

## THE POWER TO GAIN WEALTH

You're going to learn a lot about wealth in this section of the training. And I hope the main idea you come away with is that God isn't against you possessing wealth. In fact, He is your business partner and will help you get it. What can be dangerous is a love for money in place of God. The spirit of mammon is very seductive. On the other hand, wealth is the language of Babylon and one of the keys to unlocking influence in the marketplace. And influence is what you are seeking so that you can capture the marketplace for the kingdom of God because when you capture a marketplace, you capture a city.

I have a few boundaries around my interaction with wealth (defined as money, possessions, power, influence, resources, etc.):

1. A constant consciousness of God in my business, my decisions, my spending, and my saving. If I keep Him front and center and the affection of my heart upon Him, then wealth will have its proper place. We're about to look at [Deut 8:17-18](#), but I want to point out one word here: remember. Remember means "to think about, to mention, to acknowledge, to make known...silently or verbally." The warning in chapter 8 was to not FORGET God once life got good. The opposite is the word "forget" in verse 11, which means "something that has been lost to memory" and even "hatred." You forget someone when they are replaced with someone or something else. God told Joshua that as long as he meditated on the word day and night he would be successful in all he did. God is the Word; therefore, meditating on Him is meditating on the Word and meditating on the Word (in the Bible) is meditating on Him.
2. An assigned purpose to wealth. I am not building money just for the sake of building wealth. God has given me a very specific vision and way to fund that vision using the wealth He gives me the power to acquire. Without prophetic vision, we cast off restraint. My vision keeps wealth within its proper context.
3. Working believer offerings. These, which I'll teach in-depth, are key to maintaining an attitude of "loosely holding onto" wealth. If we're not careful, we can become miserly and greedy always seeking to make more. We can allow the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches make the Word of God unfruitful in our lives. By being intentionally and cheerfully generous, you ensure that your heart is properly aligned with God's concerning wealth.
4. If I don't have it, I don't spend it. This is common sense, but it seems many times we miss this one. I did for an altogether \$56,000 of debt. Instead of adjusting spending and being a better steward of what I did have, I believed the deception that eventually things would turn around and I'd be able to pay it all off. I don't have time to go into that story, but I will tell you that

when I decided to never buy another thing on consumer credit, received God's vision and purpose for wealth for my own life, initiated regular, intentional working believer offerings, and embraced who I am as a business woman and wealth generator, things turned around so fast and so stunning that it's left a lasting impression. Some might wonder if a business person should use debt versus consumer debt like credit cards. I'll leave that up to you and Holy Ghost. I can see both sides. But I do know that whomever you owe the debt to is your master until you pay it off.

5. Remove all religiosity from my interaction with wealth. For example, I recognize that I'm anointed to create wealth (every Christian should realize that). Like some have a main gift of healing the sick or prophesying...I have a gift of making money. That doesn't mean I don't have obstacles to overcome in business, of course, but, generally, I tend to generate wealth easily. My dad was like that. My grandpa. Unfortunately, another thing that runs in my family is not KEEPING their wealth. I'm determined to be the first generation that learns how to do that. Anyhoo, I have embraced how God has design me in spite of the religious attitudes that have infiltrated the church concerning wealth.

Another example is I enjoy what I earn. I include in my "wealth strategy" enjoyment. Yes, I have a definite purpose for the wealth I possess. Yes, I give working believer offerings. Yes, save. Yes, I invest in things I believe in. But I also have enjoyable things like quarterly trips with my husband, purchasing books, my true crime mystery solving box, blessing my husband with gifts, and more. Wealth affords certain luxuries, and if you are within the parameters God has defined in His word and for you, then know that another parameter in His word is to enjoy what you earn.

#### **Ecclesiastes 3:12–13 ESV**

<sup>12</sup> I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live; <sup>13</sup> also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God's gift to man.

#### **1 Timothy 6:17–19 ESV**

<sup>17</sup> As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. <sup>18</sup> They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

This sums up what I've been saying. God gives us everything to enjoy and to share with others. We are not to be prideful in the wealth we possess, which leads me to how it all works.

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### Deuteronomy 8:17–18 ESV

<sup>17</sup> Beware lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.’ <sup>18</sup> You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

The word “gives” has a broad semantic range and is used 2,000 times in the OT. But some definitions are “to give, whether it be the exchange of tangible property, the production of fruit...the passing of knowledge and instruction.” Power is “strength and energy” that’s needed to create wealth but it also can mean “general physical and intellectual capacity and determination.” And wealth is “strength, wealth, army...has the basic idea of strength and influence...This idea of strength often is used to imply a financial influence (i.e. wealth); a military influence (i.e. an army) or a numerical influence (i.e. a great company).”

I hope you can see that wealth is governmental (a government must have wealth, an army, and a population). The strength and health of a city, a state, and a nation is located in its wealth. And each city, state, and nation is composed of individuals united into family groups. If the citizens are not prospering, the strength of that city, state or nation takes a hit. Poverty is evil. It opens up the door to crime, abuse, sickness, hunger, and more evils that God doesn’t will on His creation. God is not pro-poverty because poverty came after the fall.

**When you prosper within God’s guidelines and will, you enter into a position of strength and influence that you can then use in expanding the kingdom of God into all seven mountains of influence.**

### Deuteronomy 8:18 ESV

<sup>18</sup> You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

So we see from the above definitions that He gives you fruitfulness, tangible property through knowledge and instruction as well as the ability, the strength, the energy, the intellectual capacity and determination to gain wealth in order to CONFIRM HIS COVENANT. Confirm means to establish and covenant means “treaty, alliance, and agreement.” God entered into a covenant with Abraham that passed down to his descendants of which we are a part of. As covenant people, we should be the head and not the tail and that’s not done on spiritual terms only or fanciful metaphors. We are the head only when we prosper.

Think about it. Who are the elders of a city? Contrary to popular belief it’s not the pastors. It’s the business and governmental leaders. And just look at the

Biblical examples. Abraham had his own army for Pete's sake and rescued several kings and his nephew. Isaac was influential in the marketplace. Jacob formed an entire nation. Joseph was second in command of Egypt. Daniel was an advisor to kings. David was a king. Moses was raised as heir to the throne of Egypt but left all of that to form a legitimate nation out of the Hebrews. Why and when did Christians think that stopped being a priority with God? If you look at Paul, he always went to the most important and strategic cities and rulers of those cities and regions.