

Topics in Proverbs

I. Skills in Godly Financial Management - Pt 2

A. Stewardship

B. Giving

C. Prosperity

D. Surety

E. Work

1. It's Beginning - Ge 2:15

- a. *'abad* - to work (in any sense); to serve, till, (causatively) enslave, etc., keep in bondage, compel, do, dress, execute, + husbandman, keep, labor(-ing man, bring to pass, (cause to, make to) serve(-ing, self), (be, become) servant(-s), do (use) service, till(-er), transgress (from margin), (set a) work, be wrought, worshipper,
- b. *shamar* - to hedge about (as with thorns), guard; to protect, attend to, etc.:-- be circumspect, take heed (to self), keep(-er, self), mark, look narrowly, observe, preserve, regard, reserve, save (self), sure, (that lay) wait (for), watch(-man).
- c. Assigned by God before the fall of man into sin therefore called good - Ge 1:31

2. Why is it difficult? - Ge 3:17-19

- a. *'arar* - to execrate: bitterly curse. - to declare to be evil or detestable
- b. The Curse
  - i. *'itstsabown* - worrisomeness, labor or pain:--sorrow, toil.
  - ii. *qowts* - thorn.
  - iii. *dardar* - a thorn:--thistle. - any of various prickly composite plants
  - iv. *ze`ah* - perspiration:--sweat.

3. Work as a Calling

- a. Work is any set of tasks to be performed in pursuit of a particular goal.
  - i. There is no Biblical reason to separate the secular from the sacred
    - Eating, drinking, whatsoever - 1 Co 10:31
    - whatsoever ye do in word or deed - Col 3:17
  - ii. We are saved for GOOD Work - Ro 6:4,11; 14:6-8; Eph 2:10
- b. Notice: money may be the reward, but not the reason - Eph 6:5-8; Pr 13:11
  - i. with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ;
  - ii. not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,
  - iii. with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men,
  - iv. knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord

4. Two wrong attitudes about work

- a. Complaint, burdened, resentful, unappreciative - Phil 2:14
  - i. Leads to laziness
  - ii. Sees work as a necessary inconvenience on the way to the true goal in

life - weekends were made for . . . .

b. Workaholic

i. Worship

- either of the work or the money
- finding our identity in what we do
- greed - Pr 1:19; 15:27

ii. A form of idolatry

5. Diligence in Work

a. Consider the Ant - Pr 6:6-8

i. The highest form of material life learning from one of the smallest

ii. Consideration brings wisdom,

iii. Doesn't need oversight

iv. pursuit of a particular goal - gathers her food in the harvest

v. Does the set of tasks to reach the goal - Provides her supplies in the summer

b. The Lesson to Learn - Pr 12:27

i. *charuwts* - incised or (active) incisive; a trench (as dug), gold (as mined), a threshing-sledge (having sharp teeth); determination; also eager:-  
-decision, diligent, (fine) gold, pointed things, sharp, threshing instrument,

ii. Diligence - steady, earnest, and energetic effort, devoted and painstaking work and application to accomplish an undertaking

c. Motivation to work

i. Hunger - Pr 16:26; 19:15

ii. Glorify God - Eph 6:5-8; 1 Pe 3:15

d. The Rewards of Work

i. Riches - Pr 10:4; 12:27; 13:4,11; 14:23; 21:5

ii. Takes care of needs - Pr 12:11,14; 13:23; 28:19

iii. Rulership - Pr 12:24

iv. Recognition - Pr 22:29

e. One's Biblical Approach to Work - Ps 37:5; 55:22; Pr 16:3; Mt 6:25; Lu 12:22; Php 4:6; 1Pe 5:7