

Proverbs 3

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, how great You are to be so longsuffering with me. You gave me eternal life, and provide all my needs. I praise You for all of my many undeserved blessings. I love and worship You. I pray for rebuke and instruction today. In Jesus name I pray.

Comments/Insights: Verse 9-10 says, "Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the first fruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine." Wow! Do we really need to go there? I, for one, know without a doubt that I have not honored the Lord with my possessions, but have spent too much of the blessings of The Lord on my own self-indulgence.

Basic Truth: We have to make sure that we understand that "possessions" in the Hebrew means "wealth" or "enough." I have been given more than enough!-wealth, time, energy, ability, freedom, scripture, opportunity. So why do I ever come to my Lord and Savior with my hands out? Why do I pray to receive more of anything when I have been given everything I need? This can only mean that I have not honored The Lord with all that He has provided me. Do I stay within budget? Do I take time to exercise my body and my mind? Do I submit to my wife and love her as The Lord loves the church? Do I love my neighbor as myself?

Application to My Life: Before we come to The Lord for anything, we must take a minute to insure that we have made the best of the "enough" that God has already provided. If our barns and glasses are empty, it may be that we have not been good stewards of the talents already provided. I must pray to "be content with such things as (I) have" Heb.13:5; "Having food and clothing, with these we shall be content" 1Tim.6:8. I must live as a servant who has been given great wealth from my Master and work to increase that which He has trusted me with (Matt.25:14-30).

Closing Prayer: Heavenly Father, please forgive me for wasting that which You have entrusted to me. I thank You for the chastisement of Your word, that I may become a steward with whom You are well pleased. Thank You for filling my barns with Your Son, Your Holy Spirit, with Your love, and Your wisdom. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

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