

Your Brother Will Rise

Proverbs 22:1

1. A *good* name is to be more desired than great wealth,
Favor is better than silver and gold.
- 2. The rich and the poor have a common bond,
The Lord is the maker of them all.**
3. The prudent sees the evil and hides himself,
But the naive go on, and are punished for it.
4. The reward of humility *and* the fear of the Lord
Are riches, honor and life.
5. Thorns *and* snares are in the way of the perverse;
He who guards himself will be far from them.
6. Train up a child in the way he should go,
Even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Question:

How often have you looked at others around you that seem to have or do have more than you and think “Why do they have more than me? Does God love them more than me?”

In today's Proverb verse 2 we see that no matter who you are in life, rich or poor, young or old, we all have to submit to God who is the Creator of all people.

In life it is true that there are people who will be well off while we struggle or will suffer more than us, even if we don't have it all together either.

In Biblical days as it is today, there has always been people who have more than others and people who seem to be blessed more than

others. In fact Jesus said “You will always have the poor with you...”
Matthew 26:11

So in life there are always a distinction between people no matter where you live on this earth. But Proverbs 22:2 wants to remind us that God is still the Creator of all distinctions in life and as such we are all subject to Him the same.

For those who see themselves as poor and have this dependence on God to survive. It is no different for the rich. Yes the rich may have the means for what is before them at this moment but that was not something they got on their own. It was from the blessing of God.

We let this difference between ourselves to drive a wedge between us when God doesn't want us to look at the riches of man but in the provisions that He provides to each of us. He wants us to look to Him and not to ourselves.

Mal. 2:10

“Do we not all have one father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously each against his brother so as to profane the covenant of our fathers?”

Job 31:15

“Did not He who made me in the womb make him, And the same one fashion us in the womb?”

Whether a rich man wants to admit it or not, He is not where he is at without the hand of God and if it were not for God, he would not even exist. God has blessed some to be rich and has let some to be poor. But God is still the God of both.

God has made it so that we are in need of each other. The poor need the rich to an extent and the rich need the poor. For those in need, need someone to give them a helping hand and those with much need to help those in need.

1 Co. 12:21

And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; or again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”

Yes we would probably all say that I would rather be on the rich side and in need of the poor to work for me, then being on the poor side and in need of the rich to help me out.

But if we are not careful, this kind of thinking will ruin our view of God and how we reach out to Him. For if we think that we are less than the rich we can give place for anger to set in against God and thus give us a bitter life.

But if we understand that God loves us both and that both of our needs are the same, in need of God. Then we will realize that God doesn't overlooks us at all.

Job 34:19

Who shows no partiality to princes, Nor regards the rich above the poor, For they all are the work of His hands?

For instance, did you know that when the rich die without God through Jesus Christ they go to an eternal death in hell just like the poorest of sinners without God. And the same with those who are poor and know God through Jesus Christ, they go to the same place of eternal glory as the rich person who is a child of God.

The Bible reminds us that “God is no respecter of person.”
Romans 2:11-16; Act 10:34-35

God loves each of us the same. God saves all of the same. God judges all of the same. So though we may not have what others may have, we have the same opportunity with God in our lives no matter how rich or poor we may be.

Look not at others with envy and always look to God with gratitude!