

# Proverbs on Wealth

## I. CAUSES (positive) – how to get wealth

### A. Wisdom

3:13-16 - Happy *is* the man *that* findeth wisdom, and the man *that* getteth understanding.  
For . . . in her [*wisdom's*] left hand **riches** and honour.

8:18 - **Riches** and honour *are* with me [*wisdom*]; *yea*, durable **riches** and righteousness.

8:21 - That I may cause those that love me [*wisdom*] to inherit substance; and I will fill their **treasures**.

14:24 - The crown of the wise *is* their **riches**:

21:20 - *There is* **treasure** to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise;

24:4 - And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant **riches**.

### B. Diligent labor

10:4b - . . . the hand of the diligent maketh **rich**.

12:27 - . . . the **substance** of a diligent man *is* precious.

13:4 - The . . . soul of the diligent shall be made **fat**.

13:11 - . . . he that gathereth by labour shall increase.

21:5 - The thoughts of the diligent *tend* only to plenteousness;

### C. Generosity

3:9-10 - Honour the LORD with thy **substance**, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

11:25 - The liberal soul shall be made **fat**: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

### D. Humble fear of the Lord

22:4 - By humility *and* the fear of the LORD *are* **riches**, and honour, and life.

### E. The blessing of the Lord

10:22 - The blessing of the LORD, it maketh **rich**, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

## F. Righteousness

15:6 - In the house of the righteous *is* much **treasure**:

## II. CAUSES (negative) – how not to get wealth

### A. Wickedness

15:6 - ... in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.

21:6 - The getting of **treasures** by a lying tongue *is* a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death.

28:8 - He that by usury and unjust gain increaseth his **substance**, he shall gather it for him that will pity the poor.

### B. Haste

13:11 - **Wealth** gotten by vanity shall be diminished:

28:20 - ... he that maketh haste to be **rich** shall not be innocent.

28:22 - He that hasteth to be **rich** *hath* an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.

### C. Oppression

22:16 - He that oppresseth the poor to increase his *riches*, and he that giveth to the **rich**, *shall* surely *come* to want.

### D. Overwork

23:4 - Labour not to be **rich**: cease from thine own wisdom.

## III. (APPARENT) ADVANTAGES

### A. Protection/Security

10:15 - The **rich** man's **wealth** *is* his strong city:

18:11 - The **rich** man's **wealth** *is* his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit.

### B. Many Friends

14:20 - The poor is hated even of his own neighbour: but the **rich** *hath* many friends.

19:4 - **Wealth** maketh many friends; but the poor is separated from his neighbour.

**C. Can treat people roughly**

18:23 - The ... **rich** answereth roughly.

**D. Power**

22:7 - The **rich** ruleth over the poor ....

**IV. DISADVANTAGES**

**A. It won't last**

23:5 - Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for *riches* certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

27:23-24 - Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, *and* look well to thy herds. For **riches** *are* not for ever: and doth the crown *endure* to every generation?

**B. It won't save from death/judgment**

11:4 - **Riches** profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death.

**C. It leads to misplaced trust**

11:28 - He that trusteth in his **riches** shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

**D. It makes you a target**

13:8 - The ransom of a man's life *are* his **riches**: but the poor heareth not rebuke.

**E. It causes pride**

28:11 - The **rich** man *is* wise in his own conceit; but the poor that hath understanding searcheth him out.

**V. PRAYER**

30:7-9 - Two *things* have I required of thee; deny me *them* not before I die: Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor **riches**; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny *thee*, and say, Who *is* the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God *in vain*.