

## Debt

*Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee? Proverbs 22:26-27*

-A severe warning is given concerning taking on liability for debts. Debt is not a good thing and is not looked upon favorably in the Bible.

*My son, if thou be surety for thy friend, if thou hast stricken thy hand with a stranger, Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth. Do this now, my son, and deliver thyself, when thou art come into the hand of thy friend; go, humble thyself, and make sure thy friend. Give not sleep to thine eyes, nor slumber to thine eyelids. Proverbs 6:1-4*

-The man who finds himself assuming responsibility for the debts of his friend should waste no time in doing what is needed to pay the debt off.

*He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretiship is sure. Proverbs 11:15*

*A man void of understanding striketh hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friend. Proverbs 17:18*

-Any man who takes on the debt of his friend and acts as liability for his friends responsibilities is not wise.

*Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. Romans 13:8*

-The context here is not necessarily physical debt, but there is a principle contained herein. A Christian should be free both spiritually and physically from debt in order to carry out his responsibility to man which is to exhibit the love of Christ.

*And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. I Timothy 6:8*

-Many people get themselves into debt because they must have too much too soon. A Christian should not be in competition with others to have more than they can afford nor should they accumulate debt in order to have more of a luxurious lifestyle.

*Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men. I Corinthians 7:23*

-The Christian is God's servant, not man's servant. Debt places the Christian in a position where they are under certain obligations to men and therefore are not completely free to fulfill God's perfect will for their life.