

“True Prosperity”

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Our subject this morning: “True Prosperity.” “True Prosperity.”

Prosperity means success. And success to be true must be lasting. That’s the point. That’s the key point to the subject. Success must be of a lasting nature to be “True Prosperity,” because surely we don’t wanna be successful for half our life, and down and out the rest of the life. It must be a lasting thing. “True Prosperity” means success that is lasting.

In this outward world we find that things change, and that if we have prosperity it may pass away. We may lose it. So, surely, that is not “True Prosperity.” But if we remember that true success means in an estate of Spiritual Treasure, which Spiritual Treasure does not pass away, and we’re not apt to lose, then I should say that would constitute “True Prosperity.” And so with that thought in mind let us go a little further in the discussion of the subject, “True Prosperity.” “True Prosperity” means Spiritual success.

I like to think of the illustration given in Daniel about the creation of a Spiritual estate. We’ll come to that in a few moments. Now, in worldly prosperity or material prosperity, it is customary for the man who is really prosperous in worldly things to lay up an estate, to create a material estate, because he cannot tell but, perhaps, in a few weeks, or a short length of time, emergencies may come up. But, if he lays up and creates, immediately, a Spiritually, a material estate, he can meet the emergency.

And so, it is fitting and proper, and it is right that we, as human beings, as well as children of God should, should have material prosperity and we should take the ways and the means to immediately create a material estate. And so we do that, and we do it by the means of insurance. Just to use a worldly illustration. We take out insurance. We get the policy and then we know that we have created, immediately, with the first payment on that policy, of an estate. Now, we feel pretty good. We feel secure because we know at least that we can meet emergencies which come upon us. And as we pay the premiums, that materially created estate goes on, until finally, if we’re lucky, we accumulate enough wealth, so that the wise man, drops his insurance, as an unnecessary thing. Why? Because he has created wealth, and he has now what he needs.

So, that is the pattern that we find of materially successful men – businessmen, professional men, and artists, all do that. And that is as it should be. We should create a material estate. We can do it immediately by this means of insurance.

Now, going on a little further...but first I must tell you a little story. I hope I can remember it. You know I enjoy the stories, but I have a bad habit of forgetting them. But speaking about this materially created estate, the only trouble is here we have to pay taxes, as you know. And sometimes, there's not much left of that estate.

And so, this American was traveling in France and they were talking over the tax situation. And the Frenchman said, "It's terrible here. We have terrible taxes." And then he even says, "When I, when I get the tax bill I get blue in the face. And when I pay the tax bill, I get white with rage. And then they keep us paying..." Did I say red in the face first? [*Audience response: "No"*] Red in the face first. "Then when I pay the tax bill I get white with rage. And finally they keep us paying so much that I get blue, blue in the face. The American says, "That's all, that's nothing." He says, "We have the same situation in Amer, in America, we get red, white, and blue, but we also when we pay the taxes, see stars."

So, remember that next time you pay your taxes, tisn't so bad, because that great country of America with its red, white, and blue, and the stars is a wonderful protection. And I know the Master felt that way. Finally, near the end, as he became a citizen, he was so proud of that, because he appreciated what America was: the land where we can have, even now, some material security in spite of all other factors.

So, we have just spoken about material prosperity, but that is not enough. I know you all realize that. We have illustrations of great men who found that out. For instance, we take the great saints like St. Anthony. St. Anthony was born of wealthy parents in Egypt. And he grew up and took care of his father's land, and he became wealthy. But at the age of 20, his parents passed away. But he kept on accumulating wealth, until one day, one day in his church, he heard his pastor read the lines which Jesus wrote, wherein it says – and this was the turning point in his life – he says, "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that which thou hast and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasures in heaven, follow

me.¹ (Sic) And Anthony did just that, until he became the great St. Anthony. Why, why did he do it? Imagine. At Twenty-one. Just take care of it, that's all. Why? Because he felt that that wasn't "True Prosperity." He needed something else. He needed something to balance it. Something that was inherent in him. He needed the Spiritual wealth to attain "True Prosperity."

Also St. Francis, who came, I think, 900 years later. He, also, had wealthy parents. His father was a wealthy Italian merchant. But Anthony (sic) (s/b Francis) spent a lot of his time in his youth giving lots of parties, and taking care of his friends in a lavish way. But there came a turning point in his life. He was in his father's store – those of you who read the story – and he was soliciting a wealthy customer, as he should to be a successful businessman, and a beggar came in. And he just sidestepped the beggar. But it wasn't long before St. Francis realized that he had. Something wasn't right. And so, he left the store, unoccupied; went out through the city; and he found the beggar. He gave him the contents of his pocket. Not only that, but he gave him his coat. And from that time on, it was a turning point in St. Francis' life. There was a fight, a great context, contest, between delusion and reality. Until one night of sickness and misery, he gave it all up, and followed a life of poverty. Why? Because St. Francis, St. Francis felt he was not attaining, he did not have full prosperity, there was something lacking.

One other story comes to my mind spoken of in Paul Brunton's book about India², about yo, Yogi Ramaiah. He was also a wealthy landowner, but he let others take care of his estate, especially for two or three months at a time, when he went to do what? To lay up Spiritual Treasure. He went with his guru, the Maharishi³, and he also didn't talk at that time. He remained in silence. Why? That he might accumulate more Spiritual Treasure. And then he would return. He kept doing that. And when the Master was in India, he met him. He spoke very highly of him; both he and the Maharishi. He's told me one thing about the Maharishi when he was talking to him he reached down under his bed, the mattress, and pulled out a "Self-Realization Magazine." So that's good. Maharishi's on our side. But Yogi Ramaiah, he was a man of wisdom, because he realized that he needed something else. He needed that Spiritual Treasure; he

¹ Mark 10:21, "Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me."

² A Search In Secret India, by Paul Brunton, 1945

³ Sri Rama Mahrishi

needed that Spiritual Treasure in order to create a Spiritual Estate, thereby attain "True Prosperity."

And so, we have these few illustrations of people who understand and realize that to attain this real prosperity they must balance themselves. Balance themselves between the material prosperity and especially the Spiritual side. Now, just as in attaining material prosperity, the wise man lays up an immediate material estate. These things are sensible. Why not let us follow them. And you take out insurance, and we have that material estate created immediately. Why not do it in Spiritual things?

And so, the illustration of creating an immediate Spiritual estate of, spoken of in Daniel, the 10th Chapter the 12th Verse⁴, is most wonderful. And we can do that same thing. We can immediately – this is the most wonderful thing – we can immediately, those who will, lay up within us a Spiritual estate, and then later, through realization, we can make that our own, and we're all fixed – eternally. Don't forget that illustration. You can immediately take out a policy for Spiritual, for a Spiritual estate – immediately. And then, if you pay the premiums, that'll be with you always. Most wonderful thing. And we find this spoken of in Daniel.

Now, this is possible through Spiritual Law. Just like in material law it is possible to create a material estate due to this law of insurance – this material law. So it is just as possible to create a, an estate in Spiritual values and wealth, due to Spiritual Law. And what is that Spiritual Law? It is the Spiritual Law by which God comes to the devotees in the form of channels. There's a great channel open the minute you take out your policy, and if you keep paying the premiums, that estate is there for you. It is yours immediately. That's why the Guru is sent by God. That's why the channels are sent by God, that we may immediately have within us a Spiritual estate which is never, will never fail us, and which will always be there, until finally, through the Grace of God, our own efforts, and the efforts of the channel, to make that Realization our own. You understand how important it is to have that Spiritual estate, immediately, right now. Don't leave it another day. Do not leave it another day. It is not necessary.

Now this is spoken of directly in Daniel, the 10th Chapter the 12th Verse as follows. Listen carefully: "...Fear not, Daniel: from the first day that thou didst

⁴ Daniel 10:12, "Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words."

set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.⁵ There you have an immediate Spiritual estate created, when it says “the moment thou didst set thine heart to understand...” That moment you took out the insurance for Spiritual wealth. That moment, when you, immediately, when you are true to God, mean you business with Him, sincerely, in your heart, make up your mind to follow Him – that’s your insurance policy right there; the insurance policy of Spiritual wealth.

Then, if you go on, as it says, and “...chasten thyself before thy God.” You can’t dodge those premiums. Those are the premiums of your policy, that you every day, discipline yourself, keep in the Spiritual path, pay the premium. That policy is enforced, and will be enforced, until, finally, by the Grace of God, through Realization, you make that Spiritual wealth your own. Isn’t that wonderful? Right in our own scripture; most wonderful words.

And so, let us not forget that, that we can just as we do – “As above, so below.” Just as we do a material thing, those of you who have taken out insurance, you feel do good don’t you, when you have that protection? I did. Especially with a wife and children. How much you will feel when you have that Spiritual policy and protection with God. How you will feel – those who have it know. “He knows, whom God lets know.” Take out that Spiritual insurance for “True Prosperity,” right now, this minute!

You can do it. When you set your heart to understand, and then pay your premiums of regular discipline. It’s not hard. God, all God wants us to do is to just remember the Giver – not just His gifts. Let us realize that. And those of you who’ve taken out the policy, and you’ve kind of been lax in your payments, brace up! Brace up! Pay! Pay right now, by regular Spiritual discipline. And such a wonderful protection comes through the Love of God. That’s “True Prosperity,” isn’t it?

That’s “True Prosperity,” but let us go on just a little bit more, and consider what the Master said. To have “True Prosperity” we must have a balanced life. We must have a balanced life. Why? Because we are not only human beings, living in this material world, we are Spiritual beings, and we must have a balanced life. We must feed both sides. Then we have “True Prosperity.”

⁵ Ibid.

Now, there are certain things we must do to have a balanced life. The first thing is we must meditate. We must meditate, without question of a doubt. Why? Because, as I have said, we are both physical and Spiritual. Meditation sustains the Spiritual side of us. The Master said, we must feed both sides, not only one side – both sides

Now, sleep, of course, is an automatic process of evolution. But it isn't enough, is it? Now, you may be born into a family where you have wealth, or you may have a good business left to you. As the fellow says, "in some cases it's good his father was born first." You know he just goes along, and floats along. Why? Because the father was born first. Somebody said that to my brother, I remember. He didn't like something he did. He says, "it's good his father was born first."

So, that's all right. But look, if you give independent action to that business, if you give labor, and do something about it, won't your business be much greater? So it is with meditation. Sleep will help us to go toward God, to work toward God through the ordinary processes of evolution. That's not enough. We don't want that. We wanna go quickly to God. So meditation, meditation gives us independent action toward God, thereby we lay up Spiritual Treasures by independent action.

If you meditate regularly, every day, that's independent action. You will progress toward God by sleeping every night, because every night we go back to God in sleep. But, if we regularly meditate every day, don't you see, by independent action you give more effort. You have a great surge toward God. And in your business, your Spiritual business will be better. So meditation is one of the important things to lead a balanced life. Not only that. Not only do we by independent action progress quickly toward God, but also we develop that power within us, so necessary to lay up Spiritual Treasure, the Power of Intuition of the Soul. And so, meditation is the first thing which we must do. First thing!

Then leading a balanced life. As Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of God."⁶ "Seek first the kingdom of God." That's the way, because God's Presence in us is the Word. We must know that Word. We must realize that Word. Contacting that, then we are laying up Spiritual Treasure.

⁶ Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Now the next necessary requisite, which the Master said, is intellectual study. Intellectual studies are all right, but not too much book learning. Intellectual study's all right, if, if they stimulate you to learn by experience. Ya understand? If they stimulate you to meditate, then intellectual studies are good, because by intellectual studies, will bring to your consciousness different ideas and conceptions of God, which you must experiment and make your own. So, the Master says, "intellectual studies are necessary."

Then we have, the next is health. Health is necessary. Health is necessary to lead a balanced life. You don't think so? All right you try to meditate with a stomach ache. How far do ya get? Not very far. You, if you get right out of the body, you're trying to get out of. So health is necessary. You know, I know you realize that it's hard enough to make it a success in this worldly life with a healthy body. It's difficult to progress Spiritually with an unhealthy body. Now, that doesn't mean it cannot be done. It can be done. But it's more difficult. Therefore, it is best to watch the health laws, and have health as you progress toward the establishment of "True Prosperity" within yourself.

Now, that brings us to another point, which the Master gives in leading a balanced life. Happiness! Happiness! Happiness, have that happiness. Someone said "smile if it kills you, but smile." There used to be a man came into the office every time: "How are ya, Mr. Jones?" "Terrible." And I felt terrible right off. Honest, it was awful – every time. He came for many, many years. Thirty years, I believe. Every time: "Terrible, feel terrible." That isn't good. All the saints smile. All the saints smile, and look, they have nothing, a lot of them. Like the optimist; fell ten stories, and at each window bar hollers, "All right so far." Why not? Smile, let us. I know it's much easier when things go wrong, if you can keep smiling. So that's another requisite of a balanced life.

And finally, the last one the Master gives is money making. Money making is necessary. Money making is necessary, especially in this world of which we find ourselves. It is absolutely necessary, and there's no harm in it. The harm is in attachment to money. Money is necessary. The Master never said "don't make money." The great saints never said, "don't make money." What they did say, "money must be used for service." "Money must be used for service." And if you do that, it is good. It's all right. It's necessary. We have to pay our bills. We have to live as we should live according to our station in society. There's no harm in it, if we are not attached to the money, and if we use money for service.

And so you see, in this balanced life of which the Master speaks, we have all-round development of body, mind, and Soul – and especially Soul. And so, when all is said and done, we can realize that the greatest, the greatest factor in attaining “True Prosperity” is God-contact. Realize that. Why? Because God is the Doer of all things, even in your material prosperity.

If you take God with you in your material prosperity, when you take out that first insurance policy, you take Him with you. Why not? He’s in all things. He’s in material prosperity, as He is in Spiritual prosperity. Only thing is, the material prosperity doesn’t last. So, we must not get caught in that. We must go to the Fountainhead, which is God’s Presence in all things.

And so, when all is said and done, as I have said, the greatest thing to remember is God-contact. We must have that. We must contact God within us as the Great Cosmic Light; the Great Cosmic Sound; His Word; and finally, the Feeling in His Presence within us, which is Love. God is Love. That’s the Power of God. That’s the greatest asset of God within us. And that is in us. And we can contact, through the techniques, which the Master has left us in Self-Realization, we can contact God within. We can contact His Presence as the Great Cosmic Light; the Great Cosmic Sound; greatest of all, His Great Feeling, which is Love.

That’s why the First Commandment says, thou shalt not lay up materially, material success. It doesn’t say thou shalt lay up, even, Spiritual success or love. It *does* say: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, thy strength and thy might.”⁷ Why? Because that’s the greatest Force of God in us. God is One; I know; Consciousness plus Energy. But that energy is His Love. That’s greatest thing. Realize that. The greatest power in us is Love, because it’s the Feeling Aspect of God. Therefore, God-contact is very necessary.

Now, when you make contact with God, when you *feel* His Presence within you in a conscious way, in a tangible way, in a dynamic way, as the Great Cosmic Light, the Sound, or His Love; when ya do that, what’s the next thing? To be truly prosperous, is to ask for it, isn’t it? Ask for it. Ask God what you want. Ask Him. It says that, right in the Bible. It says that in St. John. Pardon me. It says that in one verse. It says, “Ask,” St. John, 16th Chapter, 24th Verse, it says: “...ask, and ye shall receive...”⁸

⁷ Mark 12:30, “And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.”

⁸ St. John 16:24, “Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.”

What is the trouble? The trouble is we don't ask in the right way. When you ask God, you gotta be in His Presence. It should read after that, and it means this, ask in my name, ask in my Holy Vibration – that's the name of God – and ye shall receive. "...ask, and ye shall receive..." Why not? Why not? God is everything. His Presence in us is the Holy Vibration with the aspects, of which I have spoken, contain everything. Why not ask when you are at it. That's the way to "True Prosperity," ask what you want.

And finally, the greatest thing in these three important things when all is said and done is to have faith in God. Have faith in Him. When you have faith in God what does it show? It shows that you have confidence in God. If you ask things from God, and your faith goes out the window, so to speak, there's no confidence in God, is there? Now you who lose your faith, where's your confidence in God? That's proof you haven't got it. So we must realize faith is a very important thing. And when we ask God for something, knowing you are in His Presence by hearing the Cosmic Sound, seeing the Cosmic Light, or feeling in your heart the Cosmic Love, when you do that, ask for it. Have confidence in God by an increasing faith. Never lose the faith. Never lose the faith you have. That shows if you keep your faith, you have confidence in God.

"Leave all else," the Master said, "except God." Leave everything else, except Him. How can we? How can we afford not to have faith in God? What have we left, if we lose our faith in God? Nothing! So realize, that's the greatest thing, is to have faith in God. Get into His Presence. Get contact with God. Ask what you want. It's yours, according to His Will. And finally, back it up. Back it up with faith in Him. Showing, "Father, I have confidence in you." "I've nothing else." "I came alone with Thee, Thou alone has sustained me, and into Thee, by Thy Grace, I will consciously melt." Those are the three great requisites of "True Prosperity." Never forget them.

And finally, one truism we must always remember concerning "True Prosperity" is this. I read it in, in the, from the "Self-Realization Magazine" this morning. Never forget it. In success or in failure, in opulence or in want; in health or disease; even, when ya have no place to lay your head; yes, even when ya haven't a friend in the world, everybody deserts you – which they will...look at Jesus on the cross, they left him alone. Now, in that condition, realize, with all these things happening to ya, if ya still, if ya still have the Father's Contact and His Love, you will have, without question of a doubt, "True Prosperity."

That's the greatest thing. Never forget that, because it counts on this path. The Lord has to teach us. "We came alone, we'll go alone with Him." We must realize that. And even find one by one, these things which you have felt have been permanent – were permanently with you. They will leave absolutely. But, if you learn this lesson early, in spite of all these things, even without a friend in the world, you'll feel the Father's Presence with you. When you feel His Love, you'll have "True Prosperity."

And this is attested to in the Bible in the following words, which I know you all appreciate and realize. In St. John, 10th Chapter, 27th and 28th Verses: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them:" "And I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."⁹ Why do we worry so? Why do we want material success? Why don't we realize these things? If we have God's contact and His Love, we have, without question of a doubt, and nobody can take it away from us, "True Prosperity."

Closing Meditation

Let us sit quietly for a moment – fixing these eternal truths, which the Master has given to us, and the great ones, and Jesus, all the saints; fixing them permanently within us – resolving that we have "True Prosperity." And having it, no man can take it away from us.

Meditation Prayer

Infinite Father, as Thy Peace pervades our Souls, we realize we have everything. Keep us ever thus, full confidence in Thee, supreme faith, as we came with Thee alone, Thou dost sustain us alone, and into Thee, we will melt alone. Om, Peace, Amen.

Closing Hymn (omitted from the .mp3 file)

Now let us rise and sing our closing song. Let us sing with our hearts in the Glory Hallelujah song.

Closing Prayer

⁹ St. John 10:27-28, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:" "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

Raise the hands. Infinite Father, we thank Thee for this communion this morning in Thy Holy Presence, where we feel Thy Great Love, Thy Consciousness. Keep us ever thus, O Father, secure in Thee. And may Thy Love shine forever, on the sanctuary of our devotion, and may we be able, to awaken Thy Love in all hearts. Make our Souls Thy temple, make our hearts Thy altar, make our love Thy home. Be Thou the only King, reigning on the throne, of all our desires. We bow to Thee, O Father. We bow to Jesus; the Great Ones; and with our love and devotion, on the altar of our hearts, we bow to the beloved Master. Om, Peace, Bliss, Amen. God bless you.