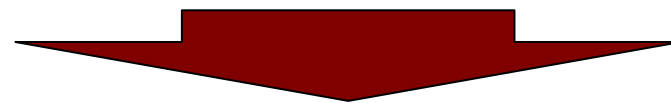
And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every **good work**.

Genesis 12:2

And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that **you will be a blessing**.

Proverbs 11:25

A **generous man** will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.



To Build His Kingdom and ...

2. Not to make you wealthy!

Matthew 6:21

For where your **treasure** is, there your heart will be also.

Who, or is it **What** do we treasure

Luke 18:24 - 25

Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

"I'll say this for adversity—people seem to be able to stand it, which is more than I can say for prosperity."

Kin Hubbard (Cartoonist late 1800's)

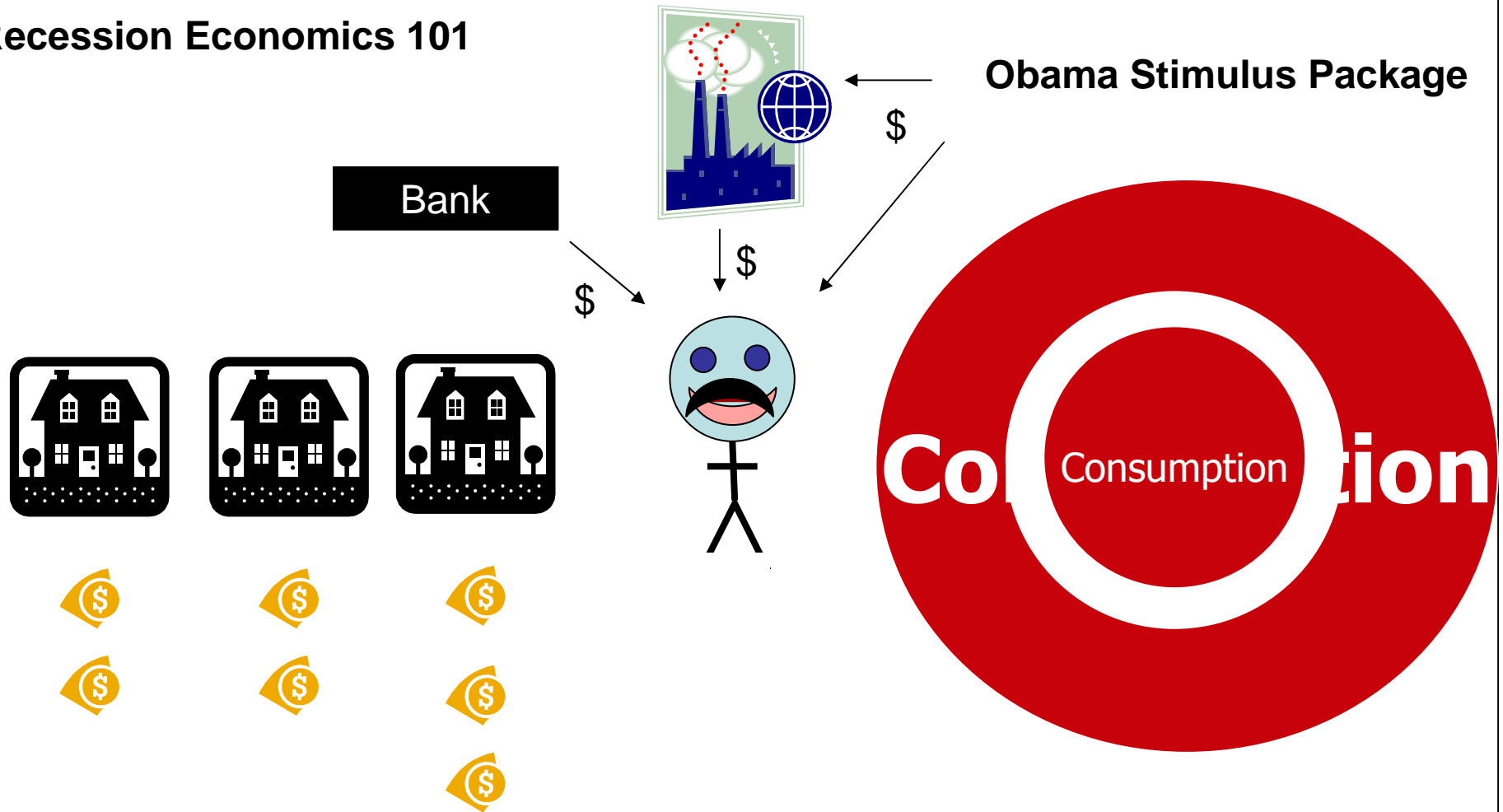


Until you realise the impotence of money, you will never be free from its pursuit nor be free of the influence and domination of the spirit behind it

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2. Stewardship is the key that unlocks supernatural provision

Recession Economics 101



3. Stewardship is the key that unlocks supernatural provision

Stewardship is the character trait that results when spiritual revelation, skilful competence and excellence combine and define the way we live.

Matthew 6:33

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Daniel 1

8 But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way....

18 At the end of the time set by the king to bring them in, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar.

19 The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel *and his 3 friends*; so they entered the king's service.

20 In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

4. Stewardship 101

Faith

Heb 11:6

Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Integrity

Matthew 5:37

Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

Sowing and Reaping

2 Cor 9:6

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will reap generously.

4. Stewardship 101

Typical Problem Areas

1. Consumption greater than income
2. Desire to have it all now
But Godliness with contentment is great gain. 1 Tim 6:6
3. Debt

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Deuteronomy 8 – The Israelites in the wilderness

The Instruction

- 1 Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land that the LORD promised on oath to your forefathers.
- 2 Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to **humble** you and to test you in order to **know** what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.
- 3 He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then fed you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.
- 4 Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years.
- 5 Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God **disciplines** you.

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Deuteronomy 8 - The Israelites in the wilderness

The Promise

6 Observe the commands of the LORD your God, walking in his ways and revering him.

7 For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with streams and pools of water, with springs flowing in the valleys and hills;

8 a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey;

9 a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.

God's Purpose – To Build His Kingdom

Deuteronomy 8

The Warning

10 When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

11 Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day.

12 Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down,

13 and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied,

14 then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.