



BOOK REVIEW - THE RICHEST MAN IN BABYLON

THE CAMEL TRADER OF BABYLON-
CHAPTER 8,

SUMMARY

- Tarkad owes money to a lot of people, he started hiding away because he couldn't pay his debt. He was desperate, penniless and hungry, then he ran into one of his friends, the camel trader named Dabasir to whom he owed money. Dabasir asked for his money.
- Dabasir told the story of his background, how he once had many debts because of his choice of lifestyle and was forced to become a slave in a foreign land, Syria. He pointed out to Tarkad, that no man who did not repay his debt could ever earn his self respect - he is one with soul of a slave.
- Dabasir went on to talk about his encounter with his master's wife Siri, his lesson and eventual escape with his master's camel through opportunity created by Siri. How whilst in exile in the desert enroute his escape, he had an epiphany (a mind opening) - he came to the realisation, that though his many debts was bad, the people he owed the debt to weren't bad people but in fact were his true friends that he was hurting them by his action. To this he needed to make remedy by returning home to Babylon to seek out ways to repay his loan - (Purpose).
- He returned to Babylon, apologised to his friends with a promise to repay them as he sought for job. In fact, one of the friends the moneylender Mathon helped him to find a job as a camel tender. Dabasir through doing honest job and now living a disciplined lifestyle was able to repay all his debt

KEY LIFE LESSONS

- The right perception
 - A purpose or clear desire to pursue
 - A motivator
- Be determined
 - Resolution
- Be disciplined
 - Control your expenditure
 - Do not live outside your means
 - Stay focused
- Set your priorities right
 - Never borrow to satisfy lifestyle
 - Dignity in hardwork
- Conquer your enemies - every enemy must be conquered

PERCEPTION - *“The soul of a free man looks at the world as a series of problems to be solved and he solves them; meanwhile, the soul of a slave whines - what can I do?”*

- **What you see and How you see what you see matters.** Ephesians 1:18
- Your decisions will determines your destiny
- John 8:32 “Thou will know the truth and truth will set you free...”
- In the presence of purpose/vision, there is will power to keep pushing on (Flash from Dabasir’s narration of his experience). So purpose is important
- Genesis 13:14-17 ... Abraham’s **will power** was drawn from a gleam of God’s promise and bigger picture ahead.
- The challenges/hurdles are only but incidents on the part to accomplishing purpose - so they don’t matter and should not be enough to stop us. We are to stay focused on purpose/goal/vision. Eccl 11:4 “the man that watches the wind will not plant, whoever looks at the clouds will not reap”

DETERMINATION- ‘*Where there is determination, you will find a way out*’

What is determination? A firmness of purpose. Being resolute.

- Simple meaning “A quality that makes one to continue trying to do or achieve something considered difficult despite and challenges”
- Deeper meaning “A positive emotional feeling that involves persevering towards a difficult goal in spite of obstacles”
- Stay focused. Money accrues quickly to those who are determined and ready to work but flee from those who are lazy and unwilling to work. So be determined to achieve your goal. - Proverbs 22:29 “seest thou a man who is diligent in his business?...”
 - 1 Chron 15:7 ‘But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be reward’
 - Psalms 107:9 “For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things”
- Be determined to fulfil your obligations- be it debt, pledge, promise or taxes - Romans 13:7 - says “*pay everyone what you owe him...*” a person with reputation of not honouring obligation loses his honour in the community/society.

OVERCOME THE ENEMY

“Every enemy must be conquered”

- In order to truly embrace the principle of wealth creation, we must confront our worst enemies
- INDISCIPLINE - James 1:13 ... we become enslaved by the unchecked desires and recklessness of our choices.
- FEAR - fear will cripple even the strongest and talented of men. But we have the assurance of the word of God, we should not be afraid if we have Him as our backing - Isaiah 41:10-13
- DEBT - Romans 6:16,21 whilst taking a loan is not exactly a bad thing or sin, it is bad when its taken for the frivolous or reckless lifestyle and worst still when you fail or are unable to repay the bible says *Pay to every man what you owe*

SET YOUR PRIORITIES RIGHT

- We cannot live our lives at the dictates of the society or to impress others - Rom 12:2 says “we are not to be conformed to the patterns of the world, but be transformed by the renewing of our minds”.
 - Don't live outside or above your means, because our every choice has consequence waiting at the end of the road, so make wise choices. Be led of the Spirit...
 - There is dignity in labour. The road to self-respect and honour is **Hardwork, Diligence, Credibility.**
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SOME BASIC RULES OF MONEY

- SAVE MONEY
- SELF DISCIPLINE - CONTROL YOUR EXPENDITURE
- MULTIPLY YOUR MONEY - INVEST WISELY
- GUARD YOUR TREASURE - DON'T WASTE YOUR RESOURCES
- IMPROVE YOUR ABILITY TO EARNING - DEVELOP YOUR SELF, INCREASE KNOWLEDGE
- PROTECT YOUR FUTURE - TAKE INSURANCE
- SEEK WEALTH - ITS NOT A SIN
- SEEK WISE COUNSELS
- HAVE DEFINITE MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD

*WHERE THERE IS DETERMINATION, A
WAY IS FOUND”*



THANK YOU