

Proverbs 1:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:

Analysis

The enticement's promise: 'We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil.' Greed appeals through materialism's false promise—wealth will satisfy and security will follow. The emphasis on 'all' and 'fill' reveals covetousness' illusion of ultimate satisfaction through accumulation. Yet Ecclesiastes declares such pursuits vanity. Only God satisfies the human heart; material 'precious substance' proves empty. This temptation continues: prosperity gospel and get-rich-quick schemes exploit the same fallen desire.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern economies were largely subsistence-based; sudden wealth through plunder represented transformative opportunity. 'Precious substance' included gold, silver, garments, and valuable trade goods. 'Spoil' refers to plunder from violent robbery. Solomon, having tested wealth's promises, warns that ill-gotten gain destroys rather than satisfies. His royal perspective lends authority to this warning against materialism.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the promise of 'all precious substance' reveal covetousness' lie that material wealth brings ultimate satisfaction?
2. What does the appeal to 'fill our houses' teach us about consumerism's empty promise that accumulation produces contentment?

Interlinear Text

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| כָּל | הַ | יָקָר | נִמְצָא | נִמְלֵא | בֵּיתֵינוּ | שָׁלָל: |
| H3605 | substance | all precious | We shall find | we shall fill | our houses | with spoil |
| | H1952 | H3368 | H4672 | H4390 | H1004 | H7998 |

Additional Cross-References

Luke 12:15 (Parallel theme): 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.