

THE RICHEST MAN IN BABYLON

CHAPTER 10:

THE LUCKIEST MAN IN BABYLON

This chapter conveys the message that financial success is not an elusive dream, but rather an achievable goal that requires commitment, discipline, and the willingness to learn and grow.

THE STORY

- Sharru Nada, a wealthy and respected merchant of Babylon, was returning from a trip to Damascus to bring back his late business partner's grandson, Hadan Gula, whom he'd agreed to mentor.
- He noticed that the young man was destined for a troubled future due to his reckless, lazy and arrogant way.
- He worries about Hadan's attitude towards hard work and desires only money. Sharru decides to tell Hadan the story of how his grandfather, Arad Gula, and he came to be business partners as a lesson in humility and how to succeed in life.
- He told Hadan that he was once a slave just like his grandfather.
- Sharru recounted to the young man, that as a slave he received the counsel of a fellow slave that the better a slave worked, the better the master treated them. This advice would shape his life forever.



- He worked so hard for his masters and eventually improves his situation such that he was able to earn small amount of money. He plans to save this money to eventually buy his freedom.
- It is during this time that he became friends with another hard-working slave, none other than Hadan's grandfather. Arad saw in Sharru, a hard working and diligent man, who could be trusted.
- Arad had earned enough money through his hard work that he was able to buy his freedom and years later, he bought Sharru's freedom and freed him to make him his partner.
- Hadan was shocked at his grandfather's beginnings and realized that he earned his high status through his hard work. He is touched by this story and decides to humble himself, resolving to emulate Sharru by becoming a cheerful and hard worker.
- While riding through the field with Hadan, Sharru saw three slaves working in a field and remember that he and the three men were once slaves many decades ago.





Key Lessons

- To attain financial freedom and grow your wealth, you must have a solid vision/plan of how you intend to achieve it and think long term.
- Make sure you surround yourself with the right people who can support you and more importantly, seek expert opinion.
- Wealth is not brought by luck alone, but rather following specific financial principles and practices.
- Financial success is within the reach of 'every' individual who is willing to take control of their own destiny.
- Achieving financial freedom and wealth building requires character. Hard work can only carry you, but a good character in humility will take you to your destination faster.
- Building and sustaining generational wealth requires instilling values and financial principles into your family.



Other Lessons

- Be diligent in whatever situation you find yourself. Nobody discards a valuable person; you must therefore always strive to be that person people can rely on.
- No matter where you start in life, you must respect the value of hard work. Work is what gives life meaning and earns the respect of others.
- Increase your ability to earn more by improving your skills. As you perfect your craft, your ability to earn more increases.
- Be Persistent and Disciplined: Building wealth is a long-term endeavor; therefore, you need stay focused on your financial goals and not be swayed by short-term temptations.
- You can not get ahead in your quest for financial freedom or wealth building by shirking work
- Lastly, treat your 'time' as the only 'luck' you have.

Conclusion

Diligence is the mother of good luck — Benjamin Franklin



