



Prosperity & Money / Material Things

What does the O.T. say about God wanting us to Prosper Financially / Materially?

- Summarize: Deuteronomy 28-30.

What does the N.T. say about God wanting us to Prosper Financially / Materially?

We already saw:

- Jesus is for it,
- The Father in the O.T. was for it
(Esp. shown in the Blessings)
- so again that should give us a hint.

The N.T. openly says: God wants everyone prospering and rich.

- 2 things here: #1 - The Statement.
#2 - What does rich mean?

But it also warns us about the dangers of having the wrong attitude toward money.

- So let's start with this one.

Wrong attitudes towards money.

A. Jesus:

Matthew 6:24 (NKJV)

24 No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

1. “Serve” - (G1398)

“from 1401; to be a slave to (literal or figurative, involuntary or voluntary):--be in bondage, (do) serve(-ice).”

**2. “Master” - same word ascribed to Jesus
 (“supreme authority”)**

3. “Mammon” - “Money”. (Amp. / NIV)

We can serve money by having too much.

We can serve money when we have too little.

Matthew 6:24-25 (NKJV)

24 No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. 25 Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Matthew 6:31 (NKJV)

31 Therefore do not worry, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear?

Homework for you :

Where does Jesus deal with it's

Wrong to have too much money?

- a. Jesus talked about the deceitfulness of riches and the lust for things.**

(Mark 4:19)

b. He talked about rich people who trust in money and the difficulty for them to get into the Kingdom

(Mark 10:23-25)

c. He warned against receiving our comfort from riches.

(Luke 6:24)

d. He said riches can choke out the word in people.

(Luke 8:14)

e. He warned about getting lazy because of riches.

(Luke 12:16)

**f. He warned about being rich with money,
but not rich toward God.**

(Luke 12:21)

g. He called money - unrighteous.

(Luke 16:11)

- h. He warned about not doing what God wants done, because it will cost too much.

(Luke 18:23)

Luke 18:18-30 (NKJV)

18 Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? 19 So Jesus said to him, Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. 20 You know the commandments: Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and your mother.

21 And he said, All these things I have kept from my youth. 22 So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me. 23 But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.

24 And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! 25 For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

26 And those who heard it said, Who then can be saved? 27 But He said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God. 28 Then Peter said, See, we have left all and followed You.

29 So He said to them, Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, 30 who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life.

Two points we need to look at in Luke 18:18-30.

#1. Rich people. (What constitutes “rich”)

#2. Not doing what God is telling you to do with your money.

God is a worldwide God. Jesus died for the sins of the world.

- 1. Jesus had a worldwide perspective**
- 2. So what does ‘Rich’ look like - worldwide view?**

AVERAGE GLOBAL INCOME [2023]: WHAT IS THE MEDIAN INCOME WORLDWIDE?

WHAT IS ANNUAL INCOME?

Annual income is the total amount of money you earn during a year. The definition of “year” can change. You can either go by a calendar year, which is January through December, or a fiscal year, which the federal government defines as October through September. Note that different

Research Summary: Whether you live in the US or not, it can be hard to imagine what the average global income of the world’s collective population would be. Though the average can be skewed by the highest or lowest income individuals, it’s still fascinating to examine the global statistics.

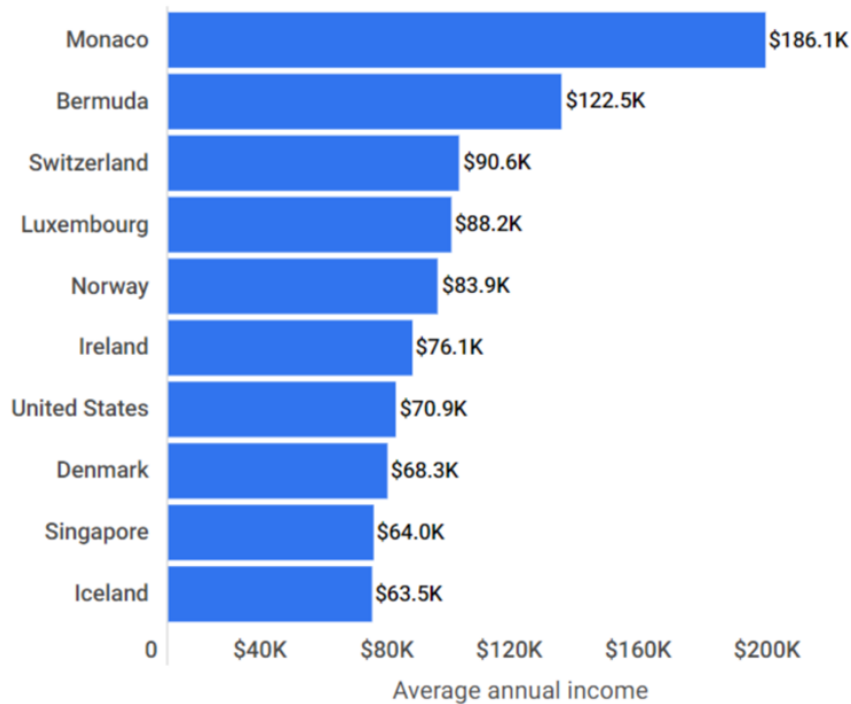
Overall, here are the insights our extensive research uncovered:

- The average global personal income is **\$9,733 per year**.
- The average global household income is **\$12,235 per year**.
- The median per-capita household income is only **\$2,920 per year**.
- Making over \$100,000 puts you in the **top 10%** of global earners, while making over \$1 million puts you in the top **1%**.

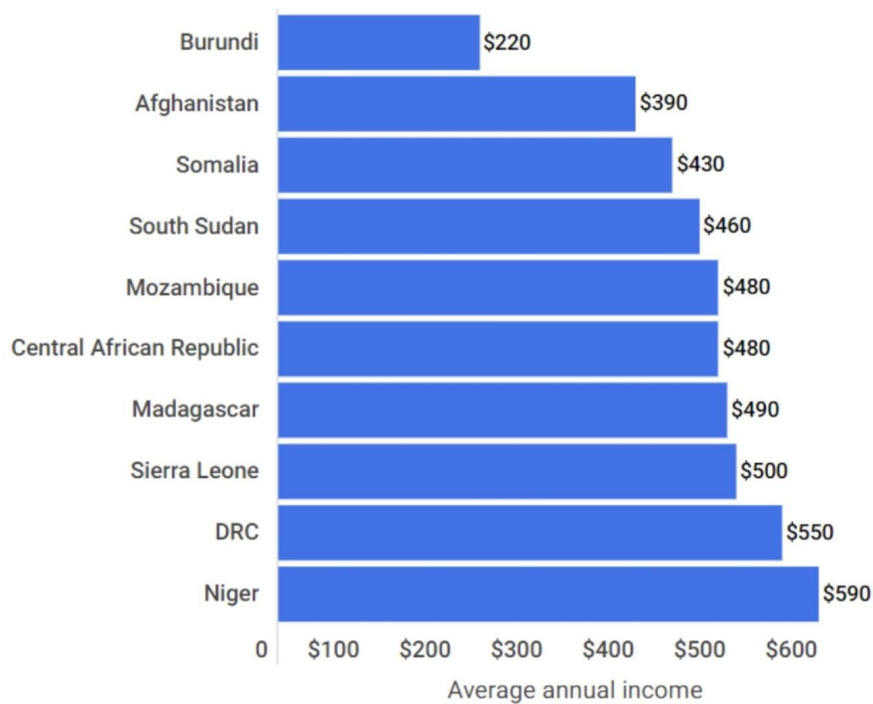
Distribution of Global Wealth

Income	Share of global adults
<\$10,000	53.2%
\$10,000-\$100,000	33.8%
\$100,000-\$1M	11.8%
\$1M+	1.2%

TOP 10 COUNTRIES BY AVERAGE INCOME



BOTTOM 10 COUNTRIES BY AVERAGE INCOME



Distribution of Global Wealth

Income	Share of global adults
<\$10,000	53.2%
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Remember:

Application to Point #1:

#1. Rich people. (What constitutes “rich”)

Which takes us to point #2 in that scripture:

#2. Not doing what God is telling you to do with your money.

We're looking at Luke 18:18-30.

- **Rich young ruler and Jesus' comments about.....**

Do you know who the 'Rich' are?

- Worldwide: We Are.

When God asks us to do something with the money he's given to us to use - do we do it?

a. Do we tithe?

b. Do we give offerings?

c. Do we give alms?

> Those are the basics.

When Jesus is talking about it's more difficult for a rich man to get into the kingdom because he won't do with his money what God is asking of him - he's talking about us.

Interestingly:

- 1. Jesus ministry was funded from 2 years old by rich people. (Matt. 2:11)**
- 2. Jesus watched people giving, and he had not problem with Rich people giving in the offering. (Mark 12:41-44)**
- 3. Jesus encouraged being rich toward God. (Luke 12:21)**
- 4. Jesus was given a tomb by a rich person. (Mt. 27:57)**

Jesus didn't have problems with money or riches. He had problems with the wrong attitudes of people who had money, and who didn't have money. (Guard Yourself)

- 1. He deals with being selfish and not helping others / not being a giver. He deals with that numerous places.....**
- 2. He deals with depending too much upon money.**
- 3. He deals with being fearful, worrying, and making decisions in life on the basis of not having enough money.**
- 4. But to my knowledge, he never spoke against being rich.**
 - > He would be speaking against himself and the Father.**

Wrong attitudes towards money.

B. Paul.

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NKJV)

6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NKJV)

17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy . 18 Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, 19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

The N.T. openly says: God wants everyone prosperous and rich.

2 things here: #1 - The Statement.

#2 - What does rich mean?

- Let's look at #1.

**In context of 2 Corinthians 8 & 9,
Paul is talking about money.**

2 Corinthians 8:9 (NKJV)

9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

“Rich” (G4145)

“from 4149; wealthy; figuratively, abounding with:--rich.”

-(G4149)

“from the base of 4130; wealth (as fulness), i.e. (literally) money, possessions, or (figuratively) abundance, richness, (specially), valuable bestowment:--riches.”

“Poor” (G4433)

“from 4434; to be a beggar, i.e. (by implication) to become indigent (figuratively):--become poor.”

- (G4434)

“from ptosso (to crouch); akin to 4422 and the alternate of 4098); a beggar (as cringing), i.e. pauper (strictly denoting absolute or public mendicancy, although also used in a qualified or relative sense; whereas 3993 properly means only straitened circumstances in private), literally (often as noun) or figuratively (distressed):--beggar(-ly), poor.”

2 Corinthians 8:9 (NKJV)

9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

“Poverty” (G4432)

“from 4433; beggary, i.e. indigence (literally or figuratively): --poverty”

“Rich” (G4147)

“from 4148; to be (or become) wealthy (literally or figuratively):--be increased with goods, (be made, wax) rich.”

- (G4148)

“from 4149; to make wealthy (figuratively):--en-(make) rich.”

- (G4149)

“from the base of 4130; wealth (as fulness), i.e. (literally) money, possessions, or (figuratively), abundance, richness, (specially), valuable bestowment:--riches.”

The N.T. openly says: God wants everyone rich.

2 things here: #1 - The Statement.

#2 - What does rich mean?

What does God mean by 'Rich'? (#2)

2 Corinthians 9:6-11 (NIV)

6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

9 As it is written: He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever. 10 Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. 11 You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 9:11 (NKJV)

11 while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

Ephesians 4:28 (NKJV)

28 Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

What does God mean by Rich'? (#2)

'Having enough money so we can be generous on every occasion, and help people who are in need'.

Principle: Prosperity (like anything else in life) is like a old wagon wheel.

It has many spokes that hold it together.



Prosperity is like a spoked wheel. There are many components to be truly prosperous.

God wants us to have all of them.



BTW: side thought on Prosperous:

- 1. There is one word in the N.T. translated “Peace”. (Unless you're telling someone to be quiet > to “hold their peace” - that is a different word, but.....)**

“Peace” (G1515) - Used approx. 81 times in the N.T.

“probably from a primary verb eiro (to join); peace (literally or figuratively); by implication, prosperity--one, peace, quietness, rest, + set at one again.”

Matthew 10:13 (NKJV)

13 If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.

Mark 5:34 (NKJV)

34 And He said to her, Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace and be healed of your affliction.

Luke 2:13-14 (NKJV)

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14 Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men

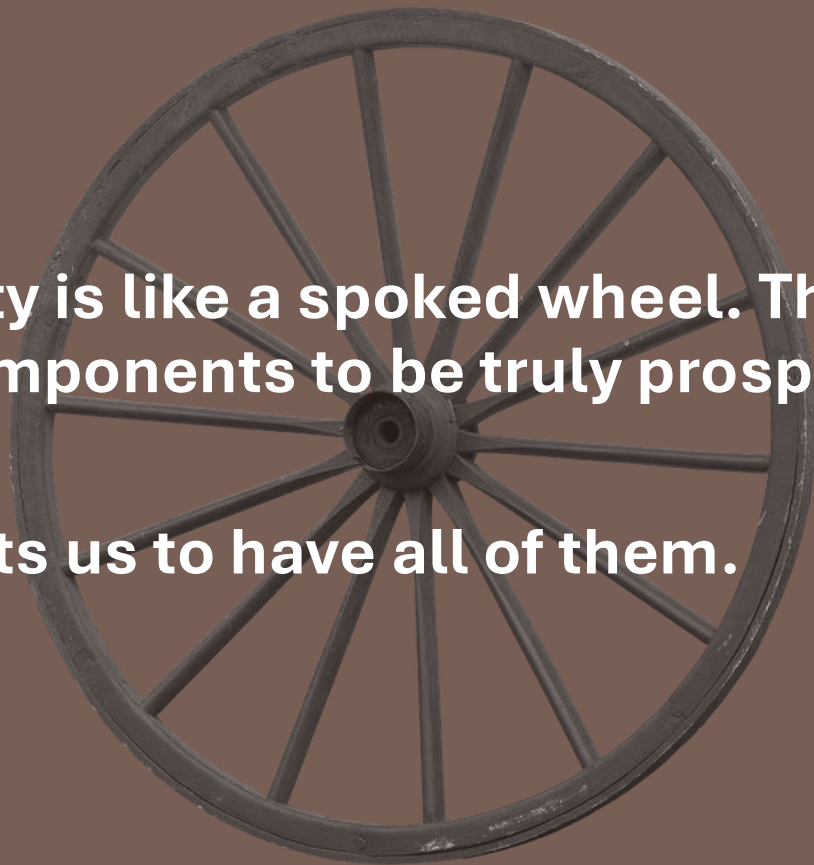
John 14:27 (NKJV)

27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

**HOW DO WE PROSPER?
WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO TO PROSPER?
ARE THERE STEPS TO BEING PROSPEROUS?**

Prosperity is like a spoked wheel. There are many components to be truly prosperous.

God wants us to have all of them.





The short answer is:

Do what the Spirit is telling you to do in every area of life.

(Remember the definition of Prosperity.....)

WHAT ARE HINDRANCES TO PROSPERITY?

- Things that are the opposite of the wheel of spokes that helps cause prosperity.**

The short answer is:

Not doing what the Spirit is telling you to do in every area of life.

(Remember the definition of Prosperity.....)

Why can we prosper / be blessed in areas and it's like we're in a curse in other areas?

A. There might be a personal or generational curse active.

B. It might be an issue of Sanctification

C. It could be our Faith is still weak in those areas.

Deuteronomy 8:18 (NKJV)

18 And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.