



God's Ways of **MANAGING MONEY**

HOLY
BIBLE
KING JAMES
VERSION

The Secret to a Blessed Life (3)

God's Promises for a Financial Breakthrough

- Christians should be poor(?)
 - While it consistently warns against the love of money and the dangers of wealth, it does not condemn wealth. Instead, the Bible emphasizes that financial blessings are a tool for God's purposes.
- God cares deeply about every aspect of our lives, including our finances
 - I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly (John 10:10, NKJV).
 - Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful (Joshua 1:8).
 - Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well (1 John 1:2).
 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).



The Rich People in the Bible

- **Abraham** had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold (Genesis 13:2).
- **Isaac** planted crops and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the LORD blessed him (Gen. 26:12).
- **Jacob** grew exceedingly prosperous and came to own large flocks, and female and male servants, and camels and donkeys (Genesis 30:43).
- **Job** owned 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 oxen and 500 donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East (Job 1:3).
- **David** died at a good old age, having enjoyed long life, wealth and honor (1 Chronicles 29:28).
- **Solomon**: I will give you wealth, possessions and honor, such as no king who was before you ever had and none after you will have (2 Chronicles 1:12).
- **Arimathea Joseph**: When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus (Matthew 27:57).
- **Jesus**: Though **he was rich** yet for your sake he became poor so that you through his poverty might become rich (2 Corinthians 8:9).

Three Reasons God Blesses Abundantly



1. Wealth is a sign of God fulfilling His covenant

- God's covenant with **Abraham** began with a promise to bless him and make him a great nation if he leaves his hometown (Genesis 12:1-3). Abraham's wealth (Genesis 13:2) was a direct fulfillment of this promise.
- God blessed **Isaac** abundantly (Genesis 26:12), a sign of God's presence and commitment established with Abraham (Genesis 26:24).
- God blessed **Jacob**'s flocks, making him exceedingly prosperous (Genesis 30:43) which was God's way of demonstrating His faithfulness to His promise (Genesis 31:13).

• Applications

- Trust in God's promises: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob prospered because they trusted in God's covenant. True security comes from trusting in God's plan, not in your own efforts.
- Practice diligence and good stewardship: While their wealth was a gift from God, it was also a result of their diligent work and wise stewardship.
- Acknowledge God as the ultimate source: They did not take credit for their wealth but consistently attributed it to God's favor.

Three Reasons God Blessed Financially



2. To worship God and to build the temple/church

- **David**: With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God. Now I give my personal treasures...3,000 talents of gold, 7,000 talents of refined silver (1 Chronicles 29:2-5).
- **Joseph Arimathea**: When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock (Matthew 27:59).
- **Mary** took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair (John 12:3).
- **Lydia**: One of those listening was Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth... The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home (Acts 16:14-15).
- Applications
 - Generosity is an act of worship: Our giving is an expression of our love and reverence for God.
 - Resources are for the kingdom, not for ourselves. Our financial resources are meant to be used to build God's kingdom, support His work and serve His people.

Three Reasons God Blessed Financially



3. Helping/serving the poor

- **Zacchaeus**: I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount (Luke 19:8).
- **Barnaba** sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet (Acts 4:37).
- **Cornelius** gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly (Acts 10:2).
- **Boaz**: Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelek, Kilion and Mahlon (Ruth 4:9).
- Applications
 - Believers should share their resources to ensure that no one in the community is in need.
 - Acts of charity are a form of worship and can open doors for God to work in our lives and the lives of those we help.
 - Your resources are not just for yourself but are meant to be shared for the good of the broader body of Christ.

You Were Created to be Rich

God wants you to be productive

- You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today (Deut. 8:17-18).
- God provides the ability to gain wealth, but it does not mean God wants everyone to be rich for personal gain.

The source of wealth

- God: Financial prosperity is a gift from God. It is not a result of your own power.

Purpose

- Wealth is meant to be used to fulfill God's purposes, such as being a blessing to others and spreading the Gospel.

A Call to righteousness

- To receive God's blessings and wealth, you must live uprightly and avoid sin (The rich man and Lazarus, Luke 16:19-31).

Call to Richer Life

God wants you to prosper

- The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that **they may have it more abundantly** (John 10:10).
- Jesus vs. the thief (the false teachers, the religious leaders of the day, Satan).
- True richness is not measured by the size of your bank account, but by the depth of your relationship with God and your generosity toward others.

The Bible promotes financial prosperity through diligence, generosity, and wise stewardship.

- Diligence: Work hard and be a good steward of your job (Proverbs 10:4).
- Generosity: Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God (Acts 10:4).
- Wise Stewardship: Plan and manage your money carefully (Proverbs 21:20).

Wealth is an Immense Responsibility

- The danger of riches
 - The Bible warns about the dangers of wealth, such as the parable of the rich young ruler (Matthew 19:24), who was unwilling to give up his possessions to follow Christ.
 - Wealth can become an idol, making it difficult to follow God. We must be willing to let go of our possessions if they stand between us and God.
- Build God's kingdom first
 - So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But **seek first his kingdom and his righteousness**, and all these things will be given to you as well (Matthew 6:31-33).
- To be rich, be rich in good deeds
 - Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and **willing to share** (1 Timothy 6:18).
 - In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied **by action**, is dead (James 2:17).