

What God Says About **Borrowing & Lending**

Leverage. That's the way to meteoric accumulation. At least, it was the way a few years back. With inflation on the rampage, and real estate escalating, it seemed only natural to extend indebtedness to the limit in an effort to cash in on the times.

Then things changed. Leverage became bondage for many who rode the cycle a bit too long. It was Confucious who gave the sage advice: "He who rides tiger must first decide how he'll get off." Unfortunately, oriental wisdom didn't come in time for some. The tightening cords of debt have choked many who went just a little too far in using someone else's money to get ahead.

The flip side of the coin is no cleaner, however. Knowing how to lend, especially when relationships with people get in the way, is nearly impossible to discover. It seems at times that avoidance of assistance is the soundest advice, but it isn't always possible.

God is the greatest economist in the galaxy, and His input on money matters is timeless and tested. He speaks with clarity on the principles of borrowing and lending, and promises special considerations for people who will listen to His directives and put them to work!

5. **You should be working toward being debt-free.**

Romans 13:7-8

- **As a Lender . . .**

1. **You must deal with the needy in an unusual way.**

Exodus 22:25-27

2. **You must place responsibility over profitability.**

Leviticus 25:35-37

3. **You must be careful in requiring collateral.**

Deuteronomy 24:6, 12-13

4. **You will answer to God for your interest rates.**

Ezekiel 18:5, 7-9

5. **You will be blessed by God for obeying Him.**

Deuteronomy 23:20; 24:12-13

- **Notes**

- **As a Borrower . . .**

1. **You will be mortgaging the future for the present.**

Proverbs 27:12

2. **You will become subservient to your lender.**

Proverbs 22:7

3. **You will place everything you have at risk.**

Proverbs 22:26-27

4. **You will be required to repay all you owe.**

Psalms 37:21