

This War over Wealth Study Guide

The key to any system of slavery or bondage that we've ever seen on this earth has been ignorance. And by ignorance, I mean, they were kept from seeing the "outside" world, or the real world. In principle, that's the same method of bondage Satan has used against the church for centuries concerning prosperity, gifts of the Spirit, healing, speaking in tongues, and so on. The devil has done whatever was necessary to keep Christians ignorant, blinded, powerless and broke. In short, we've been at war, and the devil has used everything possible to keep the Body of Christ down and defeated.

He's Going for Your Wallet

Even now, I guarantee you that the devil is trying to do everything he can to stop you right now from believing a word that I'm saying. Because, if he can shut this Word down — **"I'll never be broke another day in my life"**... — then he can keep you, me and the rest of the Church in financial bondage, which is his final stronghold against the Body of Christ.

Even back in the early days of the Old Testament, Satan was fighting long and hard against this idea of man being blessed by God with wealth and riches.

Job 1:1-3

First, we're told that Job was a holy man. He walked upright before God. He honored and revered God. What we need to get in our heads is that there is nothing carnal about being blessed. In fact, holy and upright people are supposed to have wealth and riches.

Psalms 112:1-3

Wealth and riches shall be in his house.

Wealth and riches belong in the house of the upright.

It's interesting to note the connection — as far as God is concerned — between righteousness, holiness, uprightness and riches. All of these characteristics of a person who loves and reverences God are associated with wealth and riches.

In contrast the devil has been trying to get the Church's eyes off the "wealth and riches" part and focused on the "holiness" part—as if the two could never mix.

So, if Satan is at war with the righteous men and women of God, where do you think he is most likely to attack someone like Job — "the greatest of all the men of the east" — who has this impressive train of blessings, a train of material gains that God had put on his life?

Job 1:6-11

The first thing the devil attacked in Job's life was his substance. He wanted Job's "stuff."

Regaining Enemy Territory

Luke 4:5-6

Satan showed Jesus the material kingdoms of the earth — all their wealth, all their riches, all their goods, anything that could possibly represent material power and glory in this natural realm.

In other words, the devil showed Jesus "things" that in some way had to tempt His natural flesh.

Jesus was about to launch His own attack against the devil in this war over wealth and riches.

John Ch. 2

Luke 4:18-19

The very first thing Jesus attacked with that anointing was lack — "because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor.

What was His gospel? You don't have to be poor anymore.

Galatians 3:13

Jesus was saying, "I am anointed to remove burdens, destroy yokes and pull down strongholds built by Satan.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

In the case of this financial stronghold Satan has built against the Church, you can pull out your sword of the Spirit — God's Word — and cut away at the devil's lies from **your thinking**.

3 John 2

This verse in particular shows the priority of material prosperity in a list of three — prospering in goods and finances, prospering in your body with physical health and prospering in your soul. . . your mind, will and emotions.

Psalm 105:37

God saw fit to place material prosperity at the top of these lists, yet the devil has beaten us down and condemned us to the point that we've put our financial prosperity at the bottom of the list.

Psalm 35:27

If prospering financially in this lifetime were such a shameful and selfish desire, surely God, Himself, would not go to the effort He did to publish the fact that He takes pleasure in prospering His people.

If God takes such pleasure in prospering His "servants," imagine how much more He would delight in blessing you as His born-again, covenant child.

Your Heavenly Father is pleased when you do prosper, and He's not pleased — He is displeased — when you're not prospering. Why?

Because it gives glory, praise and honor to your Father when you're doing well. He's the one that gave it to you, so it's a **reflection** on Him.

Money in the Right Hands

Once we really start getting all the truth about God's attitude and provision for our financial and material well-being deeply imbedded into our spirit, then we will be able to deal with the demonic warfare that has been waged against the Church for centuries.

It is wrong, even ungodly, to think that a Christian cannot be financially free and financially prosperous. That kind of thinking does not even agree with the Bible.

The Lord is commissioning us, today, as He did the prophet Jeremiah hundreds of years ago.

Jeremiah 1:9-10

Through the Body of Christ, God is in the process of rooting out, pulling down, destroying, throwing down, building and planting.

Some wrong thinking and some devil-inspired ideas about money have to be rooted out, pulled down, thrown down and destroyed. At the same time, some right thinking and some God-inspired ideas about money, about prosperity, about financial freedom, about how we give and to whom we give need to be planted and built up. . . in your mind and in life.

There's a war out there, people. It's a war over our financial freedom.

The good news is, Jesus sanctified us and made us holy—and holy people are supposed to have wealth and riches.