(sermon notes for 8/22/21)



# THE PROPER PERSPECTIVE ON FINANCIAL PROSPERITY

\_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_ as long as you don't let it

#### become your \_\_\_\_\_.

"It is the blessing of the Lord that makes rich, and He adds no sorrow to it." (Prov. 10:22, NASB)

"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and by craving it, some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs....Instruct those who are rich in the present age not to be arrogant or to set their hope on the uncertainty of wealth, but on God, who richly provides us with all things to enjoy. Instruct them to do what is good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and willing to share, storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of what is truly life." (1 Tim. 6:10, 17-19)

"No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." (Matt. 6:24)

#### Some things are \_\_\_\_\_ than money.

"Get wisdom—how much better it is than gold! And get understanding—it is preferable to silver." (Pr. 16:16)

"... For [wisdom's] profit is better than the profit of silver and her gain better than fine gold. She is more precious than jewels; and nothing you desire compares with her." (Prov. 3:13-15, NASB)

"Better a poor person who lives with integrity than someone who has deceitful lips and is a fool." (Pr. 19:1)

"What is desirable in a person is his fidelity; better to be a poor person than a liar." (Pr. 19:22)

"Wise words are more valuable than much gold and many rubies." (Pr. 20:15, NLT)

"A good name is to be chosen over great wealth; favor is better than silver and gold." (Pr. 22:1)

### The most important things in life \_\_\_\_\_

- "Riches won't help on the day of judgment...." (Pr. 11:4a, NLT)

- "Rich and poor have this in common: the Lord makes them all." (Pr. 22:2)
  - "Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure with turmoil." (Pr. 15:16)

- "A gracious woman gains respect, but ruthless men gain only wealth." (Pr. 11:16, NLT)

- "Better a meal of vegetables where there is love than a fattened ox with hatred." (Pr. 15:17)
  - "Better a dry crust eaten in peace than a house filled with feasting-and conflict." (Pr. 17:1, NLT)

- "Who can find a wife of noble character? She is far more precious than jewels." (Pr 31:10)

# THE PREFERRED PATH TO FINANCIAL PROSPERITY

## The WRONG Way

"Ill-gotten gains do not profit anyone...." (Pr. 10:2a)

"The one who profits dishonestly troubles his household, but the one who hates bribes will live." (Pr. 15:27)

"Better a little with righteousness than great income with injustice." (Pr. 16:8)

"Food gained by fraud is sweet to a person, but afterward his mouth is full of gravel." (Pr. 20:17)

"Making a fortune through a lying tongue is a vanishing mist, a pursuit of death." (Pr. 21:6)

"Better is the poor who walks in his integrity than he who is crooked though he be rich." (Pr. 28:6)

"Whoever increases his wealth through excessive interest collects it for one who is kind to the poor." (Pr. 28:8)

"The trustworthy person will get a rich reward, but a person who wants quick riches will get into trouble...Greedy people try to get rich quick but don't realize they're headed for poverty." (Pr. 28:20,22 NLT)

## The **RIGHT** Way

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"Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows over time." (Pr. 13:11, NLT)

"Idle hands make one poor, but diligent hands bring riches." (Pr. 10:4)

"There is profit in all hard work, but endless talk leads only to poverty." (Pr. 14:23)

"The one who works his land will have plenty of food, but whoever chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty." (Pr. 28:19)

"Don't love sleep, or you will become poor; open your eyes, and you'll have enough to eat." (Pr. 20:13)

"Those who love pleasure become poor; those who love wine and luxury will never be rich." (Pr. 21:17, NLT)

"Do not carouse with drunkards or feast with gluttons, for they are on their way to poverty, and too much sleep clothes them in rags." (Pr. 23:20-21, NLT)

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"I [Wisdom] walk in the ways of righteousness, along the paths of justice, giving wealth as an inheritance to those who love me, and filling their treasuries." (Pr. 8:20-21)

"The crown of the wise is their wealth, but the foolishness of fools produces foolishness." (Pr. 14:24)

#### \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_

"Adversity pursues sinners, but the righteous will be rewarded with prosperity." (Pr. 13:21, NASB)

"Great wealth is in the house of the righteous, but trouble is in the income of the wicked." (Pr. 15:6, NASB)

"The wicked person earns an empty wage, but the one who sows righteousness, a true reward." (Pr. 11:18)

\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

"True humility and fear of the Lord lead to riches, honor, and long life." (Pr. 22:4)

"It is the blessing of the Lord that makes rich, and He adds no sorrow to it." (Prov. 10:22, NASB)

"You may say to yourself, 'My power and my own ability have gained this wealth for me,' but remember that the Lord your God gives you the power to gain wealth, in order to confirm his covenant he swore to your ancestors, as it is today." (Deut. 8:17-18)

## POTENTIAL PITFALLS OF FINANCIAL PROSPERITY

#### It can lead to \_\_\_\_\_\_

"The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are protected. The wealth of the rich is his fortified city; in his imagination it is like a high wall." (Pr. 18:11, see 1 Tim. 6:17)

#### It can attract \_\_\_\_\_\_.

"A poor person is hated even by his neighbor, but there are many who love the rich." (Pr. 14:20)

#### It can make you \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

"The poor person pleads, but the rich one answers roughly." (Pr. 18:23)

It can put your \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.

"Riches are a ransom for a person's life, but a poor person hears no threat. ." (Prov. 13:8)

## It can lead to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

"Do not weary yourself to gain wealth, cease from your consideration of it. When you set your eyes on it, it is gone. For wealth certainly makes itself wings like an eagle that flies toward the heavens."

(Pr. 23:4-5, NASB)

#### It can lead to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

"A rich person is wise in his own eyes, but a poor one who has discernment sees through him." (Pr. 28:11)

#### Consider this prayer from Proverbs 30:

"Give me neither poverty nor wealth; feed me with the food I need. Otherwise, I might have too much and deny you, saying, "Who is the Lord?' or I might have nothing and steal, profaning the name of my God." (Pr. 30:8b-9)