

CA1. Not Pursuing and Accumulating Worldly Wealth & Possessions.

We are not to pursue and accumulate worldly wealth and possessions.

CA1a: *We are not to pursue worldly wealth.*

CA1b: *We are not to pursue worldly possessions.*

CA1c: *We are not to accumulate worldly wealth.*

CA1d: *We are not to accumulate worldly wealth.*

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 6:19-21

Do not store up for yourselves wealth here on earth, where moths and rust destroy, and burglars break in and steal. Instead, store up for yourselves wealth in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and burglars do not break in or steal. For where your wealth is, there your heart will be also.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 6:24-34, 13:22, 19:21-23

Mark 10:21

Luke 12:15, 21, 33-34, 14:33, 16:11, 18:22

John 6:27

Colossians 3:2

1 Timothy 6:9-11, 17-19

2 Timothy 3:1-2

Hebrews 13:5

James 2:5

1 John 2:15

Revelation 3:17

Related New Testament Mitzvot

AA08 Guarding Ourselves Against Greed

AA11 Renouncing Worldly Pleasures

CA02 Putting Yeshua Ahead of Worldly Wealth

CA03 Storing up Wealth in Heaven

CA04 Being Content with Having the Essentials for Living

CA05 Not Using Religion to Acquire Riches

CA06 Not Setting a Goal of Being Rich

CA07 Not Being a Lover of Money

CA08 Not Taking Pride in Being Rich

CA09 Not Relying on Riches

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

2 Chronicles 1:11-12

God said to Shlomo, "Because you set your heart on this- because, instead of asking for riches, wealth, honor, the death of those who hate you, or long life, you asked for wisdom and knowledge for yourself, so that you would be able to judge my people, over whom I made you king – not only are wisdom and knowledge being given to you, but I will also give you riches, wealth and honor such as no king before you has ever had; and no king after you will have as much.

Psalms 37:16

Better the little that the righteous has than the wealth of all the wicked.

Psalms 49:6(5)-7(6)

Why should I fear when the days bring trouble, when the evil of my pursuers surrounds me, the evil of those who rely on their wealth and boast how rich they are?

Psalms 62:11(10)

Don't put your trust in extortion, don't put false hopes in robbery; even if wealth increases, don't set your heart on it.

Proverbs 11:28

He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like sprouting leaves.

Proverbs 16:8

Better a little with righteousness than a huge income with injustice.

Proverbs 22:1

Rather than wealth, choose a good reputation, esteem over silver and gold.

Proverbs 23:4-5

Don't exhaust yourself in pursuit of wealth; be smart enough to desist. If you make your eyes rush at it, it's no longer there! For wealth will surely grow wings, like an eagle flying off to the sky.

Proverbs 28:6

Better to be poor and live an honest life than be crooked in one's ways, though rich.

Proverbs 28:20

A trustworthy person will receive many blessings, but one rushing to get rich will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 30:7-9

[God,] I have asked two things of you; don't deny them to me as long as I live – keep falsehood and futility far from me, and give me neither poverty nor wealth. Yes, provide just the food I need

today; for if I have too much, I might deny you and say, "Who is ADONAI?" And if I am poor, I might steal and thus profane the name of my God.

Ecclesiastes 5:9(10)

The lover of money never has enough money; the lover of luxury never has enough income. This too is pointless.

Jeremiah 9:22(23)

Here is what ADONAI says: "The wise man should not boast of his wisdom, the powerful should not boast of his power, the wealthy should not boast of his wealth;

Comment

Matthew 6:19-21 and Scriptures similar it are often misunderstood as speaking against having wealth or doing things that result in wealth. Are all who live by faith to not own homes? To not have bank accounts? To not have retirement plans? Some have taken it this way, but the consensus is that God is not against these and that it is rather our heart attitude in pursuing, acquiring, and accumulating money and property. 1 Timothy 6:9 warns us that "those whose goal is to be rich fall into temptation." It is not being rich but rather the pursuit of being rich that can compromise us spiritually. Matthew 6:33 directs us to "seek first the kingdom of God." We cannot do that and make the acquisition of riches our goal at the same time. God may call some of us to be wealthy and, if He does, we can be sure that our wealth has a purpose beyond ourselves and is to be used for the Kingdom.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

A21 Fleeing from Love of Money and Pursuing Godly Virtues

A22 Allowing Worldly Attractions to Ensnare Us

Y06 Following Yeshua & Putting Him Before All Else