

Proverbs 15:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In the house of the righteous is much treasure: but in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.

Analysis

The 'house of the righteous' contains 'much treasure,' while 'in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.' This isn't prosperity gospel—the 'treasure' (Hebrew 'chocen') includes spiritual riches, peace, and God's blessing. The wicked's 'revenue' (Hebrew 'tebuah'—increase/income) brings 'trouble' (Hebrew 'akar'—disturbance/misery). Reformed theology distinguishes between true and false prosperity. Riches gained through wickedness cannot satisfy and often bring additional problems. Godliness with contentment is great gain (1 Timothy 6:6). True wealth is found in righteousness and God's presence.

Historical Context

In agrarian Israel, 'treasure' could include stored grain, valuable goods, and livestock. However, Proverbs consistently teaches that ill-gotten wealth brings curses, while modest means with righteousness brings blessing.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What constitutes true 'treasure' in your life—material wealth or spiritual riches?
2. Have you seen how pursuing wealth through unrighteous means brings trouble rather than satisfaction?
3. How does this verse challenge contemporary definitions of success and prosperity?

Interlinear Text

בֵּית	צַדִּיק	חֵסֶן	רַב	וּבְתוֹבָא	רֶשָׁע
In the house	of the righteous	treasure	is much	but in the revenues	of the wicked
H1004	H6662	H2633	H7227	H8393	H7563
נֶעֱכָרַת:					
is trouble					
H5916					

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 8:21 (Parallel theme): That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.

Proverbs 21:20 (Parallel theme): There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.

Proverbs 10:22 (Parallel theme): The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

Psalms 112:3 (Righteousness): Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

Proverbs 16:8 (Righteousness): Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.

Hebrews 11:26 (Parallel theme): Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

Psalms 37:16 (Righteousness): A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.

Proverbs 15:16 (Parallel theme): Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.

Proverbs 13:22 (Righteousness): A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

Ecclesiastes 4:6 (Parallel theme): Better is an handful with quietness, than both the hands full with travail and vexation of spirit.

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