

"THE DEFINITION OF "PROSPEROUS LIVING"**1. To Prosper is to be advancing in a positive direction . . . A form of the word "prosper" appears over 80 times in the Old and New Testaments.**

The most common Hebrew word for "prosper" is tsalach (tsaw-lakh'). It means "to advance, make progress, succeed, be profitable. To bring to full use; to experience prosperity."

The Hebrew word shalom (shaw-lome'), which English has adopted to mean peace, is translated "prosperous" also; which means "completeness, safety, health, soundness, and contentment."

. . . the seed shall be prosperous, the ground shall give increase, . . . I will save you and you will be a blessing. Zech 8:12,13

God Himself said, "I will not leave you or forsake you". . .we can say with confidence the Lord is my helper. Hebrews 13:5-7

2. Prosperity is a blessing from the Lord when God's people are sincerely following his ways . . .

"Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of the mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord . . . whatever he does prospers." Psalm 1:3

"Do not let this Book of Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful and do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." Joshua 1:8

"Keep the charge of the Lord and walk in His ways . . ." 1 Kings 2:3

3. To Prosper is to be at peace and confident of God's involvement in your life . . .

It simply means that we are living according to God's principles and experiencing His blessing, and thus, successfully journeying through our pilgrimage here on earth free from greed, worry, and bondage . . .

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." 3 John 1:3

The Greek word "prosper" here is euodoo (yoo-od-o'-o), which means "to have a successful journey through life."

"But godliness with contentment is great gain." 1 Tim 6:6-8

4. Prosperity is the ability to be generous and honor God with your riches, time and talents

Another Hebrew word for "prosper" is sakal (saw-kal') [same word for "success"], which means "to be prudent, to consider, be circumspect. In other words, to be cautious and good stewards of what God gives us.

. . . You are "to be rich in good deeds . . ." 1 Tim 6:17-19

Timothy 4:4-8

4 "For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, 5 because it is *consecrated by the word of God and prayer*. 6 If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. 7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, *holding promise for both the present life and the life to come*."

Titus 3:4-8

3 "But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. 8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone."