You’ve Already Got It!

So Quit Trying to Get It

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.
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**Introduction**

Like the dog on the cover, most Christians spend their entire lives chasing something they already have. They’re always asking the Lord to do something—to bless, heal, deliver, or prosper them—when in truth, they are seeking what they’ve already been given. They believe God can do anything, but not that He has (past tense) done very much.

However, the book of Ephesians was written from an entirely different perspective: Everything has already been accomplished in Christ and given to the born-again believer. It’s both already done and already ours!

A victorious Christian isn’t seeking victory but rather enforces the victory already won through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We aren’t trying to win a battle. We’re coming from a battle that has already been won! Jesus has conquered, and we’re enforcing His conquest. (Rom. 8:37.)

As believers, we aren’t trying to get something from God; we’re fighting to receive the full manifestation of what’s already ours in Christ. We aren’t trying to get healed; we’re fighting because we’ve already been healed, and the devil is trying to steal it. We aren’t begging God to prosper us financially; we’re fighting the good fight of faith to see the prosperity that’s already been given to us manifest. We aren’t asking God to bless us, because He’s already commanded His blessing upon us. Through believing we’ve already got it, talking like we’ve already got it, and acting like we’ve already got it—we appropriate what the Lord has provided.
It's Already Done!

Understanding that God has already blessed, healed, and prospered you removes the legalistic performance mentality. You won’t struggle under feelings of condemnation and unworthiness anymore, because you’ll recognize that everything has already been given. In fact, it was supplied long before you ever came along. And since it’s a gift (not based on your performance), your worthiness—or lack thereof—has nothing to do with it!

How can you doubt that God would give you something that you know He’s already supplied? You can’t! The knowledge that He’s already done it eliminates all doubt. No more will you pray, “O God, I know You can, but will You please do it for me?” You’ll know that it’s already done. The question is: Will you receive?

If you understand and embrace these truths, you’ll be ruined for much of what’s being called Christianity today. The proclamation that “God can heal, bless, deliver, and prosper you” sounds good on the surface but is just a profession of what can happen. The Word declares, “God has already healed, blessed, delivered, and prospered you.” Can you see the difference?

Enjoy God’s Provision

This book contains the truths you need to begin experiencing a much greater manifestation of God’s power in your life. Your faith will be quickened, your heart encouraged, and your feet firmly set on His pathway of victory.

Stop chasing your tail, and start enjoying God’s abundant provision!
CHAPTER 1

How Desperate Are You?

While ministering once in a church, I noticed how the pastor and his congregation wholeheartedly sang these songs about how “desperate” for God they were. Don’t get me wrong. I like those tunes and their overall message. However, I prefer to sing “I’m in love with You” instead of “I’m desperate for You.”

Desperate comes from the Latin word meaning “despair.” Check out these dictionary definitions:

1. Reckless or violent because of despair, driven to take any risk.
2. Undertaken as a last resort.
3. Nearly hopeless, critical, grave, i.e. a desperate illness.
4. Marked by, arising from, or showing despair; despairing, i.e. the desperate look of hunger.
5. In an unbearable situation because of need or anxiety, i.e. desperate for recognition.
6. Extreme because of fear, danger, or suffering greatly, i.e. in desperate need.
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“The synonyms for despair are hopelessness, desperation, despondency, depression, discouragement, and dejection. All of these nouns denote emotional states marked by lowness of spirits or loss of hope. Despair and hopelessness stress the utter absence of hope and often imply a sense of powerlessness or resignation. Desperation implies absence of grounds for hope, but adds the idea of fighting back, often blindly or recklessly” (New American Heritage Dictionary).

When you sing, “Lord, I’m desperate for You,” what do you mean? Are you saying, “Lord, I’m in love with You and want You more than anything else?” If so, that’s fine. But according to the dictionary, you’re really saying, “I’m in despair because of this extremely unbearable situation. There are no grounds for hope, but I’m anxiously, recklessly, and violently fighting back anyway.” If that’s what you mean by being “desperate for the Lord,” it’s absolutely wrong!

Hungry?

The only reason for a Christian to be desperate is if that person doesn’t understand what God has already done. The Lord has already blessed us, healed us, delivered us, and prospered us! He loves us and nothing will ever change that. The only reason to be hopeless, helpless, and in despair is if we don’t know who we are and what we have in Christ.

We need a full revelation of what Jesus has done for us! That doesn’t mean we won’t ever have problems. But in the midst of them, we can say, “Father, You’ve already supplied this before I
ever had the need. I know it’s there, so I’m drawing near to You. Thank You for revealing it to me!” Christians should never be hopeless or full of despair.

When you sing, “I’m hungry for God,” what do you mean? If you’re expressing desire, that’s fine: “God, I love You and want You more than anything else!” However, a closer look at the dictionary definition of hunger reveals “hurt, pain, agony, depression, and despair that accompanies not having your needs met” (New American Heritage Dictionary).

Many people sing, “God, I’m desperate and hungry for You” and mean “I’m so miserable. Life is terrible, but I’m looking for You. You’re my answer, and I believe that out there—somewhere—You’re going to do something to meet my needs.” That’s the complete opposite of the revelation of God’s Word!

“How Desperate Are You?”

This church had just sung those songs about how “desperate” and “hungry” they were. “O God, we need a move. Touch us. Please, Lord, do something new!” I stood up to speak and asked, “How many of you are hungry for God? How desperate for Him are you?” They all clapped and cheered loudly.

Continuing, I said, “John 6:35 declares: ‘And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.’”

I asked them, “What’s wrong with this picture? All of you just stood and acknowledged that you’re hungry and thirsty. Yet this says that you’ll never hunger or thirst again. Jesus told the woman
at the well the same thing: ‘But whosoever drinketh of the water
that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall
give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into ever-
lasting life’” (John 4:14). They immediately became so quiet you
could’ve heard a pin drop!

Now don’t misunderstand what I’m saying. I use the term
“getting hungry for God” in the sense that you have a deep yearn-
ing for Him. My good friend, Bob Nichols, says, “As long as you
can live without more of God, you will” and “As long as you can
live without more healing, you will.” You could plug a number of
different things in there like peace, joy, prosperity, etc. But the
point is, you must hunger for—strongly desire and focus on—the
things of God in order to experience them.

The Lord doesn’t come to those who just passively seek Him.
You must pursue Him wholeheartedly.

“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the
LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected
end…And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for
me with all your heart” (Jer. 29:11, 13).

This type of hunger is godly.

But if by “hunger” you mean, “O Lord, I’m just so empty. I
have no joy, no peace, no hope. God, where are You? I’m desper-
ate for You.” That’s not right and that’s not faith. Yet this is what’s
being proclaimed and modeled in the Body of Christ today as
being a “normal” experience. It’s like a person who’s sitting in front
of a twelve-course meal. Everything they could ever want is there,
but they keep crying “I’m so hungry!” They just want pity or some-
body to stick the food in their mouth for them. Personally, I have
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no sympathy for someone sitting before such a feast and whining about how “desperate” they are. If you’re hungry, eat!

Draw From Your Well

God has already given us everything. There’s a well of living water on the inside of every born-again believer. It’s not the Lord’s fault if we’re hungry and thirsty. It’s not time to ask Him to come and touch us. It’s time for us to start taking, eating, and drinking of what He’s already given!

I’m not saying there’s no place for a Christian to ever have problems or discouragement, or that we should always be perfect and just deny reality. Believers do experience hunger in the sense that they feel empty and God seems like a million miles away. But when you experience that, it’s wrong to approach Him saying, “O Lord, I just don’t feel Your love. Please love me. Do something to show me You care!” You might as well have said, “God, You haven’t done anything,” because you’re blaming Him for your feelings of emptiness and hunger.

Through the revelation contained in this book, I’ve learned that God loves me infinitely more than I can ever comprehend or need. He can’t love me more or give me any more love than what I already have. Knowing this has kept me out of depression and discouragement for over thirty-five years!

There were times when such feelings tempted me. I’ve had issues and terrible things happen, just like anybody else. I’ve even had thoughts like, Man, just get in your pickup and drive. Don’t ever come back! I can’t stand it anymore. Just walk away! Although I’ve
had these thoughts, I don’t give in to them, because I also have this revelation that God loves me and has already provided everything I need.

So instead of giving in to hunger, discouragement, and despair, I remind myself of God’s Word. I don’t ever say, “Lord, that’s the way it is. Now You must do something brand new to touch me. I’m looking for something else from You.” That would be an insult against what He’s already done. Instead, I pray, “Father, this is absolutely wrong. John 6:35 says that I should never hunger or thirst again. I know that on the inside of me there is so much love, joy, and peace—all the fruit of the Spirit. (Gal. 5:22, 23.) Everything I need is already there. So, Father, I know that You have done Your part. It’s not Your fault if I’m tempted with depression, discouragement, giving up, and quitting. It’s my fault. I’m not focused on You. I’ve let my eyes be taken off of You and put on the problems of this world.” I’ll just separate myself and spend a day or so fasting, praying, and seeking God. What I’m doing is mining what the Lord has already placed within me. Instead of asking Him to give me something new, I draw out the life that He’s already given.

That’s why I can truthfully tell you that I haven’t been depressed in over thirty-five years. I’ve been tempted with depression. I’ve had feelings of depression start to hit me. But within ten or fifteen minutes, I just decide that I don’t like depression and refuse to have it. God has given me such joy inside that I can choose to rejoice at all times. (Phil. 4:4.)
Not Passive!

The Word says, “I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth” (Ps. 34:1).

This isn’t telling you to just “fake it ‘til you make it.” Rather, this is talking about drawing out what’s inside of you.

As I’ve drawn on the joy that God has already placed within my born-again spirit, I’ve lived a consistently victorious life. In the midst of great adversity, I’ve experienced continual joy and peace. It’s not because I’m never tempted with the other but because I know in my heart that God has already done His part.

I haven’t become passive and said, “God, I’m waiting on You.” Many people do that and languish while waiting for an epiphany. They sing, “I’m so desperate and hungry! O God, where are You? I’m just a poor wayfaring pilgrim, and it’s so miserable down here.” Instead, I pray, “Father, I know this isn’t right. This isn’t what You’ve done. Your Word shows me that You’ve already blessed me. I praise You for what You’ve done!” I start focusing on the Lord and His Word and draw out His abundant life from within me.

That’s why I haven’t had discouragement or depression last more than a very short time for over thirty-five years now. I simply refuse to yield to them or let them have their effect in my life. That’s awesome!

Many people desire these same results, but they think the way to achieve them is to passively ask God to do something and then sit back and wait. If things don’t change, and victory—healing, prosperity, blessings, deliverance—doesn’t instantly come, they
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get upset with the Lord, asking, “God, why aren't You doing anything?” That's not it at all.

The Lord has already done everything. However, if you’re not seeing it manifest, it’s not God who hasn’t given—but you who haven’t received! Come with me as I take you on a journey that will teach you how to receive what God has already done for you.