

CA9. Not Relying on Riches.

We are not to rely on riches.

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

Key New Testament Scriptures

1 Timothy 6:17

As for those who do have riches in this present world, charge them not to be proud and not to let their hopes rest on the uncertainties of riches but to rest their hopes on God, who richly provides us with all things for our enjoyment.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

James 1:10-11

Revelation 3:17

Related New Testament Mitzvot

BA04 Trusting (Having Faith /Believing) in God and Yeshua

BA44 Relying on God

CA01 Not Pursuing and Accumulating Worldly Wealth & Possessions

CA06 Not Setting a Goal of Being Rich

CA07 Not Being a Lover of Money

CA08 Not Taking Pride in Being Rich

TA01 Believing in (Trusting) Yeshua for Salvation

ZA08 Seeking, Receiving, and Relying on Holy Spirit Power

GB47 Not Relying on Human Qualifications

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Job 31:24-28

If I made gold my hope, if I said to fine gold, 'You are my security,' if I took joy in my great wealth, in my having acquired so much; or if, on seeing the shining sun or the full moon as it moved through the sky, my heart was secretly seduced, so that I would wave them a kiss with my hand; then this too would be a criminal offense, for I would have been lying to God on high.

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 52:9(7)

This fellow would not make God his refuge, but trusted in his own great wealth, relying on his evil plots.

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.

Jeremiah 48:7

Because you trust in your deeds and your wealth, you too will be captured. Together with his priests and princes, K'mosh will go into exile.

Jeremiah 49:4

Why do you take such pride in the valleys, your well-watered valleys, rebellious daughter? You trusted in your riches and thought, 'Who can attack me?'

Comment

Because humans are fragile, it is natural for us to have desires and want to be secure from the myriad of things that can beset us. Wanting security and fulfillment of our desires is not the usually the problem – in fact, God invites us to look to him and trust him for these things (see *Mitzvah* BA44). The problem is that too many of us do not trust God (whom we cannot see with natural eyes) and instead seek security and fulfillment from things we can see – chief among them being wealth (i.e., money and property). Are we hungry? Money can buy us food. Are we naked? Money can buy us clothing. Are we cold and wet? Money can buy us shelter. Are we in danger from others? Money can buy us protection and influence. All of these are logical and true to a point, but the right way to achieve them is through God. 2 Timothy 1:7 says:

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

When we give in to fear and rely on our wealth instead of on God because we don't trust that He will come through for us, we break covenant with God and commit sin.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

G05 Testing God's Promises and Warnings

G12 Having Faith in God & Trusting Him in All Things

Y03 Trusting in Yeshua & Believing that He is Our Messiah Sent by God