

## New Covenant Inheritance: Lesson 11 – Wisdom and Provision

This lesson looks at the ninth nation that was squatting on the Promised Land. They are the Girgashites as listed in **Genesis 15:21**. They represent another bondage of the curse. Praise God for the freedom we obtained from the “Girgashites” through Jesus, because this bondage is a major challenge in many people’s lives. There are whole ministries and organizations whose main focus is to help people bound up in this curse. For most people, this bondage is also what drives their lifestyle, decisions, behavior and thinking. While Jesus has already done the work of releasing us from the Girgashites, most people (including most Christians) definitely need to have their minds renewed to God’s way of thinking, in order to be set free from this bondage. Let’s see what it is and how we need to change our thinking to live in our inheritance.

**Girgashites** – ‘gimel resh gimel shin yud’ [H1622] which has an uncertain derivation

Strong’s definition of H1622 is: *Patrial from an unused name (of uncertain derivation); a Girgashite, one of the native tribes of Canaan: - Girgashite, Girgasite.*

Not very helpful in finding out what bondage this nation represents. Accordingly, let’s look at the Hebrew pictograms of the name to see if that holds the key. Write out the picture and meaning of these letters:

	Picture	Meaning
Gimel:	_____	_____
Resh:	_____	_____
Shin:	_____	_____
Yud:	_____	_____

When put together these letters indicate that the Girgashites “gathered (or carried away) the top (first, prime) of God’s supply from work (or worship)”. The underlying meaning is that through Adam’s sin the curse bound up the provision of God and forced man to work for his living. God originally supplied everything that man needed for provision (**Genesis 2:15-16**). But when the curse came in, man became a slave to having to provide his needs by his own effort (**Genesis 3:17-19**). The Girgashites represent the bondage that stops God’s provision for us. Additionally, **Proverbs 3:13-18** declares the truth that the gaining of wisdom is better even than gold, silver and rubies. The fruit of wisdom includes provision and both of these were bound up when the curse came into the earth. We know that Jesus delivered us from the curse (**Galatians 3:13**), which means our inheritance includes the restoration of divine wisdom and God’s complete provision of every need, want and desire.

Let’s start this study with Jesus’ teaching in **Matthew 6:19-34**. Read this passage and answer the following:

Is it wrong to have lots of (“lay up”) treasure on earth (v19, **Deuteronomy 28:5, Proverbs 13:22**)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What makes laying up treasure on earth wrong (v19, **James 4:3, Mark 10:24**)? \_\_\_\_\_

What can happen to earthly wealth (v19)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Where should we be laying up treasure (v20)? \_\_\_\_\_.

How do we lay up treasure in heaven? \_\_\_\_\_.

What does the location of our treasure say about us (v21)? \_\_\_\_\_.

In verses 22 to 24 Jesus uses the analogy of our eyes to underline the truth about where we should focus our thinking. Verse 24 gives the summary as “Ye cannot serve God and mammon”. In leading up to this statement, He differentiates between being full of light and full of darkness; between having clear eyes or evil eyes. This is describing where we put our focus: what we think about, what we chase after and what we decide to do in our daily lives. The issue is that earthly provision is a necessity for us and a lot of our time revolves around obtaining this provision. So how are we supposed to focus on Jesus and not on the things of this world, when we need to make a living, have a job, pay my bills and so on? Doesn’t scripture say “if any doesn’t work, neither should he eat”? Yes it does, in **2 Thessalonians 3:10**. Unfortunately, most Christians see “serving God and not mammon” as a commandment, so they attempt to do it by their own effort. Jesus is actually saying that serving God is following Holy Spirit (eye is clear) and serving mammon is living it by our own effort (eye is evil).

Now let’s expand this concept further. The key is found in the meaning of the Greek word in verse 23 that is translated “evil”: *poneros* [G4190]. Strong’s states that a meaning of ‘*poneros*’ is guilt. Using this definition in the analogy, we see that our eye (the way we see things) is “single/clear” (v22) when we are guilt free – seeing from our standing in righteousness. Conversely, when we have guilt (*poneros* – “evil”) in our thinking (v23), then we are full of darkness. The statement “if the light that is in thee be darkness...”, is telling us that if we think that God (light) is convicting us of sin (i.e. is showing up our guilt), then “how great is that darkness”. Unfortunately, a lot of Christians have been taught, and therefore think, that one of Holy Spirit’s jobs is to convict them of sin. They think that every time they mess up, God get’s upset and convicts them of sin so that they will repent. They live in guilt and condemnation. Jesus describes this state as “Oh how great is their darkness”.

Then in verse 24 He sums up the analogy by saying we can’t serve two masters. Given the context, the term mammon is referring to man’s self effort to provide for himself. He is not saying that wealth, riches or blessings are wrong; rather it is the thought processes about our wealth that we need to keep “single”. We keep our eyes on Jesus and His completed work, which is the source of our provision. We simply follow Holy Spirit in our daily activities and the result is we love Him and hate self effort (mammon). Conversely, when we live in guilt and condemnation we focus on our performance to please Him and end up “hating” Him because He always seems like a tough task-master. Understanding this analogy gives more meaning to the statement in verse 25 to “take no thought ... “ (don’t worry or be anxious about), meaning stay out of self effort and let God provide by leading you in your job, living, bill paying and so on. He wants us living guilt and stress free.

What three specific things are we not to worry about (v25)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What is more important than “meat” (v25)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What is more important than “raiment” (v25)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What should we rely on God to provide (v26)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What should we rely on God to provide (v27)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What should we rely on God to provide (v28-30)? \_\_\_\_\_.

In verse 31, Jesus repeats the statement “take no thought”. In Greek this is “*may merimnao*” meaning ‘never be anxious’. Do not take care, do not be anxious, and do not worry; don’t let those thoughts in. A very common goodbye statement in the South (of USA) is “take care now”. This is a good example of how the curse has laced people’s thinking and conversation with the opposite of what God says. Of course, the reason we need to reject all anxiety and worry is because we have a covenant of provision and protection with God. Our heavenly father, who is far better than any earthly father, has covenanted in blood to be our provider, protector, guide, and friend. **Hebrews 8:10** “I will be their God and they shall be my people”.

What are we instructed to do (**Matthew 6:33**)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What does this do for us (v33)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Why are we not to worry about tomorrow (v34)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Let's look at a few other scriptures that show how much God wants you provided for (exceedingly abundantly).

Read **2 chronicles 1:6-12**. Because Solomon's focus was on God, the byproduct (serendipity) was abundance.

What did Solomon offer to God (v6)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What did Solomon ask for (v10)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Did God provide what Solomon asked for (v12)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What else did God provide (v12)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Who is our wisdom and knowledge (**1 Corinthians 1:30**)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What happens when Jesus is our focus (**Proverbs 3:2,13,16**). \_\_\_\_\_.

Read **Psalms 112:1-3**. According to verse 1, the blessing of God comes from two things: fearing the Lord and delighting in His commandments. The New Covenant application of this is the worship of God (**Matthew 4:10**); and believing in Jesus (**Matthew 5:17, John 6:29**) and resting in His completed work (**Hebrews 4:9-11**).

When we do this, what happens to our children (**Psm 112:2**)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Who are the upright (**Galatians 2:14 KJV**)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What status have the upright (v2)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What is in the house of the upright (v3)? \_\_\_\_\_.

What do the upright enjoy forever (v3)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Now read **Luke 11:11-13**. If a son asks for bread, what does a father give him? \_\_\_\_\_.

If a son asks for fish, what does a father not give him? \_\_\_\_\_.

If a son asks for an egg, what does a father give him? \_\_\_\_\_.

Verse 13: "If ye then, being evil (GK root is: full of labors), know how to give...". Jesus is pointing out that even people who are self centered will give good things to their children. Then he says, how much more shall Father (who is totally selfless) give of Himself when His children ask.

What does Father give abundantly to us (v13)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Why do you think Jesus says we should ask for this gift, rather than wisdom, wealth, riches, provision and protection (**Deuteronomy 28:2**)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Now read **Philippians 4:14-19**. You have probably heard Christians quote verse 19 when they are in need (maybe you've done it too). It is often used as a mantra, such that if they say it enough, then God will actually do

it. Yet many Christians live in want and lack, so the human reasoning is that there are times when God doesn't supply all our needs. They often think He withholds supply to teach them a lesson, or keep them humble, or to fix a fault in their lives. These are lies from the pit of hell. In truth, God has already supplied every need for every person (**Ephesians 1:3, 2 Peter 1:3, 2 Corinthians 9:8**). Everything needed in this life (which Jesus came to give – **John 10:10**) has already been reserved (has your name on it) in heaven for you (**1 Peter 1:4**) – it is your inheritance. God is not withholding it, it is there waiting for you to take it. It doesn't belong to anyone else; it is yours. The problem is that most Christians do not know how to receive it. They prevent His provision coming by their beliefs and behavior. They think they are waiting on God; or that they have to perform certain things to get it (self effort); or that their sin is preventing the blessing; or that they don't have enough faith; or..... many other reasons. Yet, God only gives one reason: because we don't believe on Jesus and rest in the reality that He has already supplied it and simply ask and receive. When you know it's already supplied, you live in gratefulness and have the giver mentality. That is what Paul is commending in this passage. The Philippians had given a number of offerings to Paul and his response was gratefulness, along with the reality that because they were givers he knew that God's supply was theirs. And what a supply it is – according to His riches!!!!

Good news, God has already met all our needs. Furthermore, He has already satisfied all our wants and fulfilled all our desires. If this seems too good to be true, check out what the following scriptures tell us:

Write out **Psalm 23:1**. \_\_\_\_\_.

What happens to those that seek the Lord in **Psalm 34:10**? \_\_\_\_\_.

In **Philippians 4:11** Paul identifies that gratefulness is the key to living with all your wants satisfied. We simply believe, say and rest – contentment based on having asked (demanded what's due) and then continually giving thanks. Yes, according to scripture, all our wants are already satisfied. How about having all our desires fulfilled?

Read **Psalm 145:16-19**. What does God satisfy (v16)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Are you one of these things? \_\_\_\_\_.

What attitude allows Him to fulfill your desires (v19)? \_\_\_\_\_.

Read **Psalm 21:1-2** and **Psalm 37:4**. Does God fulfill our heart's desires? \_\_\_\_\_.

In **Mark 11:22-24** Jesus teaches us that when we believe that His faith has already met our needs, satisfied our wants and fulfilled our desires (when we "have God's faith"), then we will say to everything of the curse "be gone" and it goes. We say to needs, wants and desires: be met, satisfied and fulfilled and it is done. The moment we declare it, we have received it. The result is we live a life of thanksgiving to our wonderful Daddy.

In **Proverbs 4:5-9** we are instructed to get wisdom. Since Jesus is made unto us wisdom, we have abundant wisdom when our focus is on Him. **James 1:5** tells us how to receive Jesus every day – God gives Him to us liberally. Paul further underlines this truth in **Romans 5:17**. Here Paul gives the specifics of what it takes to live in the exceeding great provision of God.

What two things does **Romans 5:17** say must we receive? \_\_\_\_\_.

Both of these are found in our standing in Jesus. Because we are partakers of the New Covenant, our inheritance includes the provision of God for every need, want and desire. This inheritance comes as we keep our eyes on Jesus and follow the leading of Holy Spirit. He leads you into wealth in every area of life (spirit, soul, body, family, finances, vocation and social) and you get to enjoy it – a stress free, satisfying life. Watch it overtake you as you rest in Him and do what Holy Spirit says.