BIBLE STUDY DEPARTMENT

THEME 2008: *...THAT THOU MAYEST PROSPER...*

TOPIC: ***THE PROSPERITY OF THE SOUL II*** **24th FEBRUARY, 2008**

Memory verse - Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Jn. 3:3

Notes

No doubt, many will by now be wondering why they are not prospering since we have made statements like "you have no choice but to prosper" so long as it is God's desire that we prosper and God's desire is sure to be realized. Notice that III Jn. 2 says that God desires that we prosper just as our soul prospereth. That is to assume that the soul is or has prospered.

How does the soul prosper? He has first to be alive that is to be born. Because a dead soul like that of Adam and Eve after the fall (Gen. 3:3), cannot relate or be alive to the things of God. He is not even qualified to utilize God's resources (Gen. 3:23-24; I Cor. 2:14).

The soul is born or made alive when we are born again (Jn. 3:3; Jn 1:12). God gave us the details of this new birth in verse 5 of St. John 3 and this is that we must be born of water and the Spirit. To be born of water means to **LIVE THE WORD** (Eph. 5:26; Acts 11:26). And, to be born of the Spirit **IS TO BECOME A SPIRIT** (II Cor. 3:18; Jn. 4:24). That is, we live, think, see, and act like the Spirit does.

This enormous strength is made possible by a life that is alive to God again by his Spirit (Rom. 8:1-13). It is only in this atmosphere that the Word works (Heb. 4:12; Jn. 1:1). And you must receive the power to wield the Word (Jn. 1:12).