

Tuesday Night Teaching Bible Study

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SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY 13, 2018

PRINCIPLES OF PROSPERITY

“HONOR THE LORD”

Proverbs 3:9-10

*Honor the LORD with your possessions, And
with the firstfruits of all your increase; So
your barns will be filled with plenty, And
your vats will overflow with new wine.*

New King James Version

Proverbs

- ▶ Mastery over life
- ▶ Anthology of Israel's traditional wisdom; Ancestral wisdom of mothers and fathers
- ▶ Walk the path of wisdom in fear of the Lord; primary concern is the shaping of character.
- ▶ Wisdom – the ability to live life skillfully Biblical wisdom is ethical and spiritual because it is a reflection of the wisdom of a holy God.

Benefits of Wisdom

- ▶ Proverbs 3:5-12 deals with True Piety
- ▶ Proverbs 3:5-6
- ▶ Financial principles are tied with righteousness, holiness, character. It is of good character to give unto God.

Honor

What does it mean to honor?

Honor

- ▶ **kâbêd**, *kaw-bade´*; a prim. root; to *be heavy*, i.e. in a bad sense (*burdensome, severe, dull*) or in a good sense (*numerous, rich, honorable*); to *make weighty* (in the same two senses)
- ▶ to make honorable, honor, glorify

Strong, J. (2009). *A Concise Dictionary of the Words in the Greek Testament and The Hebrew Bible* (Vol. 2, p. 54). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.

Strong, J. (1995). *Enhanced Strong's Lexicon*. Woodside Bible Fellowship.

Honor

Do we honor God with our wealth?

Honor

Isaiah 29:13
Psalm 50:7-14

Possessions (Wealth)

hōwn; *wealth*; by impl. *enough*:—
enough, + for nought, riches,
substance, wealth.

Strong, J. (2009). *A Concise Dictionary of the Words in the Greek Testament and The Hebrew Bible* (Vol. 2, p. 32). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.

First Fruits

- ▶ the first and best; first fruit, choicest portion
- ▶ **firstfruit**, i.e., the first portion of something which has been set aside in dedication and offering to God

Landes, G. M. (2001). *Building your Biblical Hebrew vocabulary: learning words by frequency and cognate* (Vol. 41, p. 163). Atlanta, GA: Society of Biblical Literature.

Gesenius, W., & Tregelles, S. P. (2003). *Gesenius' Hebrew and Chaldee lexicon to the Old Testament Scriptures* (p. 752). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.

Increase (Produce/Crops)

- ▶ *Income*, i.e. *produce* (lit.) or fig.):—fruit, gain, increase, revenue.
- ▶ **Yield**, produce, crops, i.e., what is harvested from plants, whether grain or fruit (Ge 47:24; Dt 22:9); **2**. LN 65.1–65.16 **gain**, income, i.e., what is valuable.

Strong, J. (2009). *A Concise Dictionary of the Words in the Greek Testament and The Hebrew Bible* (Vol. 2, p. 122). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.

Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew (Old Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

Affirmations of Increase

- ▶ It is God who makes increase possible
- ▶ The ingathering of increase was an occasion of celebration.
 - ▶ Festival of Unleavened Bread.
 - ▶ The Feast of Weeks (firstfruits of grain) was observed in May–June (Deut 16:9ff.).
 - ▶ Festival of Booths (Lev 23:39; cf. Deut 16:13ff.) The end-of-the-year harvest in October, chiefly a fruit harvest.

Affirmations of Increase

- ▶ Both in legal and wisdom literature the firstfruits of the produce are designated for YHWH (Deut 14:22).
 - ▶ Israel was to tithe (‘āśar) all the produce of the field annually.
 - ▶ Every three years the agricultural tithe was designated particularly to the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow (Deut 26:12; cf. 14:28).

Worship

HONOR GOD WITH YOUR INCREASE IN
THIS MANNER IS WORSHIP!!!

Worship

- ▶ One practical test of whether one is trusting the Lord or one's own judgment can be found in how we view our possessions and finances.
- ▶ Today, this means giving to God the “first produce” of your paycheck, rather than waiting to give after all the bills have been paid.

Sovereignty of God

- ▶ There's no such thing as "spiritual" and "material" in the Christian life, for everything comes from God and belongs to God.
 - ▶ Old Testament - Jews brought the Lord the firstlings of their flocks (Ex. 13:1–2) and the firstfruits of their fields (Lev. 23:9–14), and in this way acknowledged His goodness and sovereignty.
 - ▶ New Testament parallel is Matthew 6:33

Honor the Lord - Worship

- ▶ If we don't faithfully give to the Lord, we don't really trust the Lord!
- ▶ Tithes and offerings are evidence of our faith and obedience!
- ▶ Giving is heart preparation for what God wants to say to us and do for us!

Honor the Lord - Worship

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:21, NKJV).