

Wealth is from God choral reading

CHARACTERS: Moses, David, Paul, Antagonist, All

RUN TIME: 4 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Deuteronomy 8:11-14, 17-18 , 2 Chronicles 29:11-17, Proverbs 30:8-9 , 2 Corinthians 8:6, 9:6-12, 17; 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17,

MOSES: Be careful that you don't forget the Lord your God

ALL: When you eat and are full,

MOSES: and build beautiful houses to live in,

ALL: and your herds and flocks grow large,

MOSES: and your silver and gold multiply,

ALL: and everything else you have increases,

MOSES: Be careful that your heart doesn't become proud and you forget the Lord your God.

ALL: You may say to yourself,

ANTAGONIST: (*haughty*) My power and my own ability have gained this wealth for me,

ALL: but remember that the Lord your God gives you the power to gain wealth.

DAVID: May You be praised, Lord God of our father Israel, from eternity to eternity.

ALL: Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power

DAVID: and the glory and the splendor and the majesty,

ALL: for everything in the heavens and on earth belongs to You.

DAVID: Riches and honor come from You,

ALL: and You are the ruler of everything.

DAVID: But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this?

ALL: For everything comes from You, and we have given You only what comes from Your own hand

DAVID: Yahweh our God, all this wealth that we've provided for building You a house for Your holy name comes from Your hand

ALL: everything belongs to You.

DAVID: I know, my God, that You test the heart

ALL: and that You are pleased with what is right.

DAVID: (*humbly*) I have willingly given all these things with an upright heart,

ALL: and now we have seen Your people giving joyfully and willingly to You.

PAUL: Our Lord Jesus Christ, though He was rich,

ALL: for our sake He became poor,

PAUL: so that by His poverty you might become rich. Remember this:

ALL: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,

PAUL: and the person who sows generously will also reap generously.

DAVID: Each person should do as he has decided in his heart

PAUL: —not reluctantly or out of necessity,

ALL: for God loves a cheerful giver.

PAUL: You will be enriched in every way for all generosity,

ALL: which produces thanksgiving to God

PAUL: For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints,

ALL: (*joyous*) but is also overflowing in many acts of thanksgiving to God.

PAUL: Godliness with contentment is a great gain.

ALL: For we brought nothing into the world,

PAUL: and we can take nothing out.

ALL: But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these.

PAUL: (*sadly*) Those who want to be rich fall into temptation,

ALL: a trap, and many foolish and harmful desires,

PAUL: which plunge people into ruin and destruction.

ALL: For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil,

PAUL: *(even more sadly)* and by craving it, some have wandered away from the faith

ALL: and pierced themselves with many pains.

PAUL: Instruct those who are rich in the present age not to be arrogant

ALL: or to set their hope on the uncertainty of wealth,

PAUL: but on God, who richly provides us with all things to enjoy.

ALL: Be rich in good works, to be generous, willing to share

PAUL: Give me neither poverty nor wealth;

ALL: feed me with the food I need.

PAUL: Otherwise, I might have too much and deny God, saying,

ANTAGONIST: *(haughty, dismissive)* Who is the Lord?

ALL: or I might have nothing and steal, profaning the name of my God.