

The Path to Financial Abundance

A Biblical Studies Class

Prologue

God Provides

Gen. 22:14	The Lord will see and provide (Jehovahjireh)
Exodus 16:1-15	God gave them quail and "what is it" (manna)
Exodus 17:1-7	God provided water (Meribah = strife, contention)
I Kings 17:1-16	The ravens, then the barrel of meal fed Elijah
II Kings 4:1-7	God provided through the vessels of oil
Mat. 14:13-21	5000 men were fed, plus women and children
Mat. 15:29-39	4000 men were fed, plus women and children
Mat. 16:5-12	Jesus Christ was trying to get them to see beyond food
Mat. 17:24-27	God provided the tax money, so they could continue with God's Word
II Cor. 9:8	God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that ye, having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work
Phil. 4:19	My God shall supply all your need
Acts 11:27-30	Agabus prophesied, so the need was supplied <i>before</i> it arose
Acts 16:6-10	The Macedonian call - God provided needed direction, so His Word could bring deliverance to those hungry for it

Prosperity

Gen 39:1-6	The Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand (vs 3)
Gen 39:20-23	That which he did, the Lord made it to prosper (vs 23)
Joshua 1:7-8	Turn not from the commandments, that thou mayest prosper
I Kings 2:1-4	Walk in his ways that thou mayest prosper (vs 3)
II Kings 18:1-8	The Lord was with him, and he prospered (vs 7)

II Chron 20:20	Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye prosper
II Chron 26:1-8	As long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper (vs 5)
II Chron 31:20-21	To seek his God, he did it with all his heart, and prospered (vs 21)
Ps 1:1-3	Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper
Ps 37:7-11	Fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way
Prov 1:20-33	The prosperity of fools shall destroy them
Isa 54:17	No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper
Dan 6:27-28	This Daniel prospered in the reigns of Darius and Cyrus
III John 2	That thou mayest prosper and be in health

Part I - Background Throughout the Bible

Money and Riches

Gen 14:14	Abraham had 318 trained servants
Gen 24:24-35	Abraham had flocks, herds, silver, and gold (vs 35)
Gen 26:12-14	Isaac had flocks, herds, and a great store of servants
Lev 25:1-3ff	Jubilee & Usury (Deut 23:19-20)
Joshua 22:1-9	Return with much riches unto your tents (vs. 8)
I Kings 3:11-13	God gave Solomon riches and honor
II Chron 9:22-28	The king made silver in Jerusalem as stones
Prov 3:13-18	In her left hand riches and honor (vs. 16)
Prov 22:4	By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honor, and life
Prov 23:4-5	Labor (toil, grow weary, wear yourself out) not to be rich
Prov 24:3-6	By knowledge shall chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches (vs 4)
Prov 30:7-9	Give me neither poverty nor riches

Eccl 5:10-20	He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver ¹⁹ Likewise all to whom God gives wealth and possessions and whom he enables to enjoy them, and to accept their lot and find enjoyment in their toil—this is the gift of God. ²⁰ For they will scarcely brood over the days of their lives, because God keeps them occupied with the joy of their hearts. (NRSV)
Eccl 10:16-20	Money answereth all things (vs. 19)
Isa 55:1-5	Our salvation is without money and without price to us
Jer 9:23-24	Let not the rich man glory in his riches
Mat 13:18-23	The deceitfulness of riches (lure of wealth) can choke The Word (vs. 22)
Mat 25:14-30	Investing must have been a normal part of 1st century culture (Luke 19:11-27)
Mark 12:41-44	The widow's two mites
Luke 9:1-6	No money, one coat
Luke 22:35-36	Take purse, scrip, and sword

Inheritance

Num 18:21	I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance
Num 27:8-11	Inheritance stayed within the families of Israel (Num 36:6-9)
Deut 21:15-17	The firstborn received a double inheritance
Deut 32:7-12	The Lord's portion is his people, Jacob the lot of his inheritance
Joshua 1:6	Thou shalt divide for an inheritance the land (Joshua 11:23)
Ps 16:5	The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance
Ps 142:5	Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living
Prov 13:22	A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children

Prov 20:21	An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning An inheritance gained hurriedly at the beginning, Will not be blessed in the end (NASB)
Eccl 9:4-10	That is thy portion in this life (vs. 9)
Luke 12:13-21	Speak to my brother, that he may divide the inheritance with me
Luke 15:11-32	The portion of goods that falleth to me (vs 12)
Eph 1:11-18	Our inheritance in Christ (vss 11, 14, 18)
Col 3:23-25	Ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance, for ye serve the Lord Christ
I Peter 1:3-5	An inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away

Tithing

Gen 14:18-20	Abraham tithed to Melchizedek
Lev 27:30-34	The tithe of the land is the Lord's
Num 18:20-24	Tithes for the Levites (heave offering: dedicated gift)
Deut 14:22-29	Tithes of all, for the Levites every third year
II Chr 31:1-6, 11-12	Tithes and offerings reintroduced after priests and Levites appointed
Neh 10:32-33; 12:44	Offerings, firstfruits, and tithes for the house of God
Mal 3:7-10	The windows of heaven open up with tithes and offerings

Part II - Working, Giving, and Serving in The First Century Church

Working for Daily Bread

Acts 18:1-11	He abode with them and wrought (worked). Tentmakers (as in Greek): makers of rough cloth for tents or saddles (Aramaic). According to Bishop K.C. Pillai, tents were made by women, and saddles by men. Hebrew boys were all taught a trade, as in other ancient cultures. One Turkish Sultan was taught to make spoons. (cf. Gen. 39:21-23; 41:38-44; Dan. 2:48; 6:10)
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Acts 20:25-35	These hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me (vs. 34). By such work we must support the weak; it is more blessed to give than to receive (vs. 35).
I Cor 4:11-12	We hunger, thirst...labour, working with our own hands
Eph 4:17-32	Let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good (vs 28)
Col 3:12-25	Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men (vs. 23)
I Thes 2:1-12 (-20)	Our labour and travail...labouring night and day (vs 9)
I Thes 4:9-12	Work with your own hands...that ye may have lack of nothing (vs. 11-12) vs. 11 - study (endeavor, be ambitious, make it your ambition, let it be a point of honor with you) to be quiet
II Thes 3:6-15	We command...with quietness they work, and eat their own bread (vs. 12)

Baker's Handbook of Bible Lists notes 184 crafts, trades, etc. in the Bible.

Works DO NOT Produce Salvation

Eph 2:8-10	Not of works, lest any man should boast (vs 9)
Titus 3:4-7	Not by works of righteousness...being justified by his grace (vss. 5 & 7)

The Work of the Lord

Acts 13:1-3	Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them
I Cor 16:10-11	He worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do
Eph 4:1-16	For the work of the ministry (vs. 12)
Phil 2:14-30	For the work of Christ he was nigh unto death (vs. 30) vs. 20 - naturally: genuinely, faithfully
Col 4:12	Epaphras...always labouring fervently for you in prayers
I Thes 1	Your work of faith and labor of love (vs. 3)
I Thes 5:11-13	Esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake (vs. 13)

I Tim 3:1-13	If a man desire the office of a bishop (overseer), he desireth a good work (vs. 1). Deacons: those who serve
I Tim 5:17-18	They who labour in the word and doctrine
Heb 6:10-12	God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love
Heb 10:23-26	Let us provoke one another unto love and to good works (vs. 24)
II Tim 2:15	A workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word
II Tim 4:1-8	Endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist (vs. 5)

Giving

Rom. 12:8	He that giveth, let him do it with simplicity
I Cor 16:2	As God hath prospered him
II Cor. 9	Every man as he purposeth in his heart; God loveth a cheerful giver (vs. 7)
Gal. 6:1-10	Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap (vs. 7)
Phil 4:10-19	Ye sent once and again unto my necessity (vs. 16) (vs. 11: content - self-sufficient, independent of external circumstances)
Heb. 7:1-4	Even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils (vs. 4)

Disbursing

Acts 4:32-35	Distribution was made unto every man according as he had need
Acts 6:1-7	Daily ministration: serving/distribution of food (vs. 2). Cf. I Tim 5:16
Acts 11:27-30	Every man according to his ability determined to send relief (vs. 29)
Rom 15:25-27	If the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things
I Cor. 9	Is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? (vs. 11)
II Cor. 8	Your abundance for their want, that their abundance also may be for your want: that there may be equality

Trusting God to Live

I Tim 6 The love of money is the root of all evil (vs. 10). Trust in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy (vs. 17)

Heb 13:5-6 Let your conversation (character) be free from covetousness (the love of money)...so that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not be afraid. What can man do unto me? (Cf. Mat 17:24-27; 22:15-22; 25:14-30; Luke 9:1-5; 22:35-37; Prov 13:12; Eccl 10:19; Acts 8:18-24)

Jas 1:5 Let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally

Walking With and For the One True God

I Cor. 3:5-11 Laborers together with God (vs. 9)

II Cor. 6:1 Workers together with Him

I Cor 15:51-58 Steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord (vs. 58)

He that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast (Prov 15:15)

For tapes of this class or information on related classes, look on the internet at
www.speakwordsofgrace.org

Varieties of Tithes & Offerings - A Partial List

frankincense	- bread
oblations	offerings by fire (Num 15:13)
oil	- burnt offering - sacrifice
sacrifices	offerings for the house of God
- bullocks	
- cattle	passover offerings
- rams	
- lambs	peace offerings
- goats	
- turtle-doves	sin offerings
- pigeons	
showbread	thank offerings
tithe(s) - 32 times in AV	trespass offerings
- firstfruits	wave offerings
<u>offering(s) - 641 times in AV:</u>	- wave breast
burnt offerings	wine offerings
- continual (two every day)	- poured out
- without blemish	wood offering
- whole	Numbers 7: many offerings made by the princes of Israel
drink offerings	Levites receive tithes, then tithe to the Lord (Num 18:24-32)
freewill offerings	The sin and trespass offering money went to the priests (II Kings 12:16)
heave offerings	
- heave thigh	Summary (perhaps partial) of offerings: Deut 12:11
holy offerings	
incense offerings	
meal offerings	
- of memorial	
- of jealousy	
- continual	
- fine flour	
- baked	