

Proverbs 24:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

Analysis

Through knowledge 'chambers are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.' The Hebrew 'yada' (knowledge) and 'mela' (filled) describe abundance resulting from wisdom. These riches are 'yaqar' (precious/valuable) and 'naim' (pleasant/delightful). True wisdom produces comprehensive blessing—not just wealth but all that makes life genuinely good. Reformed theology distinguishes true riches (spiritual blessings in Christ) from mere material wealth. The chambers of a wise person's life are filled with treasures that satisfy, while the fool's life, however wealthy, remains empty.

Historical Context

Ancient households stored valuable goods in inner chambers. Filled chambers indicated prosperity, security, and God's blessing. Wisdom was seen as the key to this comprehensive flourishing.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What constitutes true riches in your life—material possessions or spiritual blessings?
2. How does pursuing wisdom fill the 'chambers' of your life with what's genuinely precious?
3. In what ways is your life genuinely rich because of knowledge of God?

Interlinear Text

וּ בְדַעַת	חֲדָרֵי יָם	וּמְלֵא וְ	כָּל	הַ	יָקָר
And by knowledge	shall the chambers	be filled	H3605	riches	with all precious
H1847	H2315	H4390		H1952	H3368
וְנֶעְמִים:					
and pleasant					
H5273					

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 15:6 (Parallel theme): In the house of the righteous is much treasure: but in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.

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 20:15 (Parallel theme): There is gold, and a multitude of rubies: but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.

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

Nehemiah 10:39 (Parallel theme): For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.

Matthew 13:52 (Parallel theme): Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

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