

Praying For Financial Provision

- “Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread”
(Matthew 6:11)
- But seek ye first the Kingdom of God
and His righteousness and all these
things shall be added unto you....
(Matthew 6:33)
- ... and my God shall supply all your
needs according to His riches in
glory (Philippians 4:19)



Financial Anxiety

- Matthew 6:19-34
- Philippians 4:6-7
- 1 Timothy 6:6-11,17-19



God Vs Mammon

- Matthew 6:24
- John 12:3-6
- Matthew 26:15, 27:3-5
- Acts 5:1-11
- Colossians 3:5
- Revelation 13:16-18



Mastering Your Financial World

- Fight, Flight or Mastery?
- Flesh = Fight / Flight = (impulsiveness or defeatism) = financial chaos
- The Holy Spirit gives mastery = financial wisdom
- We need to master our finances through a proper spiritual perspective and we must take control of them for God
- Money must be our servant and not our master
- We must make money serve God's will and not our fleshly impulses
- Tracking one's finances, saving and investing wisely and prayerfully is a good start



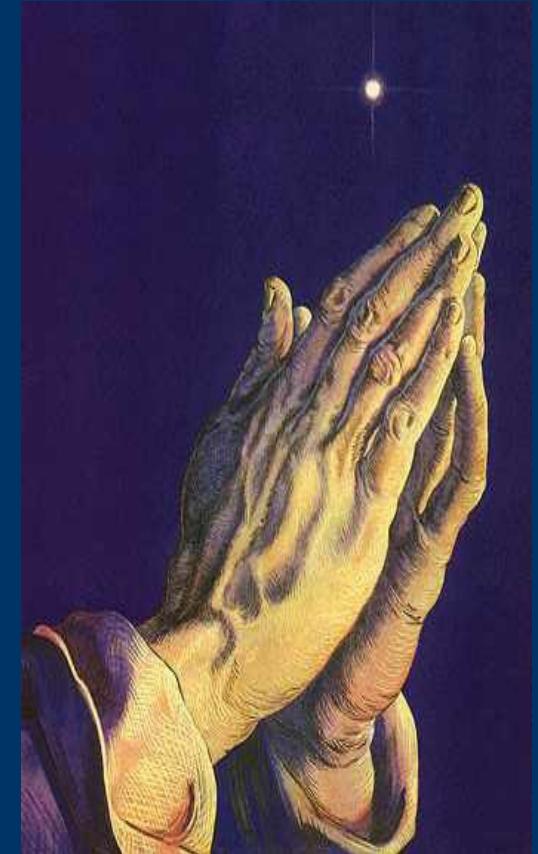
God's System Of Financial Provision

- God does not NEED money to do things such as creating the world, redeeming mankind or feeding Elijah by the brook Cherith
- The silver and gold and resources are God's
- God's system is natural and harmonious and preserves loving relationships
- Giving and receiving (rather than trading)
- Is just, fair and compassionate, God-centered & God-blessed
- Uses God-given creative skills and builds on imparted wisdom and favor
- See article in Prayer Reader



Praying For Provision

- Pray for the need itself – fulfilled
- Pray for a good job in a skillful occupation
- Pray for wisdom at work
- Pray for divine favor & connections
- Pray for justice in the courts
- Pray for a good idea that you can turn into a million dollars
- Pray or discernment of the right opportunities and deliverance from dishonest and crafty people



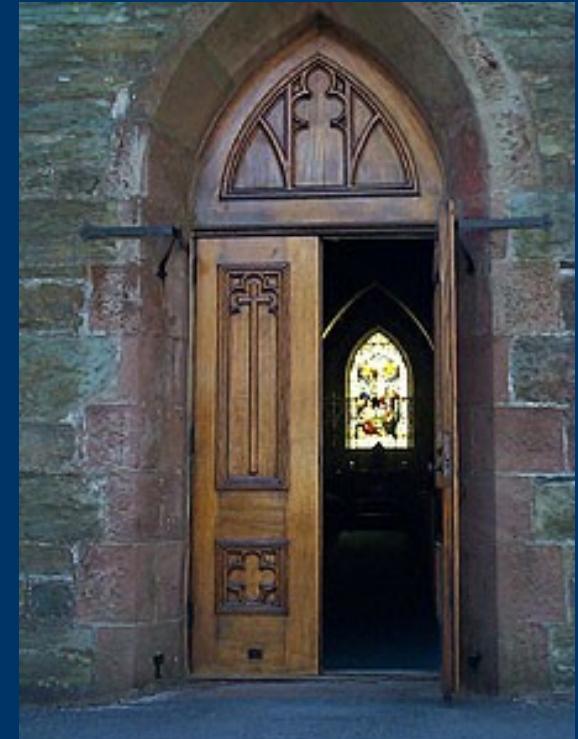
Praying For Provision 2

- Pray for an attitude of gratitude (1 Tim 6:6)
- Pray for the kind of prosperity that allows you to be kind and loving and to provide for and to raise a godly family (1 Timothy 5:8)
- Pray that your work and business will be saturated with Christ's love, even for competitors! (Matthew 5:43,44)
- Pray that your prosperity will overflow to bless the Kingdom of God (Luke 6:27-38)
- Pray that you may be humble in the day of success and that you may never look down on others (1 Timothy 6:17-19)



Praying For Provision - 3

- God's guidance and leading can open doors to business opportunities.
- We need to be sensitive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit in our conscience and in giving us ideas – Isaiah 28:23-29, 1 John 2:20,27
- The Bible gives us the guidance we need to prosper – but we also need to be full of faith, and to be bold and courageous (Joshua 1:1-9)
- **Faith is: simply having the courage to follow God's directions** (Abraham, Moses, Joshua David) - and to not let fear set your boundaries 1 Kings 17:1-24
- Faith focuses on Jesus - and 'gets out of the boat' to walk on the water (Mark 14:22-33)



Not By Works

- God's provision is freely given, by grace, to His children! (The birds, the lilies of the field in Matthew 6)
- It is not by works! (though it may require some act of trust and faith)
- If we think it is by works, then we tend to have bitter envy towards those who are more prosperous
- These negative attitudes are demonic (James 3:14-16) and sabotage our success!



Nice Guys Finish Last?

- Many Christians are perplexed that being spiritual does not directly result in wealth
- Just being really, really nice will not make you really, really rich!
- Even tithing does not make people into millionaires
- It is not RELIGION that creates blessing
- God simply blesses honest industrious faith
- BTW: Being evil and nasty will only cause God to destroy the works of your hands.



Or Do They?

- True Christian character (as opposed to outward religious observances) creates opportunities for success
- Patience and endurance stop us from giving up before we succeed
- Wisdom gives us good judgment in life, work and business
- Joy and enthusiasm create a likeable and dynamic personality that people want to be with and to buy from
- Love is instantly attractive and brings great blessing



Self-Sabotage & Prayer

- Most people have a small number of very persistent faults that keep sabotaging their chances in life
- Pain and prosperity can be part of God's voice / feedback mechanisms
- Fear, addiction, negative beliefs, argumentativeness, withdrawal from others, superiority, inferiority, a critical spirit, laziness, entitlement, foolishness, gullibility, naivety, poor choices of relationships, general poor judgment etc.
- We need to pray and ask God to show us what we are doing wrong
- We then need to repent of it, change it, and pray that we stay clear of it for good!

**WRONG WAY
GO BACK**

Emotional Damage, Success & Prayer

- No one wants to deal with someone who is: angry, full of rage, resentful, has a spirit of rejection, is over-sensitive and huffy, who easily quits in anger, who is paranoid and suspicious, or constantly perceives themselves as a target of abuse, discrimination or injustice, who conveys intense anxiety over small matters, is overly reactive, or who 'just gets everything wrong' in basic social interactions.
- People who continue in acting like this will have limited or zero prosperity in life (Psalm 68:6, Proverbs 28:13)
- The fact that these emotions originally arose because you were unjustly hurt or damaged in some way does not stop them sabotaging you now.
- Prayer, emotional healing and restoration through Jesus Christ will also restore the ability to prosper. God wants to heal you of this stuff!!



Poverty Is A Virtue When...

- Poverty is NOT a virtue when it is the result of irresponsible behavior or from negative or unbelieving attitudes
- Poverty IS a virtue when it comes about through holy renunciation for the sake of the Kingdom or when it is the result of being honest and upright in a given situation
- Poverty that is simply the result of circumstances such as war, famine or recession tends to be morally neutral



Finding The Right Place To Prosper

- Some places have systems that are much more prosperous than others
- A person working in the USA earns ten times what the same person doing the same job earns in the Philippines – while the cost of living is less in the Philippines, it ends up being at least a 6 fold increase in real income
- You need to ask God to lead you to a place of opportunity where you can serve Him well, and where your skills will be appropriately rewarded.
- Places of sin, dishonesty, chaos, and negativity should be avoided as well as 'dead end jobs' and failing corporations



Treasure In Heaven

- Financial prosperity is not the ultimate blessing
(Matthew 6:19-21, 19;21, Luke 12:13-21, James 5:1-6)
- Good deeds store up a treasure in Heaven that is of far greater value than gold or jewels. (Luke 12:29-34, 1 Timothy 6:17-19, Hebrews 11:24-26, 1 Peter 1:3-9)
- Christians who prosper are also called to share with others, especially the poor – Hebrews 13:16, Acts 2:42-47, 4: 32-35, Galatians 6:6
- **Priorities:**
 1. Family (1 Timothy 5:8)
 2. Pastors and teachers (Galatians 6:6),
 3. Missionaries and itinerant ministers (3 John 1:5-8)
 4. Christians in poverty (Hebrews 13:16, 1 John 3:16-18)
 5. People in general (Galatians 6:10)

