

FROM BONDAGE TO BLESSING
TEXT: Deuteronomy 8:1–18 (NKJV)

INTRO: Many people think God only wants something from them, but the Bible reveals that God wants something wonderful for them. From Genesis to Revelation, we see a God who delights in blessing His people. He blessed Adam and Eve, Abraham, Israel, and through Christ has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

The challenge has never been God's willingness to bless. The real question is whether we will remember Him after the blessing comes. Before Israel entered the Promised Land, Moses reminded them not to forget the God who brought them through the wilderness. God wasn't just leading them into a new land, He was preparing their hearts for the blessing.

God wants to move us from bondage to blessing, but He prepares our hearts before He enlarges our lives.

1. Don't Waste Your Wilderness

Deuteronomy 8:2–5

The wilderness was not a punishment; it was a classroom. During those forty years God was shaping Israel's character before giving them His promises. God used the wilderness to humble them, reveal what was in their hearts, teach them daily dependence, and prove His faithfulness. Even when life was difficult, God never abandoned them. Their clothes did not wear out, and He faithfully provided every day.

Sometimes our hardest seasons become God's greatest opportunities to prepare us. Delays do not mean God has forgotten us. Often, He is developing us before He promotes us. If you're in a difficult season, don't lose heart. God may be preparing you for something greater than you can currently see. Don't waste your wilderness—allow God to build your faith and your character. Before God blesses our hands, He prepares our hearts.

2. Don't Mistake Your Resource for Your Source

Deuteronomy 8:6–10, 17–18

Moses described the incredible abundance waiting in the Promised Land, but he also gave a warning. Prosperity can become a greater spiritual test than hardship if we begin believing we are the source of our success. Our jobs, income, talents, and opportunities are resources, but God is the Source behind them all. Every ability we have comes from Him.

Deuteronomy 8:18 reminds us that it is God who gives us the power, strength, and ability to produce wealth. Practice gratitude every day. Thank God for your work, your family, your health, and every opportunity He provides.

Gratitude keeps us humble and reminds us that everything we have comes from Him. Never allow God's gifts to become more important than the God who gave them.

3. Don't Let the Blessing Make You Forget the Blessor

Deuteronomy 8:11–18- Moses' strongest warning was simple: "**Beware that you do not forget the Lord.**"

Forgetting God usually happens gradually. Gratitude fades, pride grows, and before long we begin believing that our success is the result of our own efforts. God calls us to intentionally remember Him in every season. Whether we are walking through the wilderness or living in the blessing, our hearts should remain thankful, humble, and dependent upon Him.

A grateful heart protects us from pride and keeps our relationship with God strong. Make remembering God a daily habit through worship, prayer, obedience, generosity, and thanksgiving. The greatest blessing is not what God gives us, it is walking closely with Him. The goal is not simply receiving God's blessings but remaining close to the One who blesses us.

CONCLUSION: God is a blessing God. He delivers us from bondage, walks with us through the wilderness, and leads us to His promises. Yet His greatest desire is not simply to bless us with more—it is to draw us into a deeper relationship with Him.

Whatever season you are in today, remember this:

- God is preparing you.
- God is providing for you.
- God is faithful to you.

Never forget the One who brought you out, brought you through, and will faithfully bring you into everything He has promised.

Tithes and Offering help us to Remembering God, we do that Through our Giving. One of the greatest ways we remember God is by honoring, also showing gratitude towards Him is with our tithes and offerings.

Giving is not paying God, it is worship. It is our way of saying:

- "Everything I have comes from You."
- "You are my Source."
- "Thank You for Your faithfulness."

As we give today, let's give with grateful hearts, remembering that every blessing we have begins with our faithful God.