



PROVERBS



Wisdom for Living As Disciples

WISDOM FOR FINANCES

RECAP

□ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge & wisdom.

(Proverbs 1:7a ; Proverbs 9:10)

□ We are defining FEAR as =

“a profound reverence and awe toward God coupled with a healthy awareness of the danger brought about by our sin”

□ We see two main voices in the proverbs, the voice of wisdom and the voice of folly/foolishness.

□ When it comes to wisdom, we have a decision to make.

Either: Live according to the grain of God's created design.

Or: Live according to whatever seems good and right to us.

OVERVIEW

Tim Maurer (2023) summarised the 130 references of financial wisdom, in the book of Proverbs, into the following 6 categories.

- 1. Prosperity and Poverty**
- 2. The Call to Generosity**
- 3. Compassion for the Poor**
- 4. The Pitfalls of Ill-Gotten Gains, Borrowing, and Lending**
- 5. Money Is not the Ultimate End**
- 6. The Benefits of Advice**

Proverbs 10:2-5

**2 Treasures gained by wickedness do not profit,
but righteousness delivers from death.**

**3 The Lord does not let the righteous go hungry,
but he thwarts the craving of the wicked.**

**4 A slack hand causes poverty,
but the hand of the diligent makes rich.**

**5 He who gathers in summer is a prudent son,
but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame.**

Proverbs 10:15-16 ; 22

**15 A rich man's wealth is his strong city;
the poverty of the poor is their ruin.**

**16 The wage of the righteous leads to life,
the gain of the wicked to sin.**

**22 The blessing of the Lord makes rich,
and he adds no sorrow with it.**

Proverbs 11:1-4

**1 A false balance is an abomination to the Lord,
but a just weight is his delight.**

**2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace,
but with the humble is wisdom.**

**3 The integrity of the upright guides them,
but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.**

**4 Riches do not profit in the day of wrath,
but righteousness delivers from death.**

Proverbs 11:7 ; 18-20

**7 When the wicked dies, his hope will perish,
and the expectation of wealth perishes too.**

**18 The wicked earns deceptive wages,
but one who sows righteousness gets a sure reward.**

**19 Whoever is steadfast in righteousness will live,
but he who pursues evil will die.**

**20 Those of crooked heart are an abomination to the Lord,
but those of blameless ways are his delight.**

Proverbs 11:24-28

- 24 One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;
another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.**
- 25 Whoever brings blessing will be enriched,
and one who waters will himself be watered.**
- 26 The people curse him who holds back grain,
but a blessing is on the head of him who sells it.**
- 27 Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor,
but evil comes to him who searches for it.**
- 28 Whoever trusts in his riches will fall,
but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.**

Proverbs 12:2-3

**2 A good man obtains favour from the Lord,
but a man of evil devices he condemns.**

**3 No one is established by wickedness,
but the root of the righteous will never be moved.**

Proverbs 12:9-12

9 Better to be lowly and have a servant

than to play the great man and lack bread.

10 Whoever is righteous has regard for the life of his beast,

but the mercy of the wicked is cruel.

11 Whoever works his land will have plenty of bread,

but he who follows worthless pursuits lacks sense.

12 Whoever is wicked covets the spoil of evildoers,

but the root of the righteous bears fruit.

Matthew 6:19-24

19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

22 “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light,

Matthew 6:19-24

23 but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

24 “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

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Matthew 6:25-32

25 “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?”

Matthew 6:25-32

28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Matthew 6:25-32

31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

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but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.**

Matthew 6:33-34

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

34 “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

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OUR CHOICE

THE FEAR OF THE LORD

(WISDOM)

GOD

IS OUR GREATEST

TREASURE + SECURITY

THE FOOLISHNESS OF SIN

(FOLLY)

WORLDLY POSSESSIONS

ARE OUR GREATEST

TREASURE + SECURITY

THE FOOLISHNESS OF SIN

- **Our treasure will not profit (Prov 10:2)**
- **We arrive at sin and death (Prov 10:16)**
- **Our hope, security and wealth perish when we die (Prov 11:7)**
- **Our wages are deceptive (Prov 11:18)**
- **We will always want for more (Prov 11:24)**

THE FEAR OF THE LORD

- **We will be delivered from death (Prov 10:2)**
- **Our needs will be provided for (Prov 10:3)**
- **We will receive life (Prov 10:16)**
- **We have a sure reward (Prov 11:18)**
- **We will be blessed as we steward well the resources God has given to us (Prov 11:24)**

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