

# **“Some Wise Counsel Regarding Our Finances”**

(Sunday Morning January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

## **Selected Scriptures (Proverbs 3:9-10)**

*1 Kings 3:5 “In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream at night; and God said, ‘Ask what you wish me to give you.’”*

*1 Kings 3:11-13 “11...Because you have asked this thing and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, ... 12 ... behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, nor shall one like you arise after you. 13 I have also given you what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you all your days”*

It should come as no surprise to us that Solomon considered w\_\_\_\_\_ to be of much more value than w\_\_\_\_\_.

*Prov 3:13-15 “13 How blessed is the man who finds wisdom and the man who gains understanding. 14 For her profit is better than the profit of silver and her gain better than fine gold. 15 She is more precious than jewels; and nothing you desire compares with her”*

## **I. There are Some L\_\_\_\_\_ Ways to Gain Wealth**

1) W\_\_\_\_\_ H\_\_\_\_\_ is a Legitimate Way to Gain Wealth

*Prov 13:4 “The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the soul of the diligent is made fat.”*

*Prov 22:13 “The sluggard says, ‘There is a lion outside; I will be killed in the streets!’”*

*Prov 28:19 “He who tills his land will have plenty of food, but he who follows empty pursuits will have poverty in plenty”*

*Prov 28:22 “A man with an evil eye hastens after riches, and does not consider that poverty will come upon him”*

*Matt 8:20 “The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.”*

The Proverbs that we are examining this morning represent p\_\_\_\_\_ that are g\_\_\_\_\_  
true: “And in most cases,” Solomon Says, “Those who work hard will prosper financially.”

2) D\_\_\_\_\_ a S\_\_\_\_\_ is a Legitimate Way to Gain Wealth

*Prov 22:29 “Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before obscure men”*

If someone is talented and they work hard, they will not continue to work in obscurity, Solomons says, they will eventually be r\_\_\_\_\_ and r\_\_\_\_\_.

3) B\_\_\_\_\_ G\_\_\_\_\_ is a Legitimate Way to Gain Wealth

*Prov 3:9-10 “9 Honor the LORD from your wealth and from the first of all your produce; 10 So your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats will overflow with new wine”*

*Prov 11:24 “There is one who scatters, and yet increases all the more, ...”*

*Prov 11:25 “The generous man will be prosperous, and he who waters will himself be watered”*

The problem is that when it comes to being generous some Christians will s\_\_\_\_\_ at n\_\_\_\_\_.

4) S\_\_\_\_\_ and I\_\_\_\_\_ is a Legitimate Way to Gain Wealth

*Prov 6:6-8 “6 Go to the ant, O sluggard, observe her ways and be wise, 7 Which, having no chief, Officer or ruler, 8 Prepares her food in the summer and gathers her provision in the harvest”*

*Eccl 5:13 “There is a grievous evil which I have seen under the sun: riches being hoarded by their owner to his (own) hurt” (Emphasis Added)*

It is wrong for us to hoard our wealth, but it is wise for us to save for the future in the same way that Joseph saved up for the y\_\_\_\_\_ of f\_\_\_\_\_.

*Prov 21:20 “There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man swallows it up.”*

5) We Can Gain Wealth Legitimately by R\_\_\_\_\_ an I\_\_\_\_\_

*Prov 13:22 “A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, ...”*

## II. There are Some I\_\_\_\_\_ Ways to Gain Wealth

1) S\_\_\_\_\_ is an Illegitimate Way to Gain Wealth

*Prov 1:10-11 “10 My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent. 11 If they say, ‘Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood, let us ambush the innocent without cause”*

*Prov 1:18 “But they lie in wait for their own blood; They ambush their own lives.”*

2) L\_\_\_\_\_ is an Illegitimate Way to Gain Wealth

*Prov 21:6 “The acquisition of treasures by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor, the pursuit of death”*

*Prov 11:1 “A false balance is an abomination to the LORD, but a just weight is His delight”*

We should endeavor to be absolutely and completely honest about anything we are selling, and we should not w\_\_\_\_\_ any i\_\_\_\_\_.

3) E\_\_\_\_\_ is an Illegitimate Way to Gain Wealth

*Prov 11:26 “He who withholds grain, the people will curse him, but blessing will be on the head of him who sells it”*

*Prov 18:11 “A rich man's wealth is his strong city, and like a high wall in his own imagination”*

*Prov 30:8-9 “8 Keep deception and lies far from me, give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is my portion, 9 That I not be full and deny You and say, ‘Who is the LORD?’ Or that I not be in want and steal, and profane the name of my God”*

a. What You are is More Important Than What You Have

*Prov 28:6 “Better is the poor who walks in his integrity than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich”*

b. What God Sees in You is More Important Than What You Have

*Prov 15:16 “Better is a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and turmoil with it”*

c. What Others Think of You is More Important Than What You Have

*Prov 22:1 “A good name is to be more desired than great wealth, favor is better than silver and gold”*

*Mark 8:36-37 “36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? 37 ‘For what will a man give in exchange for his soul?’”*

