

SERMON STUDY NOTES

23rd February 2020
Speaker: Martin Armstrong

Curses for Disobedience

1. John 10:10 makes it clear that there are forces of both good and evil in this world. Why are some cultural groups and nationalities more aware of the realities of these things than others?
2. Can anyone share a story of a person they know, or have heard about, who had/s been subjected to a curse? Do you believe that curses can affect whole nations?
3. A strong faith in Jesus Christ can displace the fear of a curse and bring protection. Discuss how these two verses help in this regard. **1 John 4:18** *There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.* **Proverbs 26:2** *a curse without cause will not alight on the head of a righteous person.*
4. Just as we warn our children to stay away from hot fires and busy streets...God warns us to stay away from dangerous actions and situations. What are the dangers mentioned in **Exodus 20:2-6** and **Deut 27:15**.

5. **Deuteronomy 28** lists blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience. Go around your group and each list a blessing and a curse. From these lists do you believe that you are living a blessed life? A key indicator is **verse 13**. Are you the head or the tail in the situations that you encounter in life?

6. By worshipping other Gods we give Satan access into our lives that cause us harm. Curses can come upon us because of idolatry, participation in the occult, secret societies, direct defiant disobedience to God - such as sexual immorality, theft, and injustice. We give spiritual authority to whatever we worship. Discuss.

7. Curses may be directed at us by others because of: hatred, envy, greed, jealousy, the use of magic, voodoo, spiritual conflict and the desire for revenge. Emotionally, curses produce confusion, despair and an inability to think straight. Are you aware of these things happening in your life or in the lives of others?

8. God provided the means for breaking curses by Christ's death on the cross. Read & discuss Galatians 3:13,14

9. Jesus said in **Matthew 6.21** *"The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being."* If we treasure Jesus and His kingdom as our salvation, and eternal future...we will shape our lives around these things and be guided to choose what is best. We can accept Christ's salvation, but we are still required to listen and obey what he tells us. Discuss.

10. The cross is like a large stop sign telling Satan he cannot go past it. Can you identify any idols and strongholds in your life that could be blockages to the flow of God's fruitfulness in your life? Say to yourself "*2020 is going to be the year when these old patterns are not going to continue*".

Meditate and pray through the words of the proclamation below to break curses and the power of devil.

Through the Blood of Jesus, I am redeemed out of the hand of the devil.

Through the Blood of Jesus, all my sins are forgiven.

The Blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, continually cleanses me from all sin.

Through the Blood of Jesus, I am justified, made righteous, just-as-if I had never sinned.

Through the Blood of Jesus, I am sanctified, made holy, set apart to God.

My body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit, redeemed cleansed by the Blood of Jesus.

I testify to Satan personally as to what the Bible says the Blood of Jesus does for me.

Satan has no place in me, no power over me, through the Blood of Jesus.

I will be obedient to what God tells me to do.