

THEME: FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP FOR THE WEALTHY PLACE
TOPIC: THE DANGER OF DEBT AND FINANCIAL BONDAGE [PART 2]
TEXT: PROVERBS 22:7, ROMANS 13:8, DEUTERONOMY 28:12

INTRODUCTION

Debt is one of the most common traps affecting believers today.

The world normalizes debt, celebrates credit culture, and encourages borrowing without long-term vision. But Scripture consistently warns that **debt creates slavery**, burdens families, and places the destiny of a household under the control of another.

We continue our study of exploring the **danger of uncontrolled debt**, and how to pursue **financial liberty** in alignment with God's Word.

CORE TRUTH ON THE DANGER OF DEBT AND FINANCIAL BONDAGE "Debt enslaves destiny; freedom fuels prosperity."

Debt is not just a financial issue — it is a **spiritual and emotional bondage** that affects:

- Peace
- Decision-making
- Worship
- Generational inheritance
- Purpose

4. PRODUCTIVE DEBT VS DESTRUCTIVE DEBT

Productive Debt

- Debt that Produces long-term value
- Debt that Increases assets
- Debt that Creates income streams

Examples: Home purchase, Business expansion, Education (in certain cases)

Destructive Debt

- Debt that Funds lifestyle, not purpose
- Debt that Depreciates instantly
- Debt that Comes from impulse or pressure

Examples: Credit card spending, Car upgrades you cannot afford, Loans to impress, borrowing for celebrations, Payday loans.

Proverbs 22:3 – "A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself."

Debt without forethought leads to predictable harm.

BELIEVERS CAN EXIT DEBT BIBLICALLY

1st Step — Repent of poor stewardship → God responds to humility.

2nd Step — Commit to wisdom moving forward → **Proverbs 3:5–6** — Seek God's direction.

3rd Step — Create a debt elimination plan

- List debts
- Rank highest interest first Apply the "snowball" or "avalanche" method
- Avoid new debt
- Create an emergency fund

4th Step — Increase income through diligence → **Proverbs 14:23** — hard work brings profit).

5th Step — Practice contentment → Hebrews 13:5 — avoid lifestyle envy.

6th Step — Celebrate small victories → Every reduction is progress.

5. CASE STUDY — THE LIFESTYLE TRAP

Scenario: A family continuously upgrades their lifestyle using loans: New car, New gadgets, New furniture, Holidays they cannot afford
Income remains the same — expenses increase.

Result: Debt spirals, Arguments increase, Stress becomes constant, Savings disappear and Giving declines

- Their future becomes enslaved to repayments

Teaching Point: Debt used to impress people enslaves destiny. This is not God's plan.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS & LESSONS LEARNT

1. Why does Scripture warn against excessive debt?
→ Debt creates invisible bondage.
2. Is all borrowing wrong? What principles must guide borrowing?
→ Unplanned borrowing destroys financial peace.
3. How does debt affect mental and spiritual peace?
→ Purpose-driven planning avoids unnecessary debt traps
4. What is the difference between productive and destructive debt?
→ Responsible stewardship is a protective shield.
5. What biblical steps can believers take to exit debt?

God wants believers to live in **freedom, not financial slavery.**

DECLARATION

“I walk in financial liberty and disciplined increase. I reject financial bondage. I submit my finances to the wisdom of God. I embrace principles of order, discipline, and stewardship.”

CONCLUSION

Debt is not only an economic issue — it is, in fact, a **destiny issue. It steals:**

▪ Peace	▪ Freedom
▪ Options	▪ Joy
▪ Generosity	▪ Obedience

But God's desire is **freedom.**

▪ Freedom to obey.	▪ Freedom to give.
▪ Freedom to serve.	▪ Freedom to live with peace and vision.

You cannot walk boldly into your future

- If your present situation is tied down by chains of debt.
- Just as God brings deliverance from spiritual bondage.
- He wants to bring deliverance from **financial bondage.**

Final Truth: Debt may restrict your movement, but God has a plan to restore your **freedom.**