

Torah Portion #3: Lech Lecha (לך לך) "Go forth"

Torah ~ Gen. 12:1-17:27 | Haftarah ~ Isa. 40:27-41:16; Mal. 3:8-12 | Brit Chadashah ~ Rom. 4:1-25; Heb. 7:1-28

God's Economy

God wants all of us to prosper financially, which is "having enough money to pay for all of your needs, plus being able to bless others financially". Money was the subject of 16 of the 38 parables that Yeshua spoke, and 1/3 of the entire Gospels.

3 Jhn. 1:2 "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." NKJV

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." NIV

The Lord is the Provider of our financial prosperity

In God's economy, He is the source of our financial prosperity (not our jobs), and His prosperity is not a troublesome thing.

Proverbs 10:22 "The LORD's blessing brings wealth [financial prosperity], and he adds no trouble to it." MWEB

Deut. 8:18 "And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth." NKJV

In God's economy, the Lord financially prospers the righteous by giving us the wealth of the wicked (Exodus 12:35-36).

Proverbs 13:22 "But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous." NKJV

Even though the Lord is our financial provider, there is a few things that we can do to either bless or curse our finances.

The first step in blessing our finances is tithing

In God's economy, when we give back to Him the first 10% (tithe) of our income, the remaining 90% will be blessed. In today's Torah Portion, Genesis 14:18-20, Abraham gives a tithe to Melchizedek. In Genesis 28:20-22, Jacob promised to give a tithe to the Lord. Both Abraham and Jacob give tithes before the command was given in Leviticus 27:30-32.

The tithes that was commanded to be given in Leviticus was used to support the work of the Tabernacle and the Temple.

The Lord says that He will pour out a blessing upon us when we tithe to Him in Proverbs 3:9-10 & Malachi 3:8-12.

Gen. 24:1 "Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things." NKJV

Genesis 30:43 "Jacob soon became rich and successful." CEV

Yeshua said in Luke 11:42 that tithing is the right thing to do but don't leave out the other parts of Torah.

Mt. 6:33 "Seek first God's kingdom and what God wants. Then all your other needs will be met as well." NCV

The second step in blessing our finances is helping others financially

Luke 6:38 "If you give to others, you will be given a full amount in return." CEV

Proverbs 19:17 "He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, and He will repay what he has given." MEV

Proverbs 28:27 "He who gives to the poor will not lack, But he who hides his eyes will have many curses." NKJV

Acts 20:35 "It is more blessed to give than to receive." NKJV

The third step in blessing our finances is spending wisely

Careful planning of our spending (budget) leads to preserving our finances, but those who are not careful will become poor.

Proverbs 21:5 "The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty." NIV

Proverbs 21:20 "The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down." NIV

Proverbs 13:7 "Some who are poor pretend to be rich; others who are rich pretend to be poor." NLT

In Closing - Some points to remember

Why tithe? (1.) we are commanded to tithe (2.) to provide for God's storehouse (3.) for your financial blessing

Proverbs 28:25 "A greedy person provokes conflict, but whoever trusts in the Lord will prosper." HCSB

Proverbs 3:5-6 (5) Trust the Lord with all your heart, and don't depend on your own understanding. (6) Remember the Lord in all you do, and he will give you success." NCV