

God's Wisdom for Our Lives – Week 18

Living in Reference to God: The Fear of the Lord Leads to Worshipping God With Our Wealth

We glorify God by trusting in Him and not in the wealth He provides

Read Proverbs 11:4... Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.
& Proverbs 11:28... He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous shall flourish as the green leaf.

1. What is the warning these two proverbs in chapter 11 communicate to us?
 - a. Why is the warning needed?
 - b. How is wealth compared to righteousness?
 - i. What are some practical implications for us?

Read Proverbs 23:4-5... “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 and flies toward the heavens.”

2. What are the two commands given in proverbs 24:4?
 - a. What does it mean to “weary yourself” to gain wealth?
 - b. How do you “cease from your consideration of it”?
3. What are the reasons for the commands in Proverbs 24:5?
 - a. How have you seen this to be true?

Read Luke 12:16-21...

4. Was the man in Luke 12 in sin for being wealthy?
5. What was wrong with what the rich man had done (vs 19)? & Why is that so serious? (e.g. Matt 6:24)

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10

6. According to 1 Timothy 6:10, what is “a root of all evil”?
 - a. What are the potential risks/dangers associated with this?
 - b. Why would such a progression take place when someone starts to love money?

We glorify God by enjoying the wealth He provides

Read 1 Timothy 6:17 and Ecclesiastes 5:18-20

7. According to these verses, why does God provide wealth and possessions?
 - a. Why would enjoying them be part of worshipping and glorifying God?
 - b. Why would refusing to enjoy them fail to honor the Lord?
 - c. What's the difference between a godly enjoyment of wealth and sinful loving or hoping in it?

We glorify God by being generous with the wealth He provides

Read Proverbs 11:25... The generous man will be prosperous, and he who waters will himself be watered.
& 1 Timothy 6:17-19... "Instruct them... to be generous and ready to share"

8. How does generosity lead to blessings for the one who is generous?
 - a. How is this connected to "trusting the Lord and not the wealth He provides"?
 - b. How might this be over-applied or distorted?

Read Proverbs 22:7 "The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower becomes the lender's slave."
& Proverbs 22:26-27... "Don't be one of those who enter agreements, who put up security for loans. If you have nothing with which to pay, even your bed will be taken from under you."

9. What do these verses teach us about debt?
 - a. What does this have to do with being generous?
 - b. What does this have to do with trusting in the Lord and not finances (serving two masters)?

We glorify God by saving the wealth He provides

Read Proverbs 21:20... There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man swallows it up.

10. What is being commended in Proverbs 21:20?
11. What is being condemned? Why would this be condemned?
12. Why would it please the Lord to save the wealth that He provides? Practically, How do we do this?
13. How is saving connected to trusting the Lord more than wealth, enjoying the wealth, and being generous with the wealth?