

The economic experts may have painted a gloomy picture for the rest of the year and beyond, but as far as God is concerned, He has crowned the year, and subsequent years, with His goodness and abundance! God's supply and provision are never affected by world events, so whether good times or bad times, expect every month, every week and every day of this year, and beyond, to be surrounded by His goodness. Expect His abundance to meet your every need!

Remember, God doesn't bless you because of what you have done. He blesses you because of what *Jesus* has done. At the Cross, Jesus bore all your sins and was punished to the full for every one of them, so that you can have His righteousness as a gift and be blessed with every one of God's blessings. (Ephesians 1:3) Now, look at the word "abundance" in Psalm 65:11. It is the Hebrew word *deshen*, which means "fatness". The idea here is abundant provision, blessings, and even fertility. The word *deshen* has another meaning - "ashes". Ash is the final form of something that has been burnt. For example, the animal sacrifices to God in the Old Testament were burnt on the altar until they became ashes. (Leviticus 4:12) So ashes here speak of the finished work of Jesus at the Cross that has covered your sins.

So, because of Jesus' finished work you can confidently believe and declare that the year is crowned with goodness, and that God's paths drip with His provision, blessings and good success for you every step of the way. If Satan tells you that God won't bless you because of your sins, just tell him, "Ashes!" and point him to the Cross of Jesus! You are blessed not because of your good works, good looks, qualifications or career experience, but because of Jesus' finished work. He alone has qualified you to receive God's goodness and abundance every day, for the rest of your life!

Psalm 65:11 "You crown the year with Your goodness, and Your paths drip with abundance."