

# MESSAGE

Occasion : Evening Service  
Theme :  
Venue :  
Date : July 9, 2017

**TITLE : BIBLICAL REASONS FOR POVERTY**  
Text/s :

2 Cor 8:9

9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

KJV

Bible Reading :

Rev 3:14-19

14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

KJV

Song/s :

Other references :

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## INTRODUCTION

Why are people poor? Why do they continue to be poor? After having been adopted to God's family, why do they remain to be in poverty?

Do we believe in prosperity gospel? No, we do not. But there are Biblical reasons why people become poor and continue to be in poverty.

Being poor or being in poverty isn't only an issue of money or wealth. First, it is an issue of the mind.

Luke 6:20

20 And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God.

KJV

Matt 5:3

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

KJV

## 1) LAZINESS

Prov 6:6-11

6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

8 Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

9 How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

10 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

11 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

KJV

Prov 20:13

13 Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.

KJV

Prov 10:4

4 He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

KJV

Prov 24:33-34

33 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

34 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.

KJV

## 2) BEING UNTEACHABLE

Prov 13:18

18 Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.

KJV

Prov 5:7-14

7 Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.

8 Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:

9 Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel:

10 Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger;

11 And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed,

12 And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;

13 And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!

14 I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly.

KJV

Prov 12:1

12 Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish.

KJV

Prov 13:13

13 Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.

KJV

Prov 15:5

5 A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent.

KJV

Prov 15:31-33

31 The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise.

32 He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

33 The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

KJV

Prov 19:16

16 He that keepeth the commandment keepeth his own soul; but he that despiseth his ways shall die.

KJV

Jer 5:3-9

3 O Lord, are not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return.

4 Therefore I said, Surely these are poor; they are foolish: for they know not the way of the Lord, nor the judgment of their God.

5 I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the Lord, and the judgment of their God: but these have altogether broken the yoke, and burst the bonds.

6 Wherefore a lion out of the forest shall slay them, and a wolf of the evenings shall spoil them, a leopard shall watch over their cities: every one that goeth out thence shall be torn in pieces: because their transgressions are many, and their backslidings are increased.

7 How shall I pardon thee for this? thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods: when I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses.

8 They were as fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbour's wife.

9 Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord: and shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

KJV

### 3) WRONG DECISIONS IN LIFE

Prov 13:23

23 Much food is in the tillage of the poor: but there is that is destroyed for want of judgment.

KJV

Prov 11:5-6

5 The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

6 The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but transgressors shall be taken in their own naughtiness.

KJV

Eccl 8:5-7

5 Whoso keepeth the commandment shall feel no evil thing: and a wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment.

6 Because to every purpose there is time and judgment, therefore the misery of man is great upon him.

7 For he knoweth not that which shall be: for who can tell him when it shall be?

KJV

Jer 8:7

7 Yea, the stork in the heaven knoweth her appointed times; and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming; but my people know not the judgment of the Lord.

KJV

Prov 3:6-8

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

8 It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

KJV

#### 4) LOVE FOR PLEASURE

Prov 23:19-21

19 Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way.

20 Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh:

21 For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

KJV

Prov 21:20

20 There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.

KJV

Prov 23:21

21 For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

KJV

Luke 21:34-35

34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.

KJV

Phil 4:5

5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

KJV

Rom 13:13

13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

KJV

Prov 21:17

17 He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich.

KJV

Prov 5:3-13

3 For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:

4 But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword.

5 Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.

6 Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, that thou canst not know them.

7 Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.

8 Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:

9 Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel:

10 Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger;

11 And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed,

12 And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;

13 And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!

KJV

## 5) GREED

Prov 28:19-22

19 He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough.

20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

21 To have respect of persons is not good: for for a piece of bread that man will transgress.

22 He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.

KJV

Prov 11:24-28

24 There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

25 The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

26 He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.

27 He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.

28 He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

KJV

1 Tim 6:9-11

9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

KJV

Prov 28:20

20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

KJV

Prov 1:15-19

15 My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:

16 For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.

17 Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.

18 And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives.

19 So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof.

KJV

Luke 12:15-31

15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

22 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.

23 The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.

24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?

25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?

26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?

27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

KJV

## 6) BEING UNCONCERNED FOR THE SPIRITUAL

Prov 30:5-9

5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.  
7 Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die:  
8 Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me:  
9 Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.  
KJV

Luke 10:42

42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.  
KJV

Ps 27:4

4 One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.  
KJV

2 Tim 4:2-5

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.  
3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;  
4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.  
5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.  
KJV

## **7) WE HAVE ALL BEEN ALLEVIATED OR EVEN FREED FROM THE CLUTCHES OF POVERTY**

Eph 1:4-8

4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:  
5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,  
6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.  
7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;  
8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;  
KJV

2 Cor 8:2-9

2 How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality.  
3 For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves;  
4 Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.  
5 And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.  
6 Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also.  
7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

8 I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love.

9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

KJV

**BODY**

**CONCLUSION**