

# Proverbs 8:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and  
I will fill their treasures.

## Analysis

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Wisdom causes lovers to inherit substance and fills their treasures. The Hebrew 'yesh' (substance/wealth) and 'otsar' (treasure/storehouse) describe accumulated provision. Those who love wisdom receive inheritance and filled treasuries. This isn't materialistic promise but recognition that wisdom produces provision. Diligence, integrity, planning - these wisdom traits generally create financial stability. Foolishness produces poverty; wisdom produces provision.

## Historical Context

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Proverbs repeatedly connects wisdom with provision and foolishness with poverty (10:4, 13:18, 14:23, 21:5). While recognizing godly poor exist (better poor with integrity than wealthy with perverseness - 28:6), the general principle holds: wisdom creates wealth; folly destroys it. Modern economics increasingly validates biblical wisdom - delayed gratification, honest dealing, hard work produce prosperity; impulsiveness, dishonesty, laziness produce poverty.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How has wisdom (or lack thereof) affected your financial situation?
2. What treasures (spiritual and material) has loving wisdom brought into your life?
3. How can you ensure you're pursuing wisdom for right reasons, not merely for wealth's sake?

## Interlinear Text

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לְהִנָּח יִלְ	אֶהְבֶּ יוֹ	יִשׁ	וְאֶצְרָ תֵּיקָם
me to inherit	That I may cause those that love	substance	their treasures
H5157	H157	H3426	H214
אֶמְלֵא:			
and I will fill			
H4390			

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Peter 1:4** (Parallel theme): To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

**Proverbs 24:4** (Parallel theme): And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

**Matthew 25:46** (Parallel theme): And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

**Genesis 15:14** (Parallel theme): And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

**Hebrews 10:34** (Parallel theme): For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

**Psalms 16:11** (Parallel theme): Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

**Proverbs 1:13** (Parallel theme): We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:

**1 Samuel 2:8** (Parallel theme): He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, and he hath set the world upon them.

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