



The Wisdom of the Truly Wealthy

I. The wise have redefined wealth.

- Money is never the best indicator of a wealthy life.

Proverbs 15:16 (NIV)

Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great wealth with turmoil.

Mark 8:36-37 (NIV)

What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? ³⁷ Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

Proverbs 11:28 (NIV)

Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.

Proverbs 15:17 (NIV)

Better a small serving of vegetables with love than a fattened calf with hatred.

- Wisdom invests in relationships over possessions and experiences.

Proverbs 23:4-5 (NIV)

Do not wear yourself out to get rich; do not trust your own cleverness. ⁵ Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.

- How do you define wealth?

2. The wise have the discipline to wait!

Proverbs 22:7 (NIV)

The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender.

- It's foolish to try and upgrade your lifestyle through credit!
- If you look to "stuff" for your significance the result is often slavery.
- Am I looking to "stuff" for my significance?

3. The wise avoid 'get rich quick' schemes. (Proverbs 12:11; Proverbs 21:5)

- Am I chasing any fantasies?

4. The wise work with integrity.

Proverbs 1:10-14 (NIV)

My son, if sinful men entice you, do not give in to them. ¹¹ If they say, "Come along with us; let's lie in wait for innocent blood, let's ambush some harmless soul; ¹² let's swallow them alive, like the grave, and whole, like those who go down to the pit; ¹³ we will get all sorts of valuable things and fill our houses with plunder; ¹⁴ cast lots with us; we will all share the loot"—

Proverbs 1:19 (NIV)

Such are the paths of all who go after ill-gotten gain; it takes away the life of those who get it.

Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

- Wisdom understands that when we attempt to take advantage of someone that someone becomes us!
- Is there any deceit in how I am earning my money?