

Proverbs 8:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness.

Analysis

Riches and honor are with wisdom, enduring wealth and righteousness. The Hebrew 'osher' (riches), 'kavod' (honor/glory), 'howr' (wealth), and 'tsedaqah' (righteousness) describe comprehensive blessing. Wisdom brings both material prosperity and moral character, temporal success and eternal righteousness. This isn't prosperity gospel but recognition that wisdom generally produces flourishing. Godly character and practical competence typically result in provision and respect.

Historical Context

Solomon exemplified this - receiving both wisdom and wealth (1 Kings 3:11-13). Job, despite temporary suffering, was restored to double blessing (Job 42:10). Proverbs observes general patterns, not absolute guarantees. Exceptions exist (righteous poor, wicked wealthy), but wisdom's path generally produces blessing. The principle: godliness with contentment is great gain (1 Timothy 6:6).

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do you hold together wisdom's general blessing with reality of godly suffering?
2. What 'enduring wealth' does wisdom provide beyond material riches?
3. In what ways has wisdom produced blessing in your life that wealth alone couldn't provide?

Interlinear Text

עָשָׂר	וְכָבֹד	אֶת־	הַ	עִתִּי	וְצִדִּיקָהּ
Riches	and honour	H854	riches	are with me yea durable	and righteousness
H6239	H3519		H1952	H6276	H6666

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 3:16 (Parallel theme): Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.

Matthew 6:33 (Righteousness): But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Revelation 3:18 (Parallel theme): I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

Ephesians 3:8 (Parallel theme): Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

Philippians 4:19 (Parallel theme): But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.