

WISDOM

CHEAT SHEETS

Today's selection from the book of Proverbs explores the theme of being wise with wealth. Proverbs has a lot to say about wealth and this selection is a modest sample of the Proverbs on this topic. Notice the balance between not wanting too much and not wanting too little.

1. Being wise means fearing the Lord with our finances

9:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

19:23 The fear of the Lord leads to life. Then one rests content, untouched by trouble.

15:16 Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great wealth with turmoil.

28:14 Blessed is the man who always fears the Lord, but he who hardens his heart falls into trouble.

2. If we fear the Lord, then we are balanced with our money

30:7- 9 Two things I ask of you, O lord, do not refuse me before I die: Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, "Who is the Lord?" Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonour the name of my God.

25:16 If you find honey, eat just enough – too much of it and you will vomit.

25:27 It is not good to eat too much honey, nor is it honourable to seek one's own honour.

23: 4 Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the wisdom to show restraint.

18:11 – The wealth of the rich is their fortified city; they imagine it an unscalable wall.

3. If we fear the Lord, we don't look for dishonest gain or wealth

28:19 Those who work their land will have abundant food, but those who chase fantasies will have their fill of poverty.

13:11 Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow.

15:6 The house of the righteous contains great treasure, but the income of the wicked brings them trouble.

28:20 A faithful man will be richly blessed, but one eager to get rich will not go unpunished.

28:6 Better a poor man whose walk is blameless than a rich man whose ways are perverse.

27:12 The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it.

4. If we fear the Lord, then we're generous with what He's given to us and we look after the poor and those in poverty

21:13 Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered.

22:9 The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.

14:31 Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honours God.

28:27 Those who give to the poor will lack nothing but those who close their eyes to them receive many curses.

11:24 One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

11:25 A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

Gospel and bonus Proverb

Luke 12: 29 – 34 And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death. **Proverbs 11:4**