

TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND IN COMMEMORATION OF
THE FIRST CHRISTIAN SERVICE
HELD IN AUSTRALIA
FEBRUARY 3RD 1788
—♦—
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THE CHAPLAIN
BEING THE PREACHER.

THE TEXT OF THE FIRST SERMON
PREACHED IN AUSTRALIA.
"What shall I render unto
THE LORD
for all HIS benefits
toward ME". PSALM-CXVI 12

Psalm 116

I'm saved

¹ I am passionately in love with God because he listens to me. He hears my prayers and answers them.

² As long as I live I'll keep praying to him, for he stoops down to listen to my heart's cry.

³ Death once stared me in the face, and I was close to slipping into its dark shadows. I was terrified and overcome with sorrow.

⁴ I cried out to the Lord, "God, come and save me!"

⁵ He was so kind, so gracious to me. Because of his passion toward me, he made everything right and he restored me.

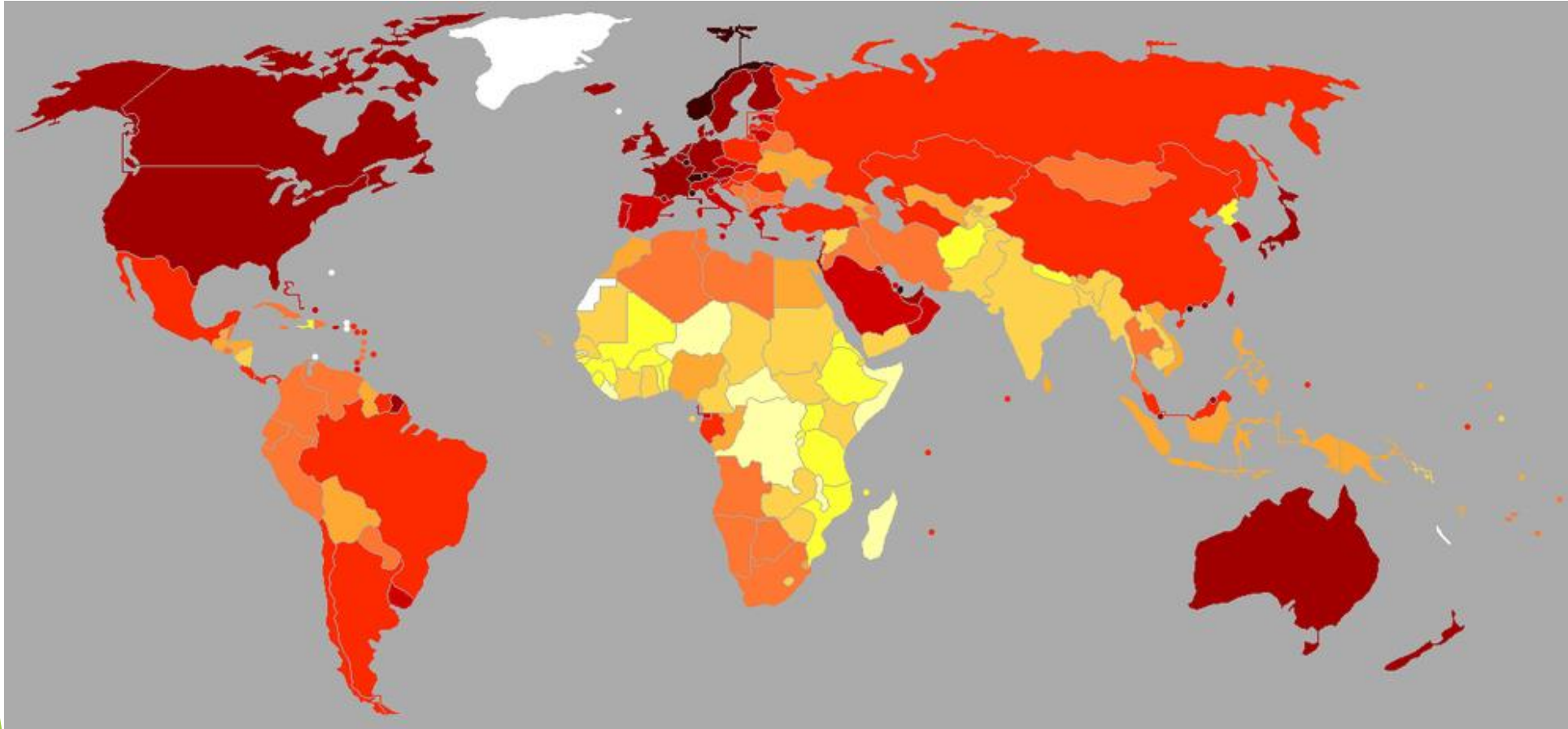
⁶ So I've learned from my experience that God protects the childlike and humble ones. For I was broken and brought low, but he answered me and came to my rescue!

¹² So now, what can I ever give back to God to repay him for the blessings he's poured out on me?

¹³ I will lift up his cup of salvation and praise him extravagantly for all that he's done for me.

¹⁴ I will fulfill the promise I made to God in the presence of his gathered people.

Australia is now the 11th wealthiest nation (GDP/capita)



Wisdom on Wealth

What does the book of Proverbs have to say about wealth?

Agur's prayer

Proverbs 30

⁷ God, there are two things I'm asking you for before I die, only two:

⁸ Empty out of my heart everything that is false— every lie, and every crooked thing. **And give me neither undue poverty nor undue wealth— but rather, feed my soul with the measure of prosperity that pleases you.**

⁹ **May my satisfaction be found in you. Don't let me be so rich that I don't need you or so poor that I have to resort to dishonesty just to make ends meet. Then my life will never detract from bringing glory to your name.**

Agur's prayer points

- ▶ Neither undue poverty
- ▶ Nor undue wealth
- ▶ Feed my soul with the measure of prosperity that pleases you
- ▶ May my satisfaction be found in you
- ▶ May I be not so rich that I don't need you
- ▶ May I be not so poor that I have to resort to dishonesty

1. Wisdom is more valuable than wealth

Proverbs 1

² Within these sayings will be found the revelation of wisdom and the impartation of spiritual understanding. Use them as keys to unlock the treasures of true knowledge.

Proverbs 3

¹³ Those who find true wisdom obtain the tools for understanding, the proper way to live, for they will have a fountain of blessing pouring into their lives. **To gain the riches of wisdom is far greater than gaining the wealth of the world.**

¹⁴ As wisdom increases, a great treasure is imparted, greater than many bars of refined gold.

¹⁵ It is a more valuable commodity than gold and gemstones, for there is nothing you desire that could compare to her.

¹⁶ **Wisdom extends to you long life in one hand and wealth and promotion in the other.**

Proverbs 16

¹⁶ **Everyone wants gold, but wisdom's worth is far greater. Silver is sought after, but a heart of understanding yields a greater return.**

2. Don't be lazy

Proverbs 6

⁶ When you're feeling lazy, come and learn a lesson from this tale of the tiny ant. Yes, all you lazybones, come learn from the example of the ant and enter into wisdom.

⁷ The ants have no chief, no boss, no manager— no one has to tell them what to do.

⁸ You'll see them working and toiling all summer long, stockpiling their food in preparation for winter.

⁹ So wake up, sleepyhead. How long will you lie there? When will you wake up and get out of bed?

¹⁰ If you keep nodding off and thinking, "I'll do it later," or say to yourself, "I'll just sit back awhile and take it easy," just watch how the future unfolds!

¹¹ **By making excuses you'll learn what it means to go without. Poverty will pounce on you like a bandit and move in as your roommate for life.**

Proverbs 22

¹³ **A slacker always has an excuse for not working— like "I can't go to work. There's a lion outside! And murderers too!"**

Proverbs 13:4, 19:15, 20:13

3. Be diligent & work hard

Proverbs 14

²³ **If you work hard at what you do, great abundance will come to you.** But merely talking about getting rich while living to only pursue your pleasures brings you face-to-face with poverty.

²⁴ The true net worth of the wise is the wealth that wisdom imparts. But the way of life for the fool is his foolishness.

Proverbs 24

Professional work habits prevent poverty from becoming your permanent business partner. And: If you put off until tomorrow the work you could do today, tomorrow never seems to come.

Proverbs 27

²⁵⁻²⁷ **Take care of your responsibilities and be diligent in your business and you will have more than enough—** an abundance of food, clothing, and plenty for your household.

Proverbs 21

⁵ **Brilliant ideas pay off and bring you prosperity,** but making hasty, impatient decisions will only lead to financial loss.

Proverbs 28:19

4. Don't get into debt

Proverbs 3

²⁷ **Why would you withhold payment on your debt** when you have the ability to pay? Just do it!

Proverbs 17

¹⁸ **It's stupid to run up bills you'll never be able to pay** or to cosign for the loan of your friend. Save yourself the trouble and don't do either one.

Proverbs 22

⁷ **If you borrow money with interest, you'll end up serving the interests of your creditors**, for the rich rule over the poor.

²⁶ Why would you ever guarantee a loan for someone else or promise to be responsible for his debts?

²⁷ For if you fail to pay you could lose your shirt!

Proverbs 27:13

5. Be honest (especially in business)

Proverbs 16

¹¹ The Lord expects you to be fair in every business deal, for he is the one who sets the standards for righteousness.

Proverbs 19

¹ It's better to be honest, even if it leads to poverty, than to live as a dishonest fool.

Proverbs 20

¹⁷ What you obtain dishonestly may seem sweet at first, but sooner or later you'll live to regret it.

Proverbs 28

²⁰ Life's blessings drench the honest and faithful person, but punishment rains down upon the greedy and dishonest.

Proverbs 10:2-5, 12:8-11, 13:11, 21:6

6. Don't rely on your wealth

Proverbs 11

²⁸ **Keep trusting in your riches and down you'll go!** But the lovers of God rise up like flowers in the spring.

Proverbs 18

¹¹ The rich, in their conceit, imagine that their wealth is enough to protect them. **It becomes their confidence in a day of trouble.**

Proverbs 27

²⁴ **A man's strength, power, and riches will one day fade away;** not even nations endure forever.

Proverbs 23

⁴ Don't compare yourself to the rich. Surrender your selfish ambition and evaluate them properly.

⁵ **For no sooner do you start counting your wealth than it sprouts wings and flies away like an eagle in the sky—** here today, gone tomorrow!

²⁰ Don't live in the excesses of drunkenness or gluttony, or waste your life away by partying all the time,

²¹ because drunkards and gluttons sleep their lives away and end up broke!

Proverbs 10:15, 20:21, 21:17, 28:11, 28:21-22

7. Be satisfied with God

Proverbs 13

²¹ Calamity chases the sin-chaser, but prosperity pursues the God-lover.

²² The benevolent man leaves an inheritance that endures to his children's children, but the wealth of the wicked is treasured up for the righteous.

²³ **The lovers of God will live a long life and get to enjoy their wealth,** but the ungodly will suddenly perish.

Proverbs 21

²¹ **The lovers of God who chase after righteousness will find all their dreams come true:** an abundant life drenched with favor and a fountain that overflows with satisfaction.

Proverbs 22

⁴ **Laying your life down in tender surrender before the Lord will bring life, prosperity, and honor as your reward.**

Proverbs 8:19-21

8. Put God & family first

Proverbs 15

²⁷ The one who puts earning money above his family will have trouble at home, but those who refuse to exploit others will live in peace.

Proverbs 24

²⁷ Go ahead, build your career and give yourself to your work. But if you put me first, you'll see your family built up!

Proverbs 13

²⁷ A passive person won't even complete a project, but a passionate person makes good use of his time, wealth, and energy.

9. Live simply

Proverbs 15

¹⁶ It's much better to live simply, surrounded in holy awe and worship of God, than to have great wealth with a home full of trouble.

¹⁷ It's much better to have a kind, loving family, even with little, than to have great wealth with nothing but hatred and strife all around you.

Proverbs 16

¹⁹ It's better to be meek and lowly and live among the poor than to live high and mighty among the rich and famous.

²⁰ One skilled in business discovers prosperity, but the one who trusts in God is blessed beyond belief!

Proverbs 17

¹ A simple, humble life with peace and quiet is far better than an opulent lifestyle with nothing but quarrels and strife at home.

Proverbs 28:6

10. Look after the poor

Proverbs 19

¹⁷ Every time you give to the poor you make a loan to the Lord. Don't worry—you'll be repaid in full for all the good you've done.

Proverbs 21

¹³ If you close your heart to the cries of the poor, then I'll close my ears when you cry out to me!

Proverbs 28

⁸ Go ahead and get rich on the backs of the poor, but all the wealth you gather will one day be given to those who are kind to the needy.

²⁷ You will never go without if you give to the poor. But if you're heartless, stingy, and selfish, you invite curses upon yourself.

Proverbs 29

¹⁴ The best insurance for a leader's longevity is to demonstrate justice for the poor.

Proverbs 14:20-21, 31; 16:8; 22:9,16,22-23; 28:3; 29:7

11. Be extravagantly generous

Proverbs 3

⁹ **Glorify God with all your wealth, honoring him with your very best, with every increase that comes to you.**

¹⁰ Then every dimension of your life will overflow with blessings from an uncontainable source of inner joy!

Proverbs 11

²⁴ **Generosity brings prosperity, but withholding from charity brings poverty.**

²⁵ Those who live to bless others will have blessings heaped upon them, and the one who pours out his life to pour out blessings will be saturated with favor.

²⁶ People will curse the businessman with no ethics, but the one with a social conscience receives praise from all.

²⁷ Living your life seeking what is good for others brings untold favour, but those who wish evil for others will find it coming back on them.

Proverbs 21

²⁶ **A lazy man hasn't learned the secret that the generous man has learned: extravagant giving never leads to poverty.**

Proverbs 13:27, 26:21-22

Conclusions from Proverbs

1. Wisdom is more valuable than wealth
2. Don't be lazy
3. Be diligent & work hard
4. Don't get into debt
5. Be honest (especially in business)
6. Don't rely on your wealth
7. Be satisfied with God
8. Put God & family first
9. Live simply
10. Look after the poor
11. Be extravagantly generous

Let us pray

Proverbs 30

⁸ Give me neither undue poverty nor undue wealth— but rather, feed my soul with the measure of prosperity that pleases you.

⁹ May my satisfaction be found in you. Don't let me be so rich that I don't need you or so poor that I have to resort to dishonesty just to make ends meet.

Psalms 116

¹² So now, what can I ever give back to you God to repay you for the blessings you have poured out on me?