

Jesus:

Store up for yourselves **treasures in heaven**, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break **in** and steal. Matthew 6:20

“The kingdom of **heaven** is like **treasure** hidden **in** a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then **in** his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. Matthew 13:44



Proverbs
How to Overcome the
Power of Money

I. What does Proverbs tell us about the power of money?

1. Money has the power to _____.

“The LORD abhors dishonest scales, but accurate weights are his delight.” Proverbs 11:1.

2. Money has the power to _____.

“People curse the man who hoards grain, but blessing crowns him who is willing to sell.” Proverbs 11:26

So what is Proverbs condemning?

A business with only one bottom line: _____.

“The wages of the righteous bring them life; the income of the wicked brings them punishment”? Proverbs 10:16

3. Money has the power to _____.

Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. 9 Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, ‘Who is the Lord?’ Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God. Proverbs 30:8,9

Proverbs' understanding of money does not fit into any conventional way of thinking, economically.

Misfortune pursues the sinner, but **prosperity** is the reward of the righteous. ²³A poor man's field may produce abundant food, but injustice sweeps it away. Proverbs 13:21,23.

II. What are the Reasons For This Power?

"**The wealth of the rich** is their fortified city, but poverty is the ruin of the poor." Proverbs 10:15

"The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. *The wealth of the rich* is their fortified city; they imagine it an unscalable wall." Proverbs 18:10–11

Money is worthless in the day of wrath. Proverbs 11:4

III. How do we break the power of money and use it properly?

1. Assume your _____ about money's power.

"The LORD abhors dishonest scales ..." Proverbs 11:1

Everything you want, you think is a _____. That's denial. What you *think* you need to live is so far beyond what you *really* need to live that you feel like all your money is tied up and you can't spread it around.

2. Grasp the principal of scattering and gathering.

"There is one who scatters, yet increases more; and there is one who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty." Proverbs 11:24

Paul is trying to motivate people to give to the poor:

"I want you to give, but I'm not commanding you," 2 Corinthians 8:7,8

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." 2 Corinthians 8:9

"Who sows sparingly will reap sparingly, who sows generously will reap generously." 2 Corinthians 9:6

Paul quotes the Old Testament statement about "*gathering and scattering*" in 2 Corinthians 9:9

As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever." 2 Corinthians 9:9

For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2