

**Transforming Daily**  
*“ . . . blessed the work of his hands . . . ”*  
*Job 1:10*

I love the way this statement is worded, “blessed the work of his hands.” So many people want God’s blessings, or in more practical terms, material wealth, that they turn to God as if He is a genie in a bottle rather than the God of the Bible. Their claims of Scripture are erroneous, and self-indulgent (at times, all of us are guilty of this). Here it is evident in the book of Job that God blessed the work of Job’s hands and did not give it to him “on a silver platter,” as it were.

Job was God fearing, obedient, faithful, blameless, and upright. He was a family man who loved his wife and children. He was also hardworking and responsible, and he allowed himself to be held accountable by God and for the things of God. He was a man of prayer and worship. One can only surmise that he was active in his community and cared for the poor.

So the question is, “Was Job blessed materially because of this, or because of this was he blessed materially? It reminds me of the question, “Does the man make the suit, or does the suit make the man?” I believe it is a little bit of both. The suit should not dictate how a man lives, but it should be used to facilitate who he already is. The same is with Job. God gave Job life and certain circumstances along with it (all of which are not here disclosed). Job being who Job was used what it was that God gave him, in the fear and the admonition of the Lord, and he used it for His glory. In turn, God further blessed the work of his hands.

The single difficulty for most who want material blessing from God’s hand to realize is that they haven’t first sought after His face, that is, to have a personal relationship with Him and a strong, faithful, growing, ongoing fellowship with Him for no other reason than He is God. They look for the end to justify the means. They look at someone who has a personal relationship with God and a strong, faithful, growing, ongoing fellowship with Him for no other reason than Him being God, see that they have a fancy car, nice house, abundant wealth, etc., and immediately the on looker wants to know how they can get the same life and materials (read Matthew chapters 5-7, but in particularly ch. 6).

Here’s another popular axiom. “There is nothing wrong with having things as long as those things don’t have you.” What I call “duality of possession” almost makes that impossible, unless one understands that things are just tools to do the work of the ministry. Life’s pursuit should be after God, His holiness, His righteousness, and His justice. Solomon said it this way, in Ecclesiastes 12:13, “Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all.”

What about your life? Are you pursuing after things asking God to bless the pursuit and the end result thereof, or are you pursuing after God and thanking Him for the abundant life we already have in Christ? Do the material blessings that God has given you make your life, or are you making your life from the things that God has blessed you with materially? Are you one that is said of, God blessed the work of his hands?