

## Biblical Wisdom About Money from the Proverbs

New Living Translation

### Giving

Proverbs 3:27

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them.

Proverbs 11:24

Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything.

Proverbs 11:25

The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Proverbs 14:21

It is a sin to belittle one's neighbor; blessed are those who help the poor.

Proverbs 14:31

Those who oppress the poor insult their Maker, but helping the poor honors him.

Proverbs 19:17

If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord—and he will repay you!

Proverbs 22:9

Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor.

Proverbs 28:27

Whoever gives to the poor will lack nothing, but those who close their eyes to poverty will be cursed.

### Wealth

Proverbs 3:9, 10

Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

Proverbs 8:18-21

I [wisdom] have riches and honor, as well as enduring wealth and justice. My gifts are better than gold, even the purest gold, my wages better than sterling silver! I walk in righteousness, in paths of justice. Those who love me inherit wealth. I will fill their treasuries.

Proverbs 10:22

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

Proverbs 14:24

Wealth is a crown for the wise; the effort of fools yields only foolishness.

Proverbs 19:4

Wealth makes many "friends"; poverty drives them all away.

Proverbs 21:6

Wealth created by a lying tongue is a vanishing mist and a deadly trap.

Proverbs 22:4

True humility and fear of the Lord lead to riches, honor, and long life.

Proverbs 23:5

In the blink of an eye wealth disappears, for it will sprout wings and fly away like an eagle.

### Debt and Lending

Proverbs 11:15

There's danger in putting up security for a stranger's debt; it's safer not to guarantee another person's debt.

Proverbs 17:18

It's poor judgment to guarantee another person's debt or put up security for a friend.

Proverbs 22:7

Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender.

Proverbs 22:26, 27

Don't agree to guarantee another person's debt or put up security for someone else. If you can't pay it, even your bed will be snatched from under you.

Proverbs 27:13

Get security from someone who guarantees a stranger's debt. Get a deposit if he does it for foreigners.

## **Stewardship and Investments**

Proverbs 10:16

The earnings of the godly enhance their lives,  
but evil people squander their money on sin.

Proverbs 13:22

Good people leave an inheritance to their  
grandchildren, but the sinner's wealth passes to the  
godly.

Proverbs 20:21

An inheritance obtained too early in life is not a  
blessing in the end.

Proverbs 27:23, 24

Know the state of your flocks, and put your heart  
into caring for your herds, for riches don't last  
forever, and the crown might not be passed to the  
next generation.

Proverbs 31:16

She goes to inspect a field and buys it;  
with her earnings she plants a vineyard.

Proverbs 31:20

She extends a helping hand to the poor and opens  
her arms to the needy.

## **Righteous Living**

Proverbs 10:2

Tainted wealth has no lasting value,  
but right living can save your life.

Proverbs 11:4

Riches won't help on the day of judgment,  
but right living can save you from death.

Proverbs 11:18

Evil people get rich for the moment,  
but the reward of the godly will last.

Proverbs 13:21

Trouble chases sinners, while blessings reward the  
righteous.

Proverbs 15:6

There is treasure in the house of the godly,  
but the earnings of the wicked bring trouble.

Proverbs 17:3

Fire tests the purity of silver and gold, but the Lord  
tests the heart.

Proverbs 19:1

Better to be poor and honest than to be dishonest  
and a fool.

Proverbs 22:1

Choose a good reputation over great riches; being  
held in high esteem is better than silver or gold.

## **Wisdom and Knowledge**

Proverbs 2:3-4

Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding.  
Search for them as you would for silver; seek them  
like hidden treasures.

Proverbs 3:13, 14

Joyful is the person who finds wisdom, the one who  
gains understanding. For wisdom is more profitable  
than silver, and her wages are better than gold.

Proverbs 8:10, 11

Choose my instruction rather than silver, and  
knowledge rather than pure gold. For wisdom is far  
more valuable than rubies. Nothing you desire can  
compare with it.

Proverbs 9:10

Fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom.  
Knowledge of the Holy One results in good  
judgment.

Proverbs 15:16

Better to have little, with fear for the Lord, than to  
have great treasure and inner turmoil.

Proverbs 16:8

Better to have little, with godliness, than to be rich  
and dishonest.

Proverbs 16:16

How much better to get wisdom than gold, and  
good judgment than silver!

Proverbs 17:16

It is senseless to pay tuition to educate a fool, since  
he has no heart for learning.

Proverbs 20:15

Wise words are more valuable than much gold and  
many rubies

## **Hard Work**

Proverbs 12:11

A hard worker has plenty of food, but a person who chases fantasies has no sense.

Proverbs 6:6-8

Take a lesson from the ants, you lazybones. Learn from their ways and become wise! Though they have no prince or governor or ruler to make them work, they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter.

Proverbs 6:10, 11

A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

Proverbs 10:4

Lazy people are soon poor; hard workers get rich.

Proverbs 10:5

A wise youth harvests in the summer, but one who sleeps during harvest is a disgrace.

Proverbs 13:4

Lazy people want much but get little, but those who work hard will prosper.

Proverbs 13:11

Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows over time.

Proverbs 14:23

Work brings profit, but mere talk leads to poverty!

Proverbs 20:13

If you love sleep, you will end in poverty. Keep your eyes open, and there will be plenty to eat!

Proverbs 21:5

Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.

Proverbs 24:33, 34

A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

Proverbs 28:19

A hard worker has plenty of food, but a person who chases fantasies ends up in poverty.

## **Rich and Poor**

Proverbs 10:15

The wealth of the rich is their fortress; the poverty of the poor is their destruction.

Proverbs 13:7

Some who are poor pretend to be rich; others who are rich pretend to be poor.

Proverbs 13:8

The rich can pay a ransom for their lives, but the poor won't even get threatened.

Proverbs 13:23

A poor person's farm may produce much food, but injustice sweeps it all away.

Proverbs 14:20

The poor are despised even by their neighbors, while the rich have many "friends."

Proverbs 17:5

Those who mock the poor insult their Maker; those who rejoice at the misfortune of others will be punished.

Proverbs 18:11

The rich think of their wealth as a strong defense; they imagine it to be a high wall of safety.

Proverbs 18:23

The poor plead for mercy; the rich answer with insults.

Proverbs 19:7

The relatives of the poor despise them; how much more will their friends avoid them! Though the poor plead with them, their friends are gone.

Proverbs 21:17

Those who love pleasure become poor; those who love wine and luxury will never be rich.

Proverbs 22:2

The rich and poor have this in common: The Lord made them both.

Proverbs 28:3

A poor person who oppresses the poor is like a pounding rain that destroys the crops.

Proverbs 28:6

Better to be poor and honest than to be dishonest and rich.

Proverbs 28:11

Rich people may think they are wise, but a poor person with discernment can see right through them.

### **Greed**

Proverbs 1:19

Such is the fate of all who are greedy for money; it robs them of life.

Proverbs 15:27

Greed brings grief to the whole family, but those who hate bribes will live.

Proverbs 22:16

A person who gets ahead by oppressing the poor or by showering gifts on the rich will end in poverty.

Proverbs 22:22-23

Don't rob the poor just because you can, or exploit the needy in court. For the Lord is their defender. He will ruin anyone who ruins them.

Proverbs 23:4

Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit.

Proverbs 28:8

Income from charging high interest rates will end up in the pocket of someone who is kind to the poor.

Proverbs 28:20

The trustworthy person will get a rich reward, but a person who wants quick riches will get into trouble.

Proverbs 28:22

Greedy people try to get rich quick but don't realize they're headed for poverty.

Proverbs 28:25

Greed causes fighting; trusting the Lord leads to prosperity.

### **Provision**

Proverbs 3:5,6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Proverbs 11:26

People curse those who hoard their grain, but they bless the one who sells in time of need.

Proverbs 11:28

Trust in your money and down you go! But the godly flourish like leaves in spring.

Proverbs 19:14

Fathers can give their sons an inheritance of houses and wealth, but only the Lord can give an understanding wife.

Proverbs 30:7-9

O God, I beg two favors from you; let me have them before I die. First, help me never to tell a lie. Second, give me neither poverty nor riches! Give me just enough to satisfy my needs. For if I grow rich, I may deny you and say, "Who is the Lord?" And if I am too poor, I may steal and thus insult God's holy name.

*Find other helpful resources at [FaithandFinance.org](http://FaithandFinance.org)  
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