

Endless Supply

Proverbs 8:17-21

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A. Begins with Loving God More Than Ourselves - Wisdom (vs. 17; Matthew 22:36-40):

1. I love those – God vehemently is determined to provide His unspeakable love and tender mercy to all who willfully decide to have the same desire toward Him.

a) But Wisdom has better gifts to offer than perishable riches—blessings like prudence, knowledge, discretion (“witty inventions,” Prov. 8:12), the fear of the Lord, humility, godly speech, wise counsel, understanding, guidance on life’s path, strength for the journey, and “durable riches.” A life that’s enriched by God may be poor in this world’s goods, but it is rich in the things that matter most. It’s good to enjoy the things that money can buy, provided you don’t lose the things that money can’t buy. *What Wisdom has to offer can’t be purchased anywhere, no matter how rich you are.* [\[1\]](#)

b) She is a guide offered to every person (Prov. 8:1–11) as the key to all success (8:12–21). The careful application of God’s guidelines for living will generally result in a more favorable economic situation, but financial prosperity must always be kept in proper perspective (8:19) [\[2\]](#)

2. Those who love God will be loved (John 14:15; 15:7-10; 1 John 2:4-5).

a) Since loving God is keeping His commandments, there is NO WAY this would not grow into the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, which leads to the fruit of love, which in turn leads to spiritual wisdom, understanding, and a powerful, resourceful life (Colossians 1:9-12).

3. Who love me – Anyone whose love for God is endlessly focused to tirelessly obey the Lord's Word because they view the Word as sufficient for every decision they need to address and are deeply committed to the Word being the rule for their life is a believer who vividly portrays a love for God daily (John 15:7-10; 1 John 2:3-6).

a) Wisdom, available to all, is acquired only by those who love her (cf. v. 21; 4:6) and seek her (cf. 2:1-4). Those who are wise receive riches and honor (cf. 3:16), enduring wealth (cf. 8:21; 14:24; 15:6; 22:4), and prosperity. "Enduring" is literally "surpassing" or "eminent." The riches that come to the possessor of wisdom are genuine, not artificial substitutes purchased with silver or gold. Being honored in a community is a product of one's walk (conduct) rather than one's wealth by itself. "Prosperity" is literally "righteousness" (cf. v. 20). Godly living is the major benefit from having wisdom. [\[3\]](#)

b) Some Israelites during the Old Testament era had the idea that wealth was a sign of God's blessing while poverty and trouble were evidences that you were out of His

favor. Because Job's friends held to a "prosperity theology," they concluded that Job was a great sinner or he wouldn't be suffering so much. When Jesus said it was hard for a rich man to enter God's kingdom, His astounded disciples asked, "Who then can be saved?" (Matt. 19:23–26) If rich people don't make it to heaven, who will? ^[4]

4. It is not just knowing the Word (all that does is make us puffed up; 1 Corinthians 8:1-2, e.g., Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes); it is, are we going to keep the Word (continue to obey it; John 15:1-5) when our life experiences, trauma of life, our world view, what parents or grandparents taught us, conflicts with what the Lord says (Luke 14:26-27)? This is when the Spirit, Who came to guide us into truth (John 14:16-17), leads us to wisdom.

5. And those who diligently seek will find me (Luke 12:29-34) – Experiencing God's love is also provided to those believers who actively seek the Lord for wisdom, spiritual understanding of His Word, and godly advice for the decisions they may be challenged to address. Because of their purposeful search to experience the will of the Lord, these believers are guaranteed, by the Word of God, that they will find Him.

a) Matthew 6:33: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (NKJV). ^[5]

6. Giving is an expression of love representing our relationship with God when no one is looking (Matthew 22:36-40; Luke 14:26-29).

7. If we have a hard time giving, we vividly demonstrate that we do not trust Him at the very core of what it takes to sustain our lives: His life in us.

B. Giving Shows Respect for the Owner of All Things (vs. 18-19; Job 1:20-22):

1. Riches – God is emphatically stating that money, land, material possessions, and all wealth are all in His control (Ps 112:3; cf. Prov 10:22; I Sam 2:7 [Hannah’s psalm]), the reward of humble faith; Prov 22:4).
2. Honor – God is in charge of establishing a good reputation and highly respectable positions for everyone, even if it includes wealth and riches.
3. Enduring wealth – The wealth and riches that the Lord provides do not fade away, nor decay, and it lasts for a long time, and we are blessed with greater rewards in heaven (Matthew 6:19-20; Revelation 3:15-18).
4. Righteousness—b A believer committed to completely surrendering their life to the Lord so that they live by faith and not by sight is a believer who, like Job, is dedicated to living righteously in the eyes of the Lord.. They demonstrate a commitment to God's standards no matter the cost.
5. Righteousness - In the case of Job, God shows how He blesses the righteous—the same with Abraham in Genesis 14:17-24.

6. My fruit is better than gold – Riches and honor that God provides because a believer's commitment to living righteous is better than anything they can achieve that they may ascribe to being prosperous.

a) Wisdom is called a “tree of life” in 3:18 (3:18 – This figure of speech may allude to the tree in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 2:9; Pr. 11:30; 13:12; 15:4).

7. My fruit is better than gold – God uses ‘fruit’ when He compares His blessings with gold. Fruit depends on first being able to have the seed (He is the owner of all things); it must be planted in His soil. It depends on His rain to produce fruit, which can be a constant supply. This is why it is better than gold.

8. My yield is better than choice silver – Whatever a believer gains from the Lord is better than the most excellent riches anyone can achieve on their own. It is definitely more secure.

C. Righteousness Keeps Our Accounts Full (vs. 20-21; 2 Corinthians 9:10):

1. I walk in the way of righteousness – Every course of action that the Lord takes is continuously a path of integrity, steadfastly faithful to His Word, and all His decisions are just.

a) Walk is figurative and refers to the manner of life, what someone does, a person's conduct or behavior. The way of righteousness is what justice and right living require. We may express the meaning of the figure by saying, for example, "I live in a way that is right" or "I do the things that are right." Keeping the figurative language we may say, for example, "I stay on the road that rightness shows me," or, as frcl says, "I am found on the road that leads to justice."^[6]

2. I walk in the way of righteousness – Because God owns everything, and because of His righteousness inputted into us, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, we can live right before Him; RIGHTEOUSNESS is the GATEWAY to blessings. (Psalm 112:1-3)

3. In the midst of the paths of justice - God is always in the heart of every way of life for the execution of justice in civil or religious governments.

a) Hebrew word for justice, equity, or fairness. cev renders the two lines "I always do what is right."^[7]

4. To endow those who love me with wealth – Endow is a guaranteed inheritance from heaven to earth.

5. To endow those who love me with wealth – The Lord would cause those who faithfully obey His Word because they are vehemently inclined to display their unspeakable love for Him to inherit the wealth He possesses. This wealth cannot be destroyed, whether here on earth or in heaven.

a) *Prosperity* – 3:2 – When Solomon prayed for wisdom, God promised him riches and long life if he obeyed God’s commands (1 Ki. 3:13-14). Typically the righteous are prosperous and happy (12:21), but sometimes it is the wicked who are strong and prosperous (Ps. 73:3, 12), temporary though that may be (Ps. 73:17-19). Job 1-2 also shows how disaster and death can strike a godly person.

a) Wealth, used only here in the Old Testament as a noun, refers to a great amount of accumulated money or financial fortune. In some translations this line is expressed as “I make those who love me rich people.”^[8]

6. That I may fill their treasuries – Like the widow in 1 Kings 17:1-16 the Lord continuously, with no end in sight, promises to keep filling up, to the point of an overflow, all the places of value that a person may have.

a) A righteous lifestyle is the spindle in the wheel to achieving favor from God, including enduring wealth and filling up treasures.

7. *“Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure — pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will*

be measured to you in return." (Luke 6:38; Malachi 3:10; NASU) This is why you cannot rob God (Malachi 3:8)

a) Satan, who runs the world (a way of thinking that is appose to God; Romans 12:2; 1 John 5:19), is teaching us about money so that he can cause us to rob God and hurt ourselves and our families, making us more angry at God.

8. That I may fill their treasuries – Because God processes all riches and honor that endures forever, all those who chose to live with a deep commitment to His Word and because of their obedience faithfully give to the Lord, the Lord promises to bless them endlessly.

a) Treasuries translates the plural of a word meaning “storehouse,” a building used for storing, keeping, or safeguarding valuable materials of all kinds. We may translate, for example, “I [will] fill their houses with valuables” or “I fill their storehouses full of precious things.”^[9]

^[1] Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). [Be Skillful](#) (p. 29). Victor Books.

^[2] Hughes, R. B., & Laney, J. C. (2001). [Tyndale concise Bible commentary](#) (p. 233). Tyndale House Publishers.

^[3] Buzzell, S. S. (1985). [Proverbs](#). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 1, p. 922). Victor Books.

^[4] Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). [Be Skillful](#) (p. 29). Victor Books.

[5] Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). [Be Skillful](#) (p. 29). Victor Books.

[6] Reyburn, W. D., & Fry, E. M. (2000). [A handbook on Proverbs](#) (p. 187). United Bible Societies.

[7] Reyburn, W. D., & Fry, E. M. (2000). [A handbook on Proverbs](#) (p. 187). United Bible Societies.

[8] Reyburn, W. D., & Fry, E. M. (2000). [A handbook on Proverbs](#) (pp. 187–188). United Bible Societies.

[9] Reyburn, W. D., & Fry, E. M. (2000). [A handbook on Proverbs](#) (p. 188). United Bible Societies.