

SERMON NOTES

Date: August 11, 2019

Title: Prosperity Under the Sun

Text: Ecclesiastes 5:8-6:9

Big Idea: Earthly wealth and prosperity is meaningless without God.

APPLICATION GUIDE

APPLY THE TRUTH

What are the negative effects of the love of money (v. 8–17. cf. Matt. 19:23–24; Mark 4:19; 10:17–22)?

What are the blessings of wealth (1 Tim. 6:17–19; 2 Cor. 8:1–24; 9:1–15)?

Check your own attitude to material possessions and prosperity. Is the love of money or possessions leading in any way to your own hurt (5:11–17)?

The apostle Paul tells us to “put to death” covetousness or greed in Colossians 3:5. How can you do that practically?

How can the gospel allow you to enjoy wealth and prosperity without it becoming ultimate (5:18–20)?

Read Matthew 6:19–24. In light of the treasure principle that Jesus teaches in this passage, answer the following questions:

- How can you use your wealth and prosperity to serve the Lord?
- How do you need to restructure your priorities to seek the Lord’s kingdom first, and then trust that God will provide all that you need according to his sovereign plan (cf. Matthew 6:33)?
- Are there pleasures, purchases, or possessions that you desire but should put on hold to simply learn how to be content in the Lord with what you already have?

COMMIT THIS WEEK

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 commands, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” Spend some time purposefully rejoicing in and being thankful for the prosperity that God has given you. Be as specific as you can and share your gratitude with someone else who can rejoice along with you.