

Does Crime Pay In The End ?

Proverbs 3:31 [Amplified Bible] *“Do not resentfully envy and be jealous of an unscrupulous, grasping man, and choose none of his ways.”*

It would be easy to say that crime does not pay, but this is not borne out by what we see around us.

How can we reconcile these two things, God telling us that it is not wise to be envious of the wealth of those who are involved in crime?

Psalms 73:3,8,12,16-18 [Amplified Bible] *“For I was envious at the foolish and arrogant, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked ... they scoff and wickedly utter oppression, they speak loftily ... behold, these are the ungodly, who always prosper and are at ease in the world, they increase in riches ... but when I considered how to understand this, it was too great an effort for me and too painful, until I went into the sanctuary of God, then I understood, for I considered their end. After all you [God] do set the wicked in slippery places, you cast them down to ruin and destruction.”*

This only solution to this unfairness in life is to look beyond this life.

All worldly success is at best very short-lived and in the end it is unsatisfactory.

Psalm 73:28 [Amplified Bible] *“But it is good for me to draw near to God, I have put my trust in the eternal God and made Him my refuge, that I may tell of all of His works.”*

God’s presence in our lives is the most important and satisfying thing to possess but it is not until we seek to experience this that we can know this for sure.

Proverbs 3:32 [Amplified Bible] *“For the perverse are an abomination, extremely disgusting and detestable to the eternal God, but His confidential communion and secret counsel are with the uncompromisingly righteous, those who are upright and in right standing with Him.”*

Crime may bring quick and easy riches, but they are of very poor value compared with what is offered to those who are seeking a relationship with their Creator God.

Matthew 6:33 [Amplified Bible] *“But seek aim at and strive after first of all His [God’s] Kingdom, and His righteousness, His way of doing and being right, and then all these things taken together will be given you besides.”*

What things are being referred to in this passage of scripture?

Matthew 6:31-32 [Amplified Bible] *“Therefore do not worry and be anxious saying, ‘What are we going to have to eat?’ or, ‘What are we going to have to drink?’ or, ‘What are we going to wear?’ for the gentiles [those who do not know the true Creator God] wish for, crave and diligently seek after these things, and your Heavenly Father well knows that you need them all.”*

The above list may be limited to what is essential for physical life, but what God is offering to His family [Kingdom] is future pleasures beyond dreams for eternity.

Psalm 16:11 [Amplified Bible] *“You will show me the path of life, in Your presence is fullness of joy, at Your right hand there are pleasures for evermore.”*