

## 1. POVERTY IS ANTI-COVENANT

A few years ago, I was on a weekly prayer call with other county leaders. Each week, there's a Holy Spirit inspired theme meaning nothing planned but a clear focus develops as we pray. On this call, God's theme was wealth. Now before I go any further, let me define wealth.

Wealth is:

Material wealth like money, property, and assets (nekes H5233; [2 Chr. 1:11](#)). Strength (hayil H2428; [Gen. 34:29](#)). Influence. For example, it makes a nation or city important in world trade markets ([Ezek. 27:12, 18, 27, 33](#)). Riches is a word used in the Bible (oser H6239; [2 Chr. 1:11](#)) that describes wealth in land, possessions, cattle, and descendants. It means "to make money" when used with the verb asah ([Jer. 17:11](#)). Riches is used separately with wealth in the Bible like [Psalm 112:3](#). You can be rich and not be wealthy because wealth in the Hebrew also has the idea of being righteous and having moral character. Substance (hon H1952) and refers to goods or wealth that is sufficient and enough. **The indwelling.**

### [Proverbs 8:21](#) (NKJV)

21 That I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth, That I may fill their treasuries.

The word "wealth" here is a very interesting Hebrew word (H3426). It's a semi-verbal expression that literally means "to be, to exist." It's spelled "yes" in the Hebrew pronounced "yaysh." It expresses possibility or ability like "God is able." But here's what's very interesting. In the Passion Translation, it says that the Aramaic is, "I will leave great hope as an inheritance to my friends."

### [Colossians 1:27](#) (NKJV)

27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Glory is the "true apprehension of God and His unchanging essence," which is Holy Spirit in us. And in the NT (doxa), it also means wealth. Doxa "embraces all which is excellent in the divine nature." **WEALTH IS CONTAINED IN THE GLORY OF GOD. THE GLORY OF GOD IS CONTAINED IN YOUR BODY WHEN HOLY SPIRIT LIVES IN YOU.** Now back up to one of the definitions of wealth note that it's also, "the indwelling." This is taken from the original language.

## 2 Corinthians 4:7 (NKJV)

7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

Treasure in the Greek is "anything laid up in store, wealth, spiritual treasures, and metaphorically "the storehouse of the mind, where the thoughts, feelings or counsels are laid up," which is why it's so important to renew the mind. **CHRIST IN YOU IS THE GLORY OF GOD IN YOU AND THE WEALTH OF GOD IN YOU THROUGH THE SPIRIT OF GOD IN YOU.** The greatest glory is God in you. But, again, within that glory is wealth. Why is this so important?

So back to the phone call. I became a tad frustrated because I was hearing a "pastoral" view of wealth and gaining wealth. At this point, I had started getting to know God's idea, the kingdom concept of wealth, that we've been examining and HOW we gain wealth goes beyond the more traditional views. For example, I'm a strong believer and lover of tithes and offerings. But many Christians (at least in my circle) believe that WEALTH COMES THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS. If that was the case, all of us should be rich!

**But the basis or legal precedent for wealth is not IF you give tithes and offerings. The legal precedence for wealth is COVENANT.** The tithe simply protects what you already possess, and the offering sows seed in the form of money for which you can assign a harvest. Money is neutral. If you plant an apple seed, you'll get apples. Plant corn seed, you'll get corn. **But money can be planted and be whatever seed and bread you need. Offerings are investments and you should expect a return.** Don't fall for the unbiblical lie that you should give without expecting anything in return. No successful farmer ever plants seed and expects to get nothing in return.

The other "pastoral" view is with pastors themselves. A pastor has a mindset that the church will prosper if the people give. And, yes, giving tithes and offerings is a part of God's prescribed way of worship and not to be excluded. **BUT KINGDOM WEALTH THAT IMPACTS NATIONS WILL NOT HAPPEN INSIDE THE CHURCH. IT WILL HAPPEN OUTSIDE THE CHURCH IN THE MARKETPLACE FIRST!** But we'll get to more of that later.

After a bit of listening on the call, I found myself saying this, **"Wealth is warfare. Every dollar you take from the world and bring into the kingdom is warfare. Why is it at the end of the age that the antichrist requires you to worship him in order to buy, sell, and trade? Because wealth is warfare."**

The thought shocked me as I said it. But the more I pondered it, the more I realized how true this revelation is. **YOUR MONEY GOES WHERE YOU WORSHIP**. Money, although, neutral is powerful and controlled by a demonic spirit called Mammon in the world. **But once it's in your possession and transferred legally into the kingdom of God, it can then be used to worship God.**

## WORSHIP IS WORTH SHIP

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**Worship is from two words "worth" and "ship." Ship is an old English noun that denotes "character, condition, office, and skill." It's close to the word "shape" in old English. Think of worship as "worthship" meaning that whatever you value or place worth upon shapes you and your life.**

### **Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)**

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

After I realized that wealth is warfare, God reminded me the first place wealth is used and the birthing of this series.

### **Genesis 31:1 (NKJV)**

1 Now *Jacob* heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, "Jacob has taken away all that was our father's, and from what was our father's he has acquired all this wealth."

Now let me read this in the KJV.

### **Genesis 31:1 (KJV)**

1 And he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, Jacob hath taken away all that was our father's; and of *that* which was our father's hath he gotten all this glory.

The VERY FIRST PLACE WEALTH IS USED IN THE BIBLE IS THE HEBREW WORD KABOD, THE WORD FOR GLORY. Wealth is in the glory. And wealth is part of the glory like we discussed above. To refresh, what or who do you have inside of you? Christ in you, the hope or expectation of glory or the indwelling. Ok, now let's replace glory with wealth like Holy Spirit did in [Gen. 31:1](#). **You have Christ in you, the expectation of wealth!** Wealth isn't just money; although, that is part of it.

Now let's wrap this up. As I stated, you'll never get wealthy through tithes and offerings. That's not the legal argument for wealth. Tithes protect. Offerings provide legal access to harvest. Both of these are a natural reaction or result of worship due to the covenant He made with us.

### [Deuteronomy 8:17-18](#) (NKJV)

17 then you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.' 18 And you shall remember the LORD your God, **for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers**, as it is this day.

Establish means "to keep one's word." Covenant is an agreement between individuals. Here God is specifically pointing to the covenant made with Abraham in [Genesis 15](#) but if you turn back a chapter, you see Abram tithing to Melchizedek after taking the spoils of war (which is another definition of wealth) placing his wealth in the domain of the kingdom.

God followed the ancient Hittite covenant-making process where the inferior party walked through the pieces. **This covenant became the legal basis for Israel to "get wealth." It was a picture of God becoming Man to redeem us from the curse.**

### [Galatians 3:13-14](#) (NKJV)

13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "*Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree*"), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

The law came after Abraham. It confined all under sin requiring us to believe in Christ apart from our own goodness, kept the Israelites under guard so they were separate in preparation for the Messiah, and a tutor to bring them to Christ. But God became Man in Jesus to redeem us from the curse of the law, the power of sin and death, and into the BLESSING OF ABRAHAM opening the way for us to receive the Spirit through faith. **I.e. the covenant made with Abraham is now ours.**

**Remember, the blessing of Abraham is the Spirit given to those who believe and a fulfillment of the COVENANT MADE TO ABRAHAM for the blessing. It's Christ in us, the expectation of glory.** In the glory is wealth and wealth is an aspect of the glory. Jesus purchased for us access to this covenant of glory.

### [Isaiah 53:5](#) (NKJV)

5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

Peace is "safety, happiness, wellbeing, friendliness, welfare, health, prosperity, soul peace, good health, perfect, rest, wholeness." **Basically, it's all that's good in God becoming our possession.**

Let me ask you three question, "Is poverty included in this definition of peace? Is there poverty in heaven? When did poverty enter?"

The only conclusion we can come to is that **POVERTY IS A RESULT OF THE FALL, THE WORK OF THE DEVIL, AND ANTI-COVENANT. It's in direct opposition to God's will like sin and sickness. And it's to be resisted as strongly as sin and sickness. It is the opposite of all that is good in God.**

This leads me to our second conclusion: THE GAINING OF WEALTH IS PART OF OUR COVENANT RIGHT, THE WORK OF GOD IN OUR LIVES, THE RESULT OF THE INDWELLING, AND AN ASPECT OF THE PEACE HE PURCHASED WHEN BEATEN. **WEALTH IS WARFARE. It is taking possession of the spoils of war for the kingdom of God.**