

**The Attackers: The Organized Evil of Corporatism & Socialism; Regardless of Outside Pressures the Believer Must Remain Copacetic, Phil 4:11; the Volitive Optative of “Multiplied” in 2 Pet 1:2; Occurs as a Result of Spiritual Growth & “Knowledge of God & Jesus”; True Prosperity Is in the Soul; Metabolized Doctrine Is the Meaning of “Breastplate of Righteousness”**

**Comments on the 2012 General Election:**

The real winner of Tuesday’s election was Antonio Gramsci. Those who carried his water were the faculties of the Frankfort School, the Columbia School of Education and the Columbia School of Journalism, and the century-long parade of Progressives who controlled the curricula of the nation’s schools until a majority of the people are now the benighted useful idiots that will keep the Dark Side in power if and until there is a trend back to traditional thinking. For now, the nation suffers a loss of thought. There is no competing source to alter this short of the Word of God. Otherwise, from this date forward, the USA is not your father’s country.

Hurricane Sandy was not the Lord’s use of weather to restore order to the client nation but was designed to continue the status quo. The tide turned with its aftermath and the result is more of the same. Jesus Christ has approved the election of President Barack Obama (John 19:11). Therefore, honor the king (1 Peter 2:13, 17)!

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18. Collusion by a government-corporate complex in corporatism or by the centralized control of socialism evolves into making all people and things subservient to the state.
  19. Regardless of the circumstance in which the believer finds himself, he is to remain copacetic.
  20. This is the prosperity of soul that occurs when he acquires spiritual autonomy and cognitive independence.
  21. Problem-solving device number 9 is sharing the happiness of God and enjoying the life of the Copacetic Christian.
  22. Paul indicates that he attained this level regardless of whatever state he found himself:

**Philippians 4:11** - I speak not from want [ details of life ], for I have learned to keep on being copacetic [ αὐτάρκης (*autárkēs*): content & satisfied with one’s lot<sup>1</sup> ] whatever the circumstances.

23. We have already noted in 2 Peter 1:2, that grace and peace is said to be multiplied, the aorist passive optative of the verb πληθύνω (*plēthúnō*).
24. The passive voice indicates that the believer receives the action of grace and prosperity, neither of which can be earned.
25. The mood is a volitive optative. It expresses an obtainable wish or a prayer. It is frequently an appeal to the will, in particular when used in prayers.<sup>2</sup>
26. The optative is significant in this verse since as a prayer it is a wish made by Peter that portrays the action as possible. It is an appeal to the volition.

<sup>1</sup> “αὐτάρκης,” in *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*, 291.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel B. Wallace, *Greek Grammar: Beyond the Basics* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996), 481.

27. Here are some principles regarding the optative mood from Wallace's *Greek Grammar*:

The use of the volitive optative in the New Testament seems to fit into one of three nuances: (1) mere possibility that something will take place, (2) stereotyped formula that has lost its optative "flavor," or (3) polite request without necessarily a hint of doubting what the response will be.

The (volitive) optative seems to be used in this [latter] way in the language of prayer. Although the form of much prayer language in the New Testament has the tinge of remote possibility, when it is offered to the God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead, its meaning often moves into the realm of expectation. (p. 481)

Illustration: 2 Peter 1:2

Χάρις ὑμῖν καὶ εἰρήνη πληθυνθεῖ ἐν ἐπίγνωσει τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ Ἰησοῦ τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν.

May grace to you and peace be multiplied in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

There is every likelihood that the author expected such blessings for his audience. The language, borrowed no doubt from the Pauline corpus, adds the optative explicitly.<sup>3</sup> (p. 483)

28. Peter concludes the introduction of his Epistle with a prayer for the multiplication of grace and prosperity by means of the knowledge of doctrine associated with God and Christ.
29. God operates on the basis of His character, not ours. He provides grace essentials such as the human spirit, the canon of Scripture, the pastor-teacher, the ministries of the Holy Spirit, and the imputation of free will.
30. The doctrine retained is by means of His grace system and blessings are associated with what you know and what you apply.
31. These blessings multiply to a level of sophisticated thinking that produces spiritual prosperity. This enables the believer to remain copacetic regardless of the circumstances.
32. The multiplication of grace and prosperity is achieved by individual free will having interest in and metabolization of "the knowledge of God."
33. "Knowledge" here is the instrumental of means of the singular noun **ἐπίγνωσις (epignōsis)**. This is a category of knowledge that is spiritually discerned. It is made available to believers only under the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit.
34. It is the object of the preposition **ἐν (en)** and with the instrumental should be translated "by means of your knowledge of God."
35. There is a second direct object, "Jesus our Lord." The corrected translation reads:

**2 Peter 1:2 -** May grace and prosperity be multiplied unto you by means of your knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

36. True prosperity is found in the soul and enables the believer to remain copacetic regardless of outside circumstances.
37. Whether those external circumstances find the believer in good times or bad, he maintains his internal prosperity of soul.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., 481, 483.

38. To get an idea of the world's viewpoint toward prosperity let's note some of its synonyms:

**Prosperity: success, profitability, affluence, wealth, opulence, luxury, the good life, milk and honey, good fortune, ease, plenty, comfort, security, well-being.<sup>4</sup>**

39. Regardless of which of these words applies to one's external status quo, without prosperity of soul, its absence will result in unhappiness.
40. It is the metabolized Word of God in the soul of the believer that is said by Paul to be his "breastplate of righteousness." The category of righteousness to which he refers is the subject of our next doctrine.

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<sup>4</sup> *Oxford American Writer's Thesaurus*, 3d ed., s.v.: "prosperity."