

Above Only and not beneath

Deut. 28:1 “Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.”

- Notice the words “now” and “today” in this passage. What does this mean? The ability to know what God is saying versus what He has said is essential. Today God is saying something to you and it is important for you to hear His voice that you may reap the blessing of obedience.
- Now means ***at this present time, immediately, or given the current situation or in this moment.***
- “Come to pass” means it shall happen or manifest.

There are conditions. One thing must happen first before something else takes place. God has conditions for us yesterday, today and tomorrow but the most important conditions are the ones he is giving us today. Understanding that yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery but today is for certain, we must maximize the present time that has been given to us.

“If you diligently obey the voice of God”

- God wants us to obey His voice. The word obey in the verse is hearken. That means to listen or hear.
- The word diligently means to be attentive or careful; it also means to be constant or persistent in effort to accomplish something.

“...to observe carefully all His commandments which I command today.”

- The word “observe” deals with keeping, guarding and protecting the Word you heard from God. The second part is “to do” which is not found in the NKJV but its in the KJV and that means to produce, to make, to work or make happen.

So putting it all together, God says “At this present time or given your current situation, this shall happen for you, if you are careful to hear my voice and to keep what I say to you today so that you go out and make it happen, I will [today]...”

–JK version



“...God will set you high above all nations of the earth.”

- This concept of “setting” is key. It is like God promoting you or employing you to be in upper level management in this life. This is why the Scripture says “high above” all nations, it is because the context is that of ruling and reigning as king does. Today God wants to do this for you.

Putting it all together again, God says “Given your current situation, this shall happen for you, if you hear Me and keep what I say to you, so that today you go out and do what I said, I will [today] make you the manager, the king, high above all the earth that you know.”

- **Give God a shout of praise!**

Deut 28:2 “And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God.”

- Let me first point out the word “overtake.” “Overtake” means that the blessings of God are going to reach for you, then take hold of you and securely fasten themselves to you. God has made it such that the blessing of God is so strong that you have no other choice but to be painted in it so that everywhere you go you can’t help but be blessed. Somebody shout “hallelujah to the King of kings.”
- Let me give you an understanding of the word “bless, blessed and blessing.” **“Bless is what God does, blessed is who we are and blessing is God’s favor manifesting in your life.”** This comes because you took time to hear what God had to say and then obeyed.

Lets look at this word blessing for a moment. Turn to Genesis 1:26-28.

Genesis 1:26-28 “God said, Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness; let them have dominion **over** the fish of the sea, **over** the birds of the air, and **over** the cattle, **over** all the earth and **over** every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” (Notice the word over is mentioned 5 times, this word literally means to above something or on top of) “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them...” Stop there because before God did anything else for them, He first had to bless them. Now lets keep reading. “Then God blessed them and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply.”

- The blessing of God empowers you to bear fruit and to multiply or increase. This is why He has called for you to be above all because he has put an internal mechanism in the



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blessing He put on you so that you increase and multiply and multiply and increase and just keep on increasing. This is going to take place forever now.

Prov. 10:22 "The blessing of the Lord makes one rich and he adds no sorrow with it."

Psalm 71:21 "You shall increase my greatness and comfort me on every side."

Psalm 115:14 "May the Lord give you increase more and more..."

Genesis 17:2 "And I will make my covenant between me and you and will multiply you exceedingly."

Go back to Deut. 28
Read aloud Deut. 28:3-12

Now let's check out verse 13-14 and compare it to verse 43-44 (v13) "And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them." (v14) "So you shall not turn aside from any of the words which I command you this day, to the right or the left, to go after other gods to serve them."

- Notice the words "above only." The word only means peerless or without others. So in a sense God is saying, "where you are going, or the place where I want to set you, there will be no peers.
- I also want you to hear the tone of this "above only," "above only." There is no other place that I've called for my people to be but "above only." Not beneath, not the tail but the head and above only.
- This comes as a result of the blessing. The blessing is the result of being blessed and that is hearing God's voice in the present and then making happen (today) what God has spoken today.

"A man cannot avoid the curse unless he has the blessing of God to protect him."



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Deut. 28:43-44 "The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail."

- This is a problem. Look at verses 38-41. The curse gets on your money, your job, your home and your family. Things don't work like they should.

The thing I want us to catch with our spirit is God is trying to move us to the front. We must embrace this because this is of God. He has called for us to be head, above only, presidents, entrepreneurs, managers and leaders. Stop being small and stop moving to the back. That time is over. God is doing a new thing for you, receive it by faith and believe God for this Word to be fulfilled in your life.

Listen to the words of Jesus...Matthew 5:14-16 "You are the light of the world. **A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.** Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand and it gives light to all who are in the house."

5 Things to Remember & Practice

1. Do not underestimate the importance of today.
2. Take time to hear what God is saying for each and every day.
3. Don't wait to make happen what you hear today.
4. Today, see yourself as only above and not beneath.
5. Avoid distractions that will cause you to turn away from what you just heard today.



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