

Intro:

Last time we talked about having the right attitude towards money.

We discussed:

1. Things that are better than money
2. Things money cannot do

Today we will talk about what Proverbs says about acquiring money.

I. God's _____ **viewpoint** about acquiring money

Pr 16.11 A just balance and scales belong to the LORD; All the weights of the bag are His concern.

Pr 22.22-23 Do not rob the poor because he is poor, Or crush the afflicted at the gate; ²³ For the LORD will plead their case And take the life of those who rob them.

II. God's warnings about the _____ **effect** of "ill-gotten gains"

Pr 10.2 Ill-gotten gains do not profit, But righteousness delivers from death.

Pr 11.18 The wicked earns deceptive wages, But he who sows righteousness *gets* a true reward.

Pr 20.17 Bread obtained by falsehood is sweet to a man, But afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.

Pr 21.6 The acquisition of treasures by a lying tongue Is a fleeting vapor, the pursuit of death.

III. Giving cannot _____ **atone** for ill-gotten gain

Pr 21.3 To do righteousness and justice Is desired by the LORD more than sacrifice.

Pr 21.27 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination, How much more when he brings it with evil intent!

IV. The value of _____ **diligence** in acquiring money

Pr 10.4 Poor is he who works with a negligent hand, But the hand of the diligent makes rich.

Pr 12.11 He who tills his land will have plenty of bread, But he who pursues worthless things lacks sense.

Pr 14.23 In all labor there is profit, But mere talk *leads* only to poverty.

Pr 20.13 Do not love sleep, or you will become poor; Open your eyes, *and* you will be satisfied with food.

Pr 20.21 An inheritance gained hurriedly at the beginning Will not be blessed in the end.

“The opposite of diligence and hard work is laziness. The lazy seek to avoid work altogether. Since they must make money to live they turn toward schemes and get-rich-quick offers. Proverbs teaches us that these alternatives to work will not succeed.”¹

V. The value of _____ **honesty** in acquiring money

Pr 20.17 Bread obtained by falsehood is sweet to a man, But afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.

Pr 21.6 The acquisition of treasures by a lying tongue Is a fleeting vapor, the pursuit of death.

VI. The value of _____ **righteousness (integrity, justice)** in acquiring money

Pr 11.18 The wicked earns deceptive wages, But he who sows righteousness *gets* a true reward.

Pr 13.11 Wealth *obtained* by fraud dwindles, But the one who gathers by labor increases *it*.

Pr 16.8 Better is a little with righteousness Than great income with injustice.

¹ Robert L. Deffinbaugh, *The Way of the Wise: Studies in the Book of Proverbs* (Biblical Studies Press, 1996), 69, www.bible.org.

Pr 29.4 The king gives stability to the land by justice, But a man who takes bribes overthrows it.

VII. The value of _____ **mutual benefit** in acquiring money

Pr 22.22 Do not rob the poor because he is poor, Or crush the afflicted at the gate;

Pr 28.24 He who robs his father or his mother And says, "It is not a transgression," Is the companion of a man who destroys.

Pr 28.8 He who increases his wealth by interest and usury Gathers it for him who is gracious to the poor.

Capitalism isn't a system based on greed and exploitation. Rather, it is based on a fair exchange of goods. Both parties benefit in a capitalist exchange — unless one of the participants is a liar and a cheat.

How to Lose Money

I. _____ **Laziness** fails to gain wealth and loses what wealth it has

Pr 24.30-31 I passed by the field of the sluggard And by the vineyard of the man lacking sense,³¹ And behold, it was completely overgrown with thistles; Its surface was covered with nettles, And its stone wall was broken down.

Opposite: _____ **diligence**

Pr 27.23-27 Know well the condition of your flocks, And pay attention to your herds;²⁴ For riches are not forever, Nor does a crown *endure* to all generations.²⁵ When the grass disappears, the new growth is seen, And the herbs of the mountains are gathered in,²⁶ The lambs *will be* for your clothing, And the goats *will bring* the price of a field,²⁷ And *there will be* goats' milk enough for your food, For the food of your household, And sustenance for your maidens.

II. The strange way _____ **greed** contributes to poverty

Pr 11.6 The righteousness of the upright will deliver them, But the treacherous will be caught by *their own* greed.

Pr 28.22 A man with an evil eye hastens after wealth And does not know that want will come upon him.

III. The _____ **impetuous** rarely keep wealth

Pr 21.5 The plans of the diligent *lead* surely to advantage, But everyone who is hasty *comes* surely to poverty.

IV. Ill-chosen _____ **companions** can drain away money

Pr 5.7-10 Now then, *my* sons, listen to me And do not depart from the words of my mouth. ⁸ Keep your way far from her And do not go near the door of her house, ⁹ Or you will give your vigor to others And your years to the cruel one; ¹⁰ And strangers will be filled with your strength And your hard-earned goods *will go* to the house of an alien;

Pr 23.20-21 Do not be with heavy drinkers of wine, *Or* with gluttonous eaters of meat; ²¹ For the heavy drinker and the glutton will come to poverty, And drowsiness will clothe *one* with rags.

V. _____ **Extravagance** runs through money quickly

Pr 21.20 There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise, But a foolish man swallows it up.

Pr 25.16 Have you found honey? Eat *only* what you need, That you not have it in excess and vomit it.