

## *What Yahuah thinks about earthly wealth and wealthy people*

### **2 Corinthians 8:9,**

*For ye know the grace of our Adon Yahusha Ha'Mashiach, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.*

### **Definition**

Based upon the father and son's thoughts about riches, can we be rich and serve Yahuah? I mean it depends... For us to truly answer this question properly, we must first analyze what it takes to be wealthy. Firstly, it starts with the faith to gamble your time and/or personal assets and finances to start up a business or invest in a business or get a high paying job and this is only on the legal side. Secondly, it robs you of your social life, character and just time in general. Thirdly, it destroys friendships and casts off most other interests, because it isn't useful to keep around friends that don't share the same vision; it goes the same for interests that might have taken away from what you think you really should be focusing on. It takes sacrifice, diligence and greed to continue until it works. After doing all of these, and the person becomes successful, I have noticed there's a persona that takes shape in every rich person that I've met, which includes the following: their inability to feel peace, their inability to love in most instances, the inability to be truly kind, the inability to feel pity, the inability to be humble, the inability to trust and the inability to be satisfied.

Then where does this doctrine of prosperity come from? The bible speaks expressly against gathering much worldly goods and against people who love to do so. Yet, there are church leaders who preach that the proof of Yahusha in your life is indeed riches. Here's what the bible has to say about it: **1 Timothy 6:3-8**, "*If any man **teach otherwise**, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Adon Yahusha Ha'Mashiach, and to the doctrine which is according to holiness; He is proud, **knowing nothing**, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, **supposing that gain is holiness: from such withdraw thyself**. But holiness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 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. 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."* This is proof that these teachers are false and the bible says that we should avoid them. To want to succeed and to want more for yourself is a natural thing, there's nothing wrong with that, but who defines what is success? What should you want more of? Who decides our purpose in life?

The world's definition of success is to be able to amass a large amount of worldly treasure, so people spend most of their lives trying to get rich. It is a very unfulfilling life and we selfishly use up Elohim's time while he gets no glory from it. The bible warns us about this in **Luke 12:15**, "*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.*" If you tell people this, they think you are lying and that you are the false prophet, but it is what the scripture says. Our fulfillment doesn't come from material wealth; **Proverbs 13:7**, "*There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches.*" Some of these people still say they know Elohim, but he doesn't consider them, in **Revelations 3:17**, he admonishes the church in Laodicea, because they also had this false mental conception that gain was holiness, here is what it says, "*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.*" It is hard when we trust in the safeguard of worldly goods instead of Yahuah who created the world. It scared Job to think what would the end of these people would be like: **Job 21:6-7, 13-15, 17-18**, "*Even when I remember I am afraid, and trembling taketh hold on my flesh. Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power? They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. Therefore they say unto Elohim, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him? How oft is the candle of the wicked put out! and how oft cometh their destruction upon them! Elohim distributeth sorrows in his anger. They are as stubble before the wind, and as chaff that the storm carrieth away.*"

In **Ephesians 3:14**, it declares that Yahuah is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, yet we question his capabilities by constantly trying to achieve things ourselves. The earth is Yah's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein; do we remember this? Our ultimate provider says in **Isaiah 55:1** "*Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.*" Only Elohim is capable of saying this and making it happen.

## **Fantasy vs Reality**

This false mental conception also creates a barrier in society where the rich are favoured over the poor which we will elaborate on using scripture: **Proverbs 14:20-21**, "*The poor is hated even of his own neighbour: but the rich hath many friends. He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.*" So there it is, it is a **sin** to hate the poor but the reality is that we despise them because they cannot give us anything and we do not want to give them anything; **Proverbs 19:4, 6**, "*Wealth maketh many friends; but the poor is separated from his neighbour. Many will intreat the favour of the prince: and every man is a friend to him that giveth gifts.*" Even though this is what we desire the most, Yahusha's emphasis is on giving; he says it is better than receiving. What the world reveres are abominations to YAH. **Job 34:19** explains, "*How much less to him that accepteth not the persons of princes, nor regardeth the rich more than the poor? for they all are the work of his hands.*" In the bible there is a clear view of Yahusha's preference: **Luke 1:52-53**, "*He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.*" This is not only because of their financial status but because of their difference in their mannerisms. Here are some examples:

- **Proverbs 18:23**, "*The poor useth intreaties; but the rich answereth roughly.*"
- **Proverbs 28:11**, "*The rich man is wise in his own conceit; but the poor that hath understanding searcheth him out.*"
- **Proverbs 28:6**, "*Better is the poor that walketh in his uprightness, than he that is perverse in his ways, though he be rich.*"

So we see here the dynamics between rich and poor characters. A worldly rich person however, is not solely identified by his financial status but more importantly their mindset, it is what in reality differentiates the characters. We are under the impression that rich people are people to be envied, they are glamorous and have all this great stuff, a luxurious life, no major problems and think that their wealth gives them a pass for having a bad attitude. They can do no wrong in our eyes. **Matthew 5:3** speaks differently, "*Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*" If you are rich in spirit, it means that you have a rich mindset, your whole being which includes your thought process and actions are geared towards one goal and it is to be successful. It makes you stubborn, wasteful, selfish, arrogant and foolish. Rich people most times do not get to either eat or sleep properly, they are unhealthy because of poor diet and lack of sleep and later develop horrible illnesses that sometimes cannot be fixed no matter how much money they use. They don't trust anyone, so they can never have a full relationship with anyone and they are almost always

on edge. Despite their best efforts their things will waste away without them getting to enjoy anything much out of them and this happens also because they are unwilling to share. When you're poor in spirit, you are led to intreat Mashiach, you are humble, hardships lead you into wisdom, you're satisfied and you seek to be upright. Yahusha promised to us who serve him a peace that encompassed all understanding, a peace that no man can give for us to be sustained. Paul had attained unto that peace which is why he said confidently **Philippians 4:11-13**, "*Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Mashiach which strengtheneth me.*" James, a disciple of Yahusha even pointed out the folly in our flawed way of thinking, because it is quite obvious who Yahusha favors: **James 2:5-7**, "*Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not Elohim chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?*" It's a valid point, we must admit. Yahuah himself said in **Isaiah 66:2**, "*...To this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit and trembleth at my word.*"

We have an overall purpose which come with many duties as followers of Yahusha and if we don't remember, they are outlines in the scriptures that explain our purpose and duties, one is in **Deuteronomy 10:12-13**, "*And now, Yasharel (Israel), what doth YAH thy Elohim require of thee, but to fear YAHUAH, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve YAH thy Elohim with all thy heart and with all thy soul, to keep the commandments of YAHUAH, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?*" Another one which speaks to our character and our duty towards each other: **Isaiah 61:1**, "*The Spirit of the Yahuah is upon me; because the Adon hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.*"

One of Yahusha's commandments for us that falls under those outlined in Isaiah 61:1 is that we love others as ourselves, which we can't accomplish while staying rich. That duty is to love others as we love ourselves, it explains in **1 Timothy 6:17-19**, "*Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living Elohim, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, **ready to distribute**, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.*" We don't find this trait in most wealthy persons. Wealthy people have specific people who they give to; in most cases these people are at the same level of wealth and whoever is outside of that circle doesn't matter. To

Yahusha, all lives matter, as he explains in **Luke 14:12-14**, "*Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.*" If you do not have the mind of Mashiach, you cannot be apart of mashiach. The signature of the worldly nature is to do things that always benefit me, we're in the big business of instant gratification and self indulgence. The bible says in **1 Corinthians 10:24**, "*Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth.*" Yahusha's call is a call for a man to be limitless and a man's greatest limit is himself. Once he can come out from himself, he will serve a greater purpose, and accomplish more than what he thought was possible, including entering into eternal life. However, if a man is stuck within himself and his carnal desires, then he can accomplish nothing. **Luke 18:22-25** expounds on the selfish carnal mindset, "*Now when Yahusha heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me. And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich. And when Yahusha saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of Elohim! For it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of Elohim.*"

Now it's not to say that we are to take up responsibility for everyone in the entire world, but do what we can to avoid hurting others and to help others, as much as we can, because as **1 John 3:17** says, we can't have in abundance and see our brother/sister in need and hold it back and not assist, how can we then say we have the love of Elohim within us? Yahuah declares in **Proverbs 19:17**, "*He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the ADON; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.*" When it says 'poor' here, it doesn't mean give to specific charities, because to tell the truth, some of these foundations are richer than the person donating to them. I cannot call myself compassionate or helpful if my everyday 'neighbour' needs help and I do not feel the urge to assist. In **Proverbs 11:24-25**, it explains "*There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.*" Take care of Yahusha's people and he will take care of you.

## **The problems of wealthy people**

Let me touch on the fact that wealthy people have way more worries than the rest of the normal people in the world. They have to worry about attaining more, sometimes keeping up appearances and most importantly protecting what they have. Most times they are really sad, anxious and lonely on the inside. Most people are just like that rich young man mentioned in the bible, wanting fulfillment but cannot abandon that lifestyle to get it. There is no fulfilling happiness with this type of life, when the achievement is attained, there is no satisfaction, only a bigger goal is set. **1 Timothy 6:9-10**, "*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. 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.*" There is no lasting happiness.

**Ecclesiastes 5:10-12** says also, "*He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity. When goods increase, they are increased that eat them: and what good is there to the owners thereof, saving the beholding of them with their eyes? The sleep of a labouring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not suffer him to sleep.*" There is a greater joy in giving than receiving and hoarding.

The other problems are the amount of time we spend trying to get rich and stay rich, as well as the things that we do. In achieving wealth we have to demean ourselves and go against our beliefs to get it and to keep it. Yahusha says if you love me, keep my commandments. Two of the commandments state that:

1. We must have no other Elohim before him.
2. We must keep the Shabbat holy, six days we must labour but on the 7th day we must rest

Look at wealthy people, they do not rest on any day, it doesn't matter what they tell you. If they somehow find a way to schedule their time and stop physically on that day, it is only for most of the day and not all of it. Even when they stop physically, their mental space is still filled up with what they have to do and it is near impossible for Elohim to get their complete attention. Rev. Charles Spurgeon quotes, "Whatever a man depends upon, whatever rules his mind, whatever governs his affections, whatever is the chief object of his delight is his Elohim." **Luke 8:14**, "*And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection.*" These are the people that Yahusha was referring to. It is a sad situation, it takes up most of our time and mental space, so there's none left for YAH. Proverbs has something to point out in these verses:

**Proverbs 22:16**, "*He that oppresseth the poor to increase his riches, and he that giveth to the rich, shall surely come to want.*" **Proverbs 13:11**, "*Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase.*" And in **Proverbs 28:8**, "*He that by usury and unjust gain increaseth his substance, he shall gather it for him that will pity the poor.*" Whatever we do must reflect righteousness and serve a good and practical purpose. If we do anything that is against Yahuah's law or wastes or damages resources, even though you still benefited from it, it is not blessed and Elohyim sees your actions as abominable. **Proverbs 28:20-22** highlights this, "*A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent. To have respect of persons is not good: for, for a piece of bread that man will transgress. He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.*" Do not ignite Yah's wrath for temporary benefits.

The same amount of time, self-sacrifice and diligence it takes to get rich, it is the same to get to know Yahuah, completely transform ourselves and serve him in spirit & truth. Many people keep putting off their salvation for wealth and before we know it, the time is up according to **Psalms 49:16-20**, "*Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased; For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him. Though while he lived he blessed his soul: and men will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself. He shall go to the generation of his fathers; they shall never see light. Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish.*" **Psalms 73:12** also declares, "*Behold, these are the unholy, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.*" Here's even another example that Yahusha presented in **Luke 12:16-21** And he spake a parable unto them, saying, "*The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? 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. 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.' But Elohyim said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward Elohyim.*" I do not need to elaborate on this point because there are many scriptures that do this and here is another one: **Psalms 49:6-14**, "*They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches; None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to Elohyim a ransom for him: (For the redemption of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever:) That he should still live for ever, and not see corruption. For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others. Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names. Nevertheless man being in honour abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish. This their way is their folly: yet their posterity approve their sayings. Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in*

*the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling." There is a reward to who forsakes this world and it's for Yahuah:*

**Matthew 19:28-29**, *"And Yahusha said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life."*

## **The Aftermath**

With all of this evidence do we still think that being rich is a good thing? Or more importantly is being rich in worldly goods something that Yahuah intended for his believers? The funny thing about life is that even though we hoard up things for ourselves, it's the poorer classes that get to enjoy it because we have time. The maids, gardeners, butlers, drivers etc. They are the ones who get to enjoy it because they are the ones who have to take care of your possessions and they are paid to dedicate their time and hard work to doing that. **Job 27:16-18**, *"Though he heap up silver as the dust, and prepare raiment as the clay; He may prepare it, but the just shall put it on, and the innocent shall divide the silver. He buildeth his house as a moth, and as a booth that the keeper maketh."* It always saddens me to see people have multiple houses in different countries that only see them once a year, while people out there are homeless. At least some houses have sitters, but most don't and they stay there and rot or get sold again to another rich person. Yet this the end of all that nonsense: **Luke 6:24-26**, *"But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation. Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep. Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets."* Only when a wealthy person has a transformation of mind and starts believing that serving YAH is more important than gaining wealth will a door be open for them as it was for Zacchaeus: **Luke 19:2, 5-6, 8-10**, *"And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich."*

*And when Yahusha came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Adon; Behold, Adon, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. And Yahusha said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.*

*For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Zacchaeus understood what was really important and what was at stake, so he quickly made his choice and repented. **James 1:9-11** says, "Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted: But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways."*

If we do not change our covetous ways we have only one end awaiting and this scripture tells that story: **Luke 16:19-25**, "There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented."

Do not be stiff necked, we have a new earth to gain, as well as immortality and an eternity worth of love, power, wisdom, joy and peace. Why throw away magnificent Elohyim who loves us boundlessly for something so unfulfilling and temporary? **James 5:1-3** gives the last warning, "Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days."

### **Revelation 3:18-19,**

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