



Proverbs 6:6-9

- (6) Go to the ant, you sluggard!
Consider her ways and be wise,
(7) Which, having no captain,
Overseer or ruler,
(8) Provides her supplies in the summer,
And gathers her food in the harvest.
(9) How long will you slumber, O sluggard?
When will you rise from your sleep?

2 Corinthians 12:14

- (14) Now *for* the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be burdensome to you; for I do not seek yours, but you. For the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children.

1 Timothy 5:8

- (8) But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

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We owe a duty to [God](#) and to the affairs of this life. We are to be diligent in our business in providing for ourselves and our families. God, at the very beginning of the Book (Genesis 1-3), when He put [Adam and Eve](#) in the Garden, says that they are to dress and keep it, meaning that they are to embellish it, to add to it, and to guard it from deterioration.

Part of our responsibility is to be diligent in doing our job for our employer. We are to be careful not to squander and waste what we have. We are to look ahead and plan to provide for future demands, taking into consideration that there will be emergencies like

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accidents, illness, death, natural disasters. We are to prepare for such things.

If we fail to do that, it is not showing [faith](#) that "God will provide," but rather presumption and irresponsibility in throwing all the responsibility on God while we ignore ours, failing to fulfill what God instructs us to do. There is much to be learned about God's Kingdom and getting prepared for it by carefully using our resources.

The danger lies in our human proclivity to tend toward extremes. The most common is following human nature's inclination to be overly concerned about the things of this life and devoting too much time and energy to it. [Jesus](#) points this out in [Matthew 6:25](#), advising us to "take no anxious thought."

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[The Christian and the World \(Part 8\)](#)



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