

# Psalm 17:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

From men which are thy hand, O LORD, from men of the world, which have their portion in this life, and whose belly thou fillest with thy hid treasure: they are full of children, and leave the rest of their substance to their babes.

## Analysis

---

This complex verse contrasts the wicked whose 'portion is in this life' with the righteous who have God. The Hebrew 'cheled' (world/lifetime) indicates temporal existence. Their belly is filled with 'treasure' ('tsaphun'—hidden stores), satisfied with worldly prosperity. This anticipates Jesus' warning about storing treasure on earth (Matthew 6:19-20) and the rich fool whose soul was required (Luke 12:20). Reformed theology warns against making this life ultimate.

## Historical Context

---

Reflects the prosperity of the wicked that troubled many psalmists (Psalm 73). Ancient wealth was often measured in children and stored goods—both mentioned here.

## Related Passages

---

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

### Study Questions

---

1. In what subtle ways do you make this life your 'portion' rather than God?
2. How does eternal perspective change your view of earthly prosperity?

### Interlinear Text

---

מִמְּמֹת יְמֹנָה | יְדָבָה | יְהִי הָמָם | מִמְּמֹת יְמֹנָה | מִמְּמֹת יְמֹנָה | מִמְּמֹת יְמֹנָה |

From men which are thy hand O LORD From men of the world

H4962 H3027 H3068 H4962 H2465

מִלְקָם | בְּכָמִים | בְּכָמִים | אַכְפִּיתָה | תָּמִלָּא | בְּבָנָם |

which have their portion in this life with thy hid thou fillest and whose belly

H2506 H2416 H6840 H4390 H990

וְשָׁבָע | בְּבָנִים | וְהַבְּיֹתָה | תָּחַם | !

treasure they are full of children and leave the rest

H7646 H1121 H3240 H3499

לְעֹלְלִיקָם:

of their substance to their babes

H5768

### Additional Cross-References

---

**Job 22:18** (Parallel theme): Yet he filled their houses with good things: but the counsel of the wicked is far from me.

**John 17:14** (Parallel theme): I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

**Luke 16:25** (Parallel theme): But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

**Luke 16:8** (References Lord): And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.

**James 5:5** (Parallel theme): Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.

**Psalms 73:12** (Parallel theme): Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.

**Psalms 39:6** (Parallel theme): Surely every man walketh in a vain shew: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them.

**Job 12:9** (References Lord): Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this?

**Job 12:6** (Parallel theme): The tabernacles of robbers prosper, and they that provoke God are secure; into whose hand God bringeth abundantly.

**Job 21:21** (Parallel theme): For what pleasure hath he in his house after him, when the number of his months is cut off in the midst?