

The Midas Touch

"Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself."- 1Tim 6:5

Adapted from:

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/9427772-midas-touch>

<http://prevailingwordministries.wordpress.com/2013/10/10/preachers-of-la-lacking-an-anointing/>

https://www.cbn.com/spirituallife/churchandministry/Grady_Hagan_Prosperty.aspx

Here are a few of the points Kenneth Hagin made in The Midas Touch:

- 1. Financial prosperity is not a sign of God's blessing.** K. Hagin wrote: "If wealth alone were a sign of spirituality, then drug traffickers and crime bosses would be spiritual giants. Material wealth can be connected to the blessings of God or it can be totally disconnected from the blessings of God."
- 2. People should never give in order to get.** K. Hagin was critical of those who "try to make the offering plate some kind of heavenly vending machine." He denounced those who link giving to getting, especially those who give cars to get new cars or who give suits to get new suits. He wrote: "There is no spiritual formula to sow a Ford and reap a Mercedes."
- 3. It is not biblical to "name your seed" in an offering.** K. Hagin was horrified by this practice, which was popularized in faith conferences during the 1980s. Faith preachers sometimes tell donors that when they give in an offering they should claim a specific benefit to get a blessing in return. Hagin rejected this idea and said that focusing on what you are going to receive "corrupts the very attitude of our giving nature."
- 4. The "hundredfold return" is not a biblical concept.** K. Hagin did the math and figured out that if this bizarre notion were true, "we would have Christians walking around with not billions or trillions of dollars, but quadrillions of dollars!" He rejected the popular teaching that a believer should claim a specific monetary payback rate.
- 5. Preachers who claim to have a "debt-breaking" anointing should not be trusted.** K. Hagin was perplexed by ministers who promise "supernatural debt cancellation" to those who give in certain offerings. He wrote in The Midas Touch: "There is not one bit of Scripture I know about that validates such a practice. I'm afraid it is simply a scheme to raise money for the preacher, and ultimately it can turn out to be dangerous and destructive for all involved."

(Many evangelists who appear on Christian television today use this bogus claim. Usually they insist that the miraculous debt cancellation will occur only if a person "gives right now," as if the anointing for this miracle suddenly evaporates after the prime time viewing hour. This manipulative claim is more akin to witchcraft than Christian belief.)

Kenneith Hagin condemned other hair brained gimmicks designed to trick audiences into emptying their wallets. He was especially incensed when a preacher told his radio listeners that he would take their prayer requests to Jesus' empty tomb in Jerusalem and pray over them there—if donors included a special love gift. "What that radio preacher really wanted was more people to send in offerings," Hagin wrote.

Thanks to the recent resurgence in bizarre donation schemes promoted by American charismatics, the prosperity gospel is back under the nation's microscope. It's time to revisit Kenneth Hagin's concerns and find a biblical balance.

Kenneth Hagin told his followers: "Overemphasizing or adding to what the Bible actually teaches invariably does more harm than good."

If the man who pioneered the modern concept of biblical prosperity blew the whistle on his own movement, wouldn't it make sense for us to listen to his admonition?

Since the prosperity message infiltrated the Body of Christ, we have seen madness. The proliferating of God's people is outrageous. While Kenneth Hagin and others brought about the prosperity message, Hagin did do one thing before he went home to be with The Lord on September 19, 2003.

He wrote the book "The Midas Touch" to correct the erroneous teachings of the prosperity message. Then through other sources (it may have happened and it may not have happened), before Hagin passed away, he called a meeting with Kenneth Copeland, Creflo Dollar, and Leroy Thompson (who didn't attend) to correct them, and to warn them about the contents of the book.

I've read The Midas Touch and Hagin did correct some of the madness that is in the Body of Christ, especially among ministers gone amuck. However, as far as the other preachers that may have known about his book and its contents, it fell on deaf ears. I've also concluded that when you preach about it for years and then try to correct it, some will repent and others will ignore it because the money is just too good to ignore.

The book never really had a chance to hit others because the author left the scene just after it was released. Had Hagin had some time, perhaps it may have done a lot to alter the course of some preachers.

A few years before Hagin passed, he held Ministerial Integrity & Ethics Seminars for pastors and ministers. I've never attended one but after reading The Midas Touch and after other sex scandals that took place among ministers, it is clear that he was doing something about changing the current perilous course preachers today are on.

In this video, McClendon tried to explain about honorariums and entouragees.

Folks, the Bible is clear that in the OT, people paid a "Diviner's or Seer's Fee."

I know some of you all are saying... "What does a seer's fee have to do with Preachers of Lacking An Anointing?"

When people are mesmerized with the eloquence and fail to see the lie, the money is easy to give to these false preachers. When sexual immorality is connected to their preaching, it is no different than the plains of MOAB where witchcraft is deeply connected to sexual immorality.

At least three of these preachers were known adulterers and we pray that they've repented and were washed by the blood of the Lamb. Now if you look at what Paul said, "My speech and my preaching were not with enticing words of men's wisdom..." you can see clearly why women and men flock to these preachers.

Preachers will use their persona and charisma to "sell" themselves. We are not in the business of selling anything that was given to us freely of the Lord, but preachers will "merchandise the anointing" so that they could gather a following after themselves.

Never get caught in the diction of preaching. Get caught up in the truth of the rightly divided Word.

Anything less than the truth, is of the devil.

Some of you will remember Balak paying Balaam a seer's fee to curse Israel. When Elisha was approached by Namaan the Syrian commander to be healed, Namaan offered Elisha money and expensive clothing, however, Elisha refused them.

In the NT, The Lord told Paul that it is commanded by The Lord to pay preachers but Paul deliberately turned down the command so that the gospel would not be maligned.

Paul even said that an elder that ministers the Word of God is worthy of double honor. Paul meant that as a suggestion, not a command, by the way. Over 20 years ago, preachers began telling the people that preachers shouldn't have to live below standards. That they are worthy of extravagant living. Many preachers did have to live below standard and that's unfortunate. However, when things are not right financially where a church can't hold a pastor, a pastor must work a secular job until then.

There is nothing wrong with working when the people are unable to pay a pastor a full time salary.

Many pastors do this out of necessity because if they have a family, they must take care of his home first before they can take care of the church. Now, people are flocking to these places and pastors are living the life well beyond reason. Some of them will never look back because they struggled so much. To lose their perch means long hours away from home just to pay the bills. But you know what? There is honor in this.

That everything you got was earned the hard way instead of manipulating the Scriptures to coerce people into giving. No one will have much to say except the fact that you were able to get it done without misuse of the Scriptures.

Regarding entourages, Paul always had some kind of group with him but not to carry bags, wash his feet, set up lodging and stuff.

Paul called them "fellow laborers."

However, today, we see all sorts of error.

Today, they are called "armorbearers."

Very few understand that this is OT ONLY!!!!

And that armorbearers are officers or in the modern day army or navy, orderlies, or flag lieutenants. Their sole responsibility is to dress the generals for battle, and serve as their personal bodyguard.

Then we have these pastors of today that have "servants" and make up so many spiritual cliches to make it seem like the armorbearer is the place to be close to a leader. We have convoluted what true ministry is about just to make ourselves look good and important.

All of what we are seeing in the United States is a lack of any real anointing from the presence of The Lord. There are many ministers across the globe that are ministering the gospel in harsh conditions. Imprisoned, harassed, persecuted, starving, and killed for the gospel.

Today, we see that these modern preachers go around the world and return like they have done something great.

But what is there to show for it?

On the other side of the fence, this Scripture comes to mind.

Proverbs 14:15 says,

"The simple (gullible) believes every word, but the prudent considers well his steps."

Sadly, there are millions in the Body of Christ that believe that if you give, God will bless you.

Well, Ephesians 1:3 says, "...has blessed us with spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

You can't be blessed if you are already pronounced blessed.

You can't get what you already have. Some will say, I haven't received it yet, so I am not blessed."

Thank God for the Bible.

James 4:2-3 says, "You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss (ask missing), that you may SPEND IT ON YOUR OWN PLEASURES."

So on impulse, emotion, and no judgment, you put it in their hands and the preacher walks away with his or her needs met while you suffer.

Jesus told Paul that "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Why? Because of the law of reciprocity. God places things in our hands. This is how He works. Now if you do not have it in your hand, you are in a position to receive to give it. However, if you do not have it to give, you cannot give what you do not have.

This doesn't make you any less blessed because regardless of your status, you are still blessed. What we have been seeing is a clear manipulation of Scripture. If all you are hearing is God is going to bless you and you never get blessed, then James 4:1-3 is the answer behind the reason why you are not blessed according to what the preacher is saying.

So the only concern is the status of these preachers while others are suffering. If you still believe what they are preaching, you keep on doing it. But if The Lord is telling you to stop and you disobey Him, you are the one that will suffer while they suffer not.