
The Blessing of the Lord Makes Rich

And He Adds No Sorrow With It
(Proverbs 10:22)



What is God Blessing?

- Can be certain pursuits such as Psalm 68:11
- He blesses obedience. *“If you fully obey the Lord your God... all these blessings will come upon you and overtake you...”* (Deuteronomy 28:1-2)
- God Blesses RIGHTEOUSNESS / JUST LIVING - Psalm 5:12 – *“Surely, Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.”* God blesses those who live uprightly, practice justice, and walk in integrity.
- God blesses generosity. *“He who is generous will be blessed...”* (Proverbs 22:9)

What is God Blessing?

- God blesses diligence and work. *“Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.”* (Proverbs 10:4)
- God blesses faith and trust in Him. *“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord”* (Jeremiah 17:7)
- God blesses peacemakers and humility... *“Blessed are the poor in spirit, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, the persecuted.”* (Matthew 5)
- God blesses those who bless Israel. *“I will bless those who bless you”* (Gen12:3)
- God blesses those who fear Him. *“Blessed is the man who hears the Lord... Wealth and riches are in his house.”* (Psalms 112:1-3)

Power to Prosper

- The root idea is to **endow with power for success, prosperity, fertility, or longevity.**
- An **active empowerment by God** that results in **true prosperity.**
- It's an **enablement**, not a reward for effort.
- Empowerment is where God gives you power (ability) to produce wealth.
- Enablement means that He enables us to do this, but doesn't do it to you or for you. He enables you.
- How does He do that?

Power to Prosper

- It's a **type of gain that aligns with God's character**, filled with **shalom (peace, wholeness)**, not just profit.
- In **Proverbs 10:22**, blessing (בְּרָכָה) is a **noun**, not a verb form, so it does not describe the **act of speaking** a blessing.
- It describes the **substance or outcome** of God's blessing—**something real and tangible that enriches a person's life**.

Not a Hustle or a Hassle

- This verse sets up a **clear contrast**—not just between wealth and poverty, but between **God-given success** and **man-driven striving**.
- God's **blessing** is not the same as hustle. It's not performance-based.
- It's like tapping into a **wind that fills your sails**, while man-made striving is rowing hard against the tide.
- It's a **powerful, active force** from God that causes **flourishing** in every area: material, relational, emotional, spiritual.

Biblical Reminders

- **Psalm 127:1–2** – *“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain... It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil.”*
- **Deuteronomy 8:18** – *“It is He who gives you the power to get wealth...”*
- **Ecclesiastes 5:10** – *“He who loves money will not be satisfied with money...”*

The CONTRAST

God's Blessing בְּרָכָה

- **Empowerment** from above
- Rooted in **relationship**
- Results in **riches without sorrow**
- Includes **peace (shalom)** and **wholeness**
- **Sustainable and God-honoring**
- Requires **faith and obedience**

Man-Made Methods

- **Effort** from below
- Rooted in **self-reliance**
- Results in **gain with anxiety, toil, or regret**
- Often includes **stress**, or **compromise**
- **Fragile and self-centered**
- Driven by **ambition, manipulation, or performance**

True prosperity comes from God's enabling power, not merely human effort.

Proverbs 10:22

- “The **blessing of the Lord** makes rich...”
- **God's favor produces prosperity**
- Adds **no sorrow or toil**
- Contrasted with **human toil or manipulative gain**

Deuteronomy 8:18

- “He gives you **power to get wealth...**”
- **God gives you capacity to produce prosperity**
- Comes with a **reminder of covenant, not striving**
- Contrasted with **forgetting God and trusting self**

Proverbs 10:22 + Deuteronomy 8:18

What It's Not

- It is **not** a blank check for greed or the chasing of riches (which have wings)
- It is **not** a prosperity gospel in the modern sense as it is often characterized.
- It is **not** God rewarding hustle or clever tactics. He's not impressed with those.

What It Is

- A **spiritual empowerment** to succeed in a way that fulfills God's **covenant purposes**.
- A **grace-based capacity** to produce outcomes aligned with heaven's values.
- A form of **fruitfulness** that reflects your **partnership with God**, not self-reliance.

KNOWLEDGE

- “*The heart of the discerning **acquires knowledge**, for the ears of the wise seek it out.*” (Proverbs 18:15)
- “*My people are destroyed for **lack of knowledge***” (Hosea 4:6)
- “*...make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, **knowledge...***” (2 Peter 1:5)
- “*Wise people **store up knowledge***” (Proverbs 10:14)

Learning From Non-Believers?

- You **can** learn from non-believers—*but with discernment*.
- The key is **not WHO** teaches you, but **WHAT** they're teaching and **how it aligns with God's ways**.
- **“Test all things; hold fast what is good.”** (*1 Thessalonians 5:21*)
- This means you're not expected to only learn from believers, but you're **responsible** for **evaluating what you learn**.

Learning From Non-Believers in the Bible

- **Daniel in Babylon:** And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and **three years of training** for them, so that at the end of *that time* they might serve before the king... (Daniel 1:5)
- As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; (Daniel 1:17)
- Paul was knowledgeable of Greek and Roman writings... *“for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’”* (Acts 17:28)

MOSES

- *“And Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and deeds.”* - Spoken by Stephen in his defense before the Sanhedrin (Acts 7:22)
- Moses was trained up in Pharaoh’s court for 40 years in things like:
- **Science, mathematics, astronomy**
- **Architecture and engineering**
- **Religion and mythology**
- **Medicine and writing (hieroglyphics)**
- **Magic and divination (associated with court magicians and priests)**

TWO KEY FILTERS

1. Is the system or methodology based on man-made striving, manipulation, greed, or self-glorification?
2. Or, are there principles that reflect God's order, diligence, stewardship, value-creation, generosity, and wisdom?

Practical Framework

1. **Be teachable** – Don't reject wisdom just because of the messenger.
2. **Be discerning** – Don't adopt systems that require compromising faith or values.
3. **Be prayerful** – Ask the Holy Spirit to highlight what's from Him.
4. **Be aligned** – Evaluate whether their methods are compatible with your calling, not just your goals.
5. **Be anchored** – Build your foundation on God's Word. Let other content supplement— not override—God's blueprint.

Guiding Questions Before Learning From a Program

- Does this program **rely on fear, pressure, or hype** to motivate?
- Does it require **ethically questionable tactics** (e.g. scarcity lies, false urgency, manipulation)?
- Does it emphasize **greed and personal gain** over **service and value**?
- Can I **apply this content without violating my conscience or calling**?
- If the answer to those last few questions is **no**, then you're on solid ground to learn—and **redeem the content** by running it through a biblical lens.

Bottom Line

- You are free to **learn from anyone**, but you're called to **follow only One**.
- As long as you're aligned with God's heart, **you can take the gold and leave the dross**.