

We Cannot Break Curses

Yirmeyah Tan, 15 January 2026

Shalom.

Today our topic is about curses and the effects of curses and how to overcome these curses. So many preachers claim and teach people that they can use the Name of Yeshua to break any number of curses. We shall see that this is not so and I will give you the reasons why.

Let us begin with the definition of a curse.

I. What Is A Curse?

Merriam-Webster Dictionary: a prayer or invocation for harm or injury to come upon one: imprecation

Hebrew: qelâlâh

BDB Definition: curse, vilification, execration

Greek: kataraoimai:

Thayer Dictionary: to curse, doom, imprecate evil upon

The word curse, cursing, cursed and derivatives occur over 200 times in the entire Bible. The results of curses are something that we are familiar with. Sickesses, demon possession, loss of money or jobs, property, breakups in relationships, premature birth, death of babies and so on. Before we go on, suppose somebody curses you, should you be afraid? Well, yes and no. Refer to **Pro 26:2** –

II. A Curse Without A Cause

Pro 26:2 *As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.*

I had a personal experience of this many years ago. Somebody cursed me for whatever reason, and I was very troubled in my spirit. I went to Yahweh in prayer and very shortly the Holy Spirit gave me this verse Pro 26:2. I was very much reassured because I had done nothing to provoke the curse. I did not deserve the curse and thank Yahweh no evil came to pass upon me.

Next, refer to an example in the Bible of a man cursing King David in a terrible way. His name is Shimei and he was a descendant of King Saul. Look at **2Sa 16:5-10** –

III. Simei's Curses Against King David

2Sa 16:5 *And when king David came to Bahurim, behold, thence came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera: he came forth, and cursed still as he came.*

2Sa 16:6 *And he cast stones at David, and at all the servants of king David: and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.*

2Sa 16:7 *And thus said Shimei when he cursed, come out, come out, thou bloody man, and thou man of Belial:*

2Sa 16:8 The LORD hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the LORD hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, because thou art a bloody man.

2Sa 16:9 Then said Abishai the son of Zeruiah unto the king, why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Let me go over, I pray thee, and take off his head.

*2Sa 16:10 And the king said, what have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah? so let him curse, **because the LORD hath said unto him, Curse David.** Who shall then say, wherefore hast thou done so?*

Note:

1. Shimei: When people curse you, YAHWEH may be behind it!

2. Balaam: could not curse whom YAHWEH did not:

We note that when Shimei was cursing David, Yahweh was behind it. You want to take note of it that, when somebody curses you, Yahweh may be behind it. Then the example of Balaam in **Num 23:8** –

Num 23:8 *How can I curse whom the Lord curses not? or how can I devote whom God devotes not?*

Balaam was a prophet who was very greedy for money. Balak offered him a lot of money to curse the nation of Israel and Balaam tried a number of times. He could not curse because Yahweh did not curse and out of his mouth came blessings for Israel instead.

Now I want to take you back to the Garden of Eden to Yahweh's curses on Adam and Eve. We shall see whether these curses have ever been removed or have been removed at the cross of Yeshua. Refer to **Gen 3:16-19** –

IV. YAHWEH's Curses On Adam & Eve

Gen 3:16 *Unto the woman he said, **I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children;** and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.*

*Gen 3:17 And unto Adam he said, because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: **cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;***

Gen 3:18 ***Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;***

Gen 3:19 ***In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.***

Note: these curses have never been broken. In the Millennium, we shall see a partial restoration of the world, but the curse of physical death will remain. As at present, only the curse of the second death is removed for faithful followers of Christ.

First, the curses on Eve. A lot of women suffer quite severe menstrual pain every month. We know for certain that, in every childbirth, there is a lot of trauma, pain, labor pains before the child is delivered. We know that all of us have to work hard for a living, literally sweating away many hours a day to earn a living. When you look at our farmers, their lot in life is very pitiful. We ought to be very thankful and grateful to them because they work rain or shine. They till the hot soil, plant the seeds, grow them into seedlings, water the fields or irrigate them. They

fertilize the plants, fight the pests that destroy the plants using pesticides. Then, too much rain destroys the crops. Drought, hurricanes, cyclones, tornadoes also destroy the crops. They are all very destructive. When I go to the supermarket or wet market and I see all the fruits, vegetables and grains, I am very thankful to our farmers. Literally, by the sweat of their brows, they experience thorns and thistles. That is the curse by Yahweh. More than that, we have weakened bodies that are sick, will die a physical death and we are only allowed a limited time here on earth.

Moreover, there is a second death. You can see how terrible these curses are. Just looking forward a little bit into the Millennium, we shall see a partial restoration of the world in terms of its productivity, but the curse of physical death will remain. We do not know about the curses on the woman's menstruation and birthing process. Whether now or in the millennium, the curse of a sinful fallen nature that we have inherited from Adam remains. However, now, if we walk closely with the Holy Spirit, we will have the power to put to death the old man of sin, the fleshly nature and the deeds of the flesh. The curse of the second death has been removed for faithful followers of Christ. Christ died for all the sins of the world, but not everybody will escape the second death. The vast majority will not.

Next, let us deal with disobedience and curses. In Deu 28, the first part of it details all the beautiful blessings that will come upon us if we walk in obedience to Yahweh's commandments but from v15 onwards, terrible curses are laid on those of us who are disobedient to the Torah, the commandments of Yahweh. Look at **Deu 28:15** –

V. Disobedience And Curses

Deu 28:15 *But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that **all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:***

This confirmed in **Rom 6:23** –

Rom 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

And likewise, in **Eze 18:20** –

Eze 18:20 *The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.*

Next, we move on to intergenerational curses. Curses that come down from father to son to his son and his son and his son unto many generations. We read from **Exo 20:3-6** –

VI. Intergenerational Curses

Exo 20:3 *Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.*

Exo 20:4 *Thou shalt not make unto thee, any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:*

Exo 20:5 *Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.*

Exo 20:6 *And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me and keep My commandments.*

Note:

1. Idolatry results in intergenerational curses

2. The evidence is found in genetic disorders, diseases like cancer, strokes, heart attacks etc

These curses can get compounded because, with continued disobedience, generation after generation, the curses can multiply over multiple generations. In the context of these verses I just quoted, idolatry is the most important reason for intergenerational curses. And the evidence that somebody is under intergenerational curse is found in what scientists, doctors call genetic disorders, diseases like cancer, strokes, heart attack, diabetes, etc.

Next, we examine the consequences of cursing parents. Refer to **Exo 20:12** –

VII. Cursing Parents

Exo 20:12 *Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.*

If you want long life and good health, you have got to honor your parents. On the contrary, if you dishonor and curse them, your days will be shortened, your life will not be well, and you will not be healthy. Look at **Exo 21:17** –

Exo 21:17 *And he that curseth his father, or his mother, shall surely be put to death.*

The death penalty was required under the civil law given to Israel. Of course, with physical death would come the second death. Then we look at **Mat 15:4** –

Mat 15:4 *For God commanded, saying, Honor thy father and mother: and He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.*

Yeshua was affirming the validity of the commandment: to honor our parents and confirm the death penalty. **Pro 20:20** tells us something very drastic and serious –

Pro 20:20 *Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness.*

I have ministered to a lot of people and some of whom had cursed their parents. Literally, in terms of spiritual development and growth, they could never develop spiritually. One of them was a young man barely 19 years old. One day when I met him, he complained against his parents and cursed them. He said, "I have a hole in my heart because my parents conceived me in their old age". Within months, he was dead and certainly while he was alive, he was in total spiritual darkness. Then look at **Pro 30:17** –

Pro 30:17 *The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.*

Eye problems can be due to cursing your parents.

Next, the important question is: what curses did Yeshua break on the cross? We need to examine this very carefully because, as I said earlier, a lot of preachers and Christians believe that every curse that is in the Bible has been broken by Yeshua and we are totally free. Look at **Deu 27:26** –

VIII. What Curses Did Yeshua Break On The Cross?

Deu 27:26 *Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.*

We referred to **Gal 3:10-11; Gal 3:13-14** –

Gal 3:10 *For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is everyone that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.*

Gal 3:11 *But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, the just shall live by faith.*

Gal 3:13 *Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree:*

Gal 3:14 *That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*

a. Yeshua removed the curse of Deu 27:26

b. He removed the second death for His faithful followers:

Firstly, Yeshua removed the curse of Deu 27:26, which says that you are to fulfill all the laws of Yahweh in order to find eternal life. No one can do that.

Secondly, He removed the second death for his faithful followers.

Joh 6:47 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me hath everlasting life.*

That is, if you put your faith and your trust onto Yeshua and walk with Him. You obey Him and you will have everlasting life - trust and obey.

c. We are to walk by faith, like Abraham

d. Physical death remains:

Thirdly, we can now walk by faith like Abraham, be justified by our faith.

Fourthly, physical death still remains.

1Co 15:26 *The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.*

You may ask a simple question, why? Why didn't Yeshua take away the curse of physical death? My short answer is that, if everyone who comes to Christ does not have to die anymore physically, everyone in the world will come to Christ. Likewise, if everyone who comes to Christ get all their curses broken automatically and all their sicknesses disappear, everyone will rush to come to Christ. But we know that is not the case. The curses of disobedience are still there. How do we know this? Look at the many examples of healing and deliverance by Yeshua in the four gospels. And, in each and every case, it was usually the injunction by Yeshua, "Go your way and sin no more, lest something worse befalls you." He was referring to the curses in Deu 28 for those who disobey some or all of Yahweh's commandments.

Now, having dealt with what Yeshua did or did not do on the cross, how then can we break the curses, cancel the curses or overcome the effects of curses? Refer to **Luk 4:17-19** –

IX. Can We Break Curses?

Luk 4:17 *And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,*

Luk 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

Luk 4:19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

a. Demonic possession

b. Sicknesses

Note this refers to demonic possession and sicknesses. It refers to captivity to Satan and his demons that keeps people in spiritual darkness.

Look at **Mat 8:16-17** –

Mat 8:16 *When the evening had come, they brought unto Him many that were **possessed with devils:** and He cast out the spirits with His word, and healed all that were sick:*

Mat 8:17 *That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, **Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.***

Note: preachers use the wrong verse from 1Pe 2:24 but this verse refers to salvation and not healing.

1Pe 2:24 *Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by Whose stripes ye were healed.*

How do we go on from getting rid of demons and get healing for sicknesses? When you read the gospels and the epistles, not everyone who came for healing was healed. Not everyone who came for deliverance was delivered. For deliverance, some kinds of spirits are so tough and stubborn. Yeshua said this kind can only come out by fasting and prayer. It remains a mystery when we lay hands upon people and anoint them with oil, but a lot of people still do not get healed. There are preachers who are fake and bogus healers, tele-evangelists who make money by faking miracles. Those are not the true healers of Yahweh. The question still remains for us: how do we go from curses to blessings? I would suggest the followings –

X. From Curses to Blessings

1. Repent and start obeying YAHWEH's commandments
2. Cast out demons in the Name of Yeshua if necessary
3. Ask YAHWEH for mercy: The vast majority of curses came from YAHWEH. Many preachers try in vain to break His curses.
4. In meekness and supplication, ask YAHWEH for healing:

I want to emphasize coming to Yahweh as a supplicant. Most Christians know about prayer but they do not know what it means to be a supplicant. To be a supplicant, you have got to humble yourself and acknowledge the greatness of Yahweh that He is Yahweh, He is God and you are a mere creature of His. Just like if you want to approach the King of Thailand, you have literally go down on your face, the whole-body prostrate before him and then make your petition to him. We got to learn about supplication, the humble way of asking Yahweh to help us for healing or for other things.

Let me quote from the **Septuagint Isa 53:3** –

Septuagint Isa 53:3 *But his form was ignoble, and inferior to that of the children of men; he was a man in suffering, and acquainted with the bearing of sickness, for his face is turned from us: he was dishonoured and not esteemed.*

Note: healing is in the Atonement but not everybody or sickness get healed via prayer or deliverance. Doctors and hospitals are gifts from YAHWEH via Yeshua's Cross.

He released a lot of medical knowledge and medical skills so that our doctors, our nurses, our surgeons are able to deal with a large number of diseases and alleviate our problems of sicknesses.

5. If no healing: ask for grace to live with the sickness

6. What about curses on wealth, jobs, relationships? We have to rely on the mercy of YAHWEH

Shalom.