



Sermon Preached June 16th 2019
“God’s Plan For Building Wealth (Part One)”

SERMON OUTLINE

Main Idea: God has a plan for you to build wealth.

I. God has a plan for you to build wealth and it does not include debt. Proverbs 22:7

II. God has a plan for you to build wealth and it does include spending less than you make. Proverbs 21:20

GETTING STARTED

1. What major point from the sermon stood out to you as particularly helpful? Why?

DIRECTOR’S CUT

“God’s Thoughts on Wealth”

God is not opposed to wealth or to us owning it. (c.f. Proverbs 14:24, 15:6, 31:22) The book of Proverbs has many verses encouraging the reader to build wealth and it gives detailed application on how to do it. However, some Christians struggle with the idea of accumulating wealth. They think it is selfish and wrong to have large accounts filled with money. The problem is that there are Scriptures that seem to suggest this. Consider Luke 12:18-21 which speaks about a rich man who stores up treasure for himself and is called a fool. How do we make sense of the passages in Proverbs that encourage us to build wealth and passages like Luke 12:18-21? There are two things we need to keep in mind.

First, in Luke 12:21 it is significant to notice that the man was wealthy but he was not wealthy toward God. He did not have a rich relationship with God and his temporal wealth can not help him in that regard. The purpose of this teaching is to show that temporal wealth has limited power. However, wealth toward God leads to eternal life. The passage is not intending to communicate that building wealth is evil. It is teaching that building wealth while ignoring our relationship with God is foolish.

Second, Proverbs teaches that God is not opposed to us owning wealth. However, it does teach that God is opposed to wealth owning us. (c.f. Prov. 11:28, 23:4) We are warned not to put our hope in riches or to allow the pursuit of riches to be the primary focus of life. Both Proverbs and the Gospel of Luke agree on this. Wealth can and should be owned but it is never supposed to own us.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Do you think there is a Christian stigmatism associated with being wealthy? If so, why do you think that’s the case?
2. To what degree have the verses about wealthy building been ignored in the church? Why do you think that has happened? What could happen in the church if we developed a more biblical view of personal finance?
3. What are some specific ways you can do better with God’s plan for you to build wealth?
4. The borrower is slave to the lender. Do you think Christians, in America, have taken this verse seriously? In what ways has debt kept Christians in bondage?