

QA: How Should Christians Face Economic Uncertainty? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

OUESTION: How should Christians face economic uncertainty?

ANSWER: First, by recognizing the limitation(s) of money, and Secondly by not pretending things are better than they really are.

1. What Money Can't Buy

David said: "If riches increase, Do not set your heart on them" (**Psalm 62:10**). **Riches cannot buy**:

- 1) "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, Loving favor rather than silver and gold" (Proverbs 22:1);
- 2) Permanence. "Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; They fly away like an eagle toward heaven" (Proverbs 23:5); "For riches are not forever, Nor does a crown endure to all generations" (Proverbs 27:24);
- 3) **Salvation**. Know "that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1 Peter 1:18-19).

He who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like foliage. (**Proverbs 11:28**)

Truly Jesus warned that it was possible for riches to kill faith before it can begin, for

The cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. (Mark 4:19)

2. Don't Pretend.

Better is the one who is slighted but has a servant, Than he who honors himself but lacks bread. (**Proverbs 12:9**)

A loyal "servant" knows his master, and serves, regardless of circumstance or outside opinion. Being "slighted" by others should not discourage a person from being honorable and respected at home. However, acting like things are better than they actually are is an exercise in hypocrisy and self- deceit! Putting up a front of self-honor when the facts are he "lacks bread" makes life look like a stage setting, all image and little substance. Self-praise is NO praise!

Proverbs 27:2: Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips.

We expect our parents and grandparents to "praise us," so the emphasis here is "a stranger," someone who is outside our family.

---- JTPII, June 19, 2022