

# ***“The Prosperity Gospel Perversion”***

What is the Prosperity Gospel? **Galatians 1:6-9; 1 Timothy 1:3.**

(Definition from Wikipedia)

Who Teaches It: Joel Osteen, Kenneth Copeland, Creflo Dollar, Kenneth Hagin, Jesse Duplantis, Bill Winston, **Romans 16:17-18.**

## **I. It Gives Us A False View Of The Gospel.**

**Proverbs 3:9-10; Matthew 7:7-11; John 10:10; 3 John 1-2.**

Why It Is False:

- (1) The Gospel saves from sin— NOT poverty, lack, sickness, or suffering!  
**Titus 2:14; 1 Timothy 2:4.** Why aren't all Christians wealthy?
- (2) Although there were men who had abundance in the Bible (Abraham, Issac, Jacob, Job, Solomon...), Not all were: Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Jesus **Matthew 8:20**, the disciples **Acts 3:5-6**, Paul the apostle **2 Timothy 4:13, 2 Corinthians 8:1-2.**
- (3) Why Aren't All Christians Healthy?  
Many Christians suffered for their faith and still got sick.  
**Philippians 4:4; 2 Timothy 3:12-13;** The disciples' deaths; **Revelation 2:8-10.**  
Lazarus **John 11**, Dorcas **Acts 9**, Epaphroditus **Philippians 2:25-30.**

## **II. It Makes Our Prosperity More Important To Us Than God.**

- (1) It makes money the goal and God the means to get rich!
- (2) We are enticed to serve God ONLY for what He offers us: **Job 1:8-12.**
- (3) It Makes receiving more blessed than giving **Acts 20:35.**

## **III. It Ignores The Bible's Warnings On Wealth & Materialism.**

- It can cause us to forget God **Deuteronomy 8:12-16.**
- It can cause us to stray from God **1 Timothy 6:9-10.**
- It can cause us to lay up treasures here **1 Timothy 6:17-19; Matthew 6:19-21.**

## **IV. It Focuses On What You Can Have Now— Not In Eternity.**

- (1) “Your Best Life Now”
- (2) **Hebrews 11:8-10;**
- (3) Moses in **11:24-26;**
- (4) Old Testament “Faithfuls” **11:32-40.**

## **V. It Destroys Our Contentment In Christ.**

**Philippians 4:11-13; 1 Timothy 6:5-8.**

## **VI. It Causes People To Become Judges Of Evil Thoughts.**

**James 2:1-5.** Who are the Righteous Ones?

Conclusion: **1 Thessalonians 2:1-12.**