

## The pursuit of wealth

Developing a biblical view of success (Part 3)

1 Kings 10:14-29; Ecclesiastes 5:10-19

- I. King Solomon accumulated more wealth than anyone in his world (1 Kings 10:14-29)
  - A. Solomon had incomparable income (10:14, 22, 25).
  - B. Solomon indulged in excessive luxuries (10:15-21).
  - C. Solomon's wealth exceeded all other kings (10:23).
  - D. Solomon ignored God about horses and gold (10:26-29; Deut. 17:14-20; Ps. 20:6-7; Isaiah 33:1).
    - Solomon's sin was not that he was wealthy but that he was greedy and didn't trust God.
  
- II. Solomon's sober thinking about wealth – even though he failed at it (Ecclesiastes 5:10-19)
  - A. Wealth is meaningless apart from God.
    - Those who love money are never content (5:10).
    - Luxuries are only good to look at (5:11).
    - More material things means more burdens (5:12) or harm (5:13, 1 Timothy 6:6-10).
    - Wealth is easily lost (5:14).
    - Accumulating wealth selfishly is meaningless because you can't take it with you (5:15-17).
  - B. Material things become meaningful when we are God-focused.
    - Material things are a stewardship from God we can enjoy as God's gift with a contented heart (4:6; 5:18-20; 1 Timothy 6:6-8).
    - The Manna Principles: Needs, Greed and Wealth