

*And if the bugler doesn't sound a clear sound, how will the soldiers know they are being called to battle? 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:8 NLV*

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First Love Ministries, Inc.

PRAYER STUDY #173

### **A Poverty Spirit**

*I have been deprived of peace; I have forgotten what prosperity is.*

Lamentations 3:17

### **Causes of Poverty**

1. **Refusal to walk in repentance:** Daniel 4:27 *Therefore, O king, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue.*
2. **Disobedience:** Deuteronomy 28:38-45 *You will sow much seed in the field but you will harvest little, because locusts will devour it. You will plant vineyards and cultivate them but you will not drink the wine or gather the grapes because worms will eat them. You will have olive trees throughout your country but you will not use the oil, because the olives will drop off. You will have sons and daughters but you will not keep them, because they will go into captivity. Swarms of locusts will take over all your trees and the crops of your land. The alien who lives among you will rise about you higher and higher, but you will sink lower and lower. He will lend to you, but you will not lend to him. He will be the head, but you will be the tail. All these curses will come upon you. They will pursue you and overtake you until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the LORD your God and observe the commands and decrees He gave you.*
3. **Exploiting and Having no concern for the poor:** Proverbs 21:13 *If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be answered.* Proverbs 28:27 *He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses.*
4. **Refusal to Give:** Luke 6:38 *Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye measure, it shall be measured to you gain.* Proverbs 22:4 *A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.*
5. **Refusal to Work:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 3:10 *For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.* 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9:6 *But this I say, He who*

*soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he who soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.*

6. **Walking in Pride:** Proverbs 22:4 *Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life.*
7. **Concealing sin:** Proverbs 28:13 *He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.*
8. **Being Stingy:** Proverbs 28:22 *A stingy man is eager to get rich and is unaware that poverty awaits him.*
9. **Demonic Attack:** John 10:10 *The thief cometh not but to steal and to kill and to destroy...*
10. **Witchcraft Curses:** Matthew 5:44 *...Bless those who curse you...*
11. **Curses from God to Priests who do not give Him the Glory:** Malachi 2:2 *If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings; yea, I have cursed them already because ye do not lay it to heart.*
12. **Not Giving Tithes and Offerings:** Malachi 3:8-10 *Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, How have we robbed Thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse; for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be food in mine house, and test me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast its fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.*

### **Arthur Burk's Seven Curses on Finances**

#### **1. Aramean Curse**

**CAUSE:** Freemasonry anywhere in the last ten generations, immorality at any level including pornography

**MANIFESTATION:** You can't get justice in everyday life.

**BLESSING OF HOSEA:** People enjoy opening doors for you. You walk in high favor.

## **2. Philistine Curse**

CAUSE: Using truth to enslave or control people instead of using truth to set them free

MANIFESTATION: Whether professionally or personally you are perpetually on the verge of getting it all together but always end up one piece short.

BLESSING OF DANIEL: God gives you supernatural insight that makes you highly valuable and effective.

## **3. Midianite Curse**

CAUSE: Putting personal control and convenience ahead of possessing your birthright.

MANIFESTATION: Year after year trouble strikes in different ways but always at the same time of year. Also, family gatherings tend to be compulsory and miserable.

BLESSING OF JOB: You have enough capital that your money works for you instead of trading hours for dollars.

## **4. Ammonite Curse**

CAUSE: Bitterness over underserved trauma in your life causes you to become highly competent and highly independent.

MANIFESTATION: Barrenness. No matter how carefully you plan or what kind of people you have involved or what kind of project you are working on it simply does not bear fruit that was expected.

BLESSING OF JOHN: You experience fulfillment which comes from using all your abilities to do the task that God called you to do in partnership with His love and His power.

## **5. Moabite Curse**

CAUSE: Parents or authorities who fail to release you into adulthood or who actively hold you back from appropriate promotions.

MANIFESTATION: Causes your income to be devoured before it gets to you. Promises are consistently made that are not kept.

BLESSING OF ESTHER: People build a platform under you for your success.

## **6. Canaanite Curse**

CAUSE: Lowering the standard of holiness in your circle of influence, whether overly or simply by your lifestyle.

MANIFESTATION: You are permanently too busy. You are continually drawn to situations where those over you demand unreasonable amounts of work from you in the allotted time.

BLESSING OF MOSES: You have the time, resources, and mentor to develop the latent abilities God has placed within you.

### 7. Jotham's Curse

CAUSE: You are someone in your family line were guilty of ingratitude and extreme disloyalty.

MANIFESTATION: You continually suffer betrayal by your closest friends, family members, and business partners.

BLESSING OF NEHEMIAH: You are able to capture team dynamics at an explosive level producing great joy and huge effectiveness.

(YOU CAN ORDER TEACHINGS ON EACH ONE OF THESE SEVEN CURSES ABOVE FROM PLUMBLINE MINISTRIES: [www.plumblineministries.com](http://www.plumblineministries.com) or by yahooing Arthur Burk, *Seven Curses on Finances*)

**Curses on Finances**-from Paul Cox in *Guidelines to Deliverance* pp.66-67  
*We have found that the way people have handled money in the past can put curses on the finances of future generations. If you think, even after obeying all that God has asked you to do, you may have a curse against your finances, that does not allow you to have the provision that God wants you to have, check these out. Also make sure you are not doing these things!...In the name of Jesus I command all evil that has come against me from my family line to leave and go to the feet of Jesus to be assigned where He sends it to go. I repent for all evil that has cursed finances in my family line and in my life. I repent for and renounce all:*

Money spent on prostitutes

Those that did not tithe

Greed

Stinginess and poverty mindset

Those who did not care for the poor

All vows of poverty taken

Ungodly ways of gaining money

Those who stole

Drug and alcohol and other illegal substance trafficking

Gambling

Worshiping of money and the "love of money" (1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:10)

Those who trusted in money and self-effort above trusting in God

Not forgiving debts

Witchcraft curses against finances

All curses of bankruptcy

Ungodly agreements with the enemy to obtain finances

Those who did not serve the Lord joyfully and gladly in times of prosperity  
(Deuteronomy 28:47)

Materialism

Those who commit adultery (Proverbs 5:10)

Curses on actual money that has been given to you

**Purifying the Altar**-notes from Al Houghton, Work at Work Ministries

Why is it that when some people tithe, they do not get the blessing? Matthew 23:13-19-*Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to. Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are. Woe to you, blind guides! You say, 'If anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.'* You blind fools! Which is greater: the gold or the temple that makes the gold sacred? You also say, 'If anyone swears by the altar, it means nothing, but if anyone swears by the gift on it, he is bound by his oath.' You blind men! Which is greater: the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred?" In other words, the condition of the place (ministry) where we give is more important than the gift itself. Houghton writes, "When a tithe is put on a pure altar, it is made holy and acceptable to God. The covenant is completed. When the tithe is put on an impure altar, it is made unholy, and the covenant is not completed, so the promised blessings do not flow. Our prayer should be, 'God, I have obeyed your voice.' Because I obeyed and gave where God told me to give, He will work and bring to pass what I tell Him I need."

**The Spirit of Python**

Why is it that we often know the Word and know what to do in various situations but don't take action and don't pray things through? Perhaps it is because of the Spirit of Python operating in our lives. The literal term *Spirit of Python* is in the original Greek and is translated as *Spirit of Divination* in the English in Acts 16:16-19: *Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God,*

*who proclaim to us the way of salvation.” And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And he came out that very hour. But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas, and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities.* The name *python* comes from the name of the region, *Puthon*, where the famous Delphi oracle or soothsayer demonically divined. Divination is the demonic counterpart or counterfeit of prophecy. Thus, the Spirit of Python is the source for divination and witchcraft. The term *Puthon* or *Python* goes back to Greek Mythology when a python serpent was, I sure, terrifying the people around Delphi. Apollo killed this snake and supposedly set up the famous site for the soothsayer at Delphi, although historically the site was in operation before Apollo. It is thought, from a Christian perspective, that poisonous gases were in this area and these gases intoxicated the Delphian oracle making her speak gibberish. A priest then interpreted her answers but people could only ask “Yes” or “No” questions. Still, the area city states were taken in by all of this and gave great sums of money to the priest and priestess of Delphi and people came from all over the world to consult this demonic medium.

The Python is a non-poisonous snake that lives all over the world. They kill by crushing their prey to death or by suffocating their prey. It is a slow death, and supposedly the only way to escape is by cutting off the head of the Python.

We have seen this spirit active here and have taught on it before. Spiritually, the Spirit of Python comes to quench through suffocation the life and breathe of God from your lungs and crush your hopes, faith, vision, dreams, motivation and fight in the Lord. It is closely connected to discouragement, spiritual apathy, laziness, a constant feeling of being weighed down, choking manifestations around the throat (especially at night), fatigue and hopelessness. It is associated with witchcraft, which is closely related to rebellion. It wants to keep you from doing what God wants you to do. It casts doubt and suspicion on God’s Word. Often it causes people to be hearers of the Word but not doers. It makes mature saints who have fought the good fight over and over in their lives to suddenly become too tired to fight and too discouraged to press through. Often I see this manifested here as a heavy blanket or dark cloud over people’s lives. This Spirit especially hates praise and tries desperately to bind up those who are trying to engage in worship and praise. Why? Because He inhabits the praises of His people (Psalm 22:3) and where He is there is freedom (John 8:36) and fullness of joy (Psalm 16:11) and joy is our

strength (Nehemiah 8:10). We must come against this spirit consistently and furiously so that we will have the energy and strength to fight the Spirit of Poverty and see both moved out.

**Prayer Against Spirit of Poverty-taken from Paul Cox's Guidelines for Deliverance**

*Father, I come in the Name of Jesus to repent for the sins and transgressions of my ancestors [and myself]. I repent of all disobedience of Your commands turning away and listening to the enemy or to other people. Father, I receive the redemption from the curse by the Blood of Jesus and ask you to break all curses of poverty upon my family line and me! I declare that the Blood of Jesus has broken all the curses.*

*I repent for my ancestors that would not forgive debts in the Lord's timing and also for anyone ignoring the poor. I repent for all hardheartedness, tightfistedness and unforgiveness. Lord, would you restore mercy and cheerful giving in our family line? Please bless us as You promised in Your Word.*

*Lord, I repent for generational idolatry, disobedience and not following your commands. I repent for not serving You Lord, joyfully and gladly in our times of prosperity.*

*Lord, I repent for all my ancestors that were liars, hasty, lovers of the world and its pleasures, proud, arrogant, and selfish. I repent for lack of diligence, oppression of the needy, exploitation, and favoritism. I repent for all rejection of God and any cursing or blasphemy of God.*

*Lord, I repent for all family sluggishness, laziness, neglect, lack of judgment or for anyone charging exorbitant interest. I repent for any and all family concealed sins. I repent for spiritual pride in those that would not repent.*

*Lord, please break all poverty curses off of us and change our hearts. I repent for all generational wrong attitudes about wealth and poverty. Please give me the mind of Christ.*

*Lord, I repent for all my ancestors that were boastful and proud of their position, standing and authority. I renounce all love or sin or iniquity. I repent for all that became comfortable, selfish, hoarders and trusted in their*

*wealth. I repent for all that sold their righteousness, for all slavery, and for any trampling of the poor.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:17-19**

*Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation in the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.*

Bread Upon the Water

Well, there are people who think they are not receiving anything from God  
at all.

Oh, they are shaken from their believing.  
When they don't see results, they quickly fall.  
But don't you waver. Keep on living, in the way God wants you to.  
Don't get discouraged. Keep on giving.  
Soon it will come back to you.

CHORUS

Keep on casting your bread upon the water.  
Soon it's going to come back home on every wave.  
Keep on casting your bread upon the water.  
Soon it's going to come back home on every wave.  
Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over-  
Soon it's going to come back home on every wave.

Keep on working, seeking the Kingdom,  
Instead of working for your needs.  
Just keep on sharing the love of Jesus.  
You know growing comes from planting seed.

Ecclesiastes 11:1