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Wealth and the Pursuit of Happiness

Wealth and the pursuit of happiness are simple and easy to find. In *The Richest Man in Babylon* by George S. Clason, several stories for becoming wealthy are used to demonstrate how people in ancient Babylon try to find their happiness.

Proper preparation helps by already being prepared instead of panicking and doing things at the last minute. According to the novel, *The Richest Man in Babylon*, “Proper preparation is the key to success” (Clason 4). The more people prepare to do something the more aware they will be. Without proper preparation one does not have the readiness and awareness to become wealthy.

Proper preparation will give the ability to be successful. The effort and ability to accomplish goals lead to success. Clason stated “Success means accomplishments as the result of our own efforts and abilities” (4). Efforts and the ability of being able to do something bring great accomplishments which later on will bring success. As a result of a little hard work and effort, anything can be possible. Anyone can do anything in this world. It all depends on the power of will to strive for success.

Being successful does not mean that someone has enough money to be giving it all to a friend. People cannot give away all the money that was earned through hard work and dedication just for a friend. Clason appears to imply here that, “No one lends his entire fortune, not even to his best friend.” (8). This does not mean, of course, that if a friend was in trouble maybe a little help cannot hurt but not to give them all thy fortune. With this comment Clason indicates that money is a tool for survival. If one person cannot keep up to life standards why should someone else give up their fortune to help whoever is in need.

Giving all the money one has earned will be considered a bad investment like explained in the lines below. Not knowing where to invest thy money can be a huge problem. No one would suggest from this that, “Before thou entrust it as an investment in any field acquaint thyself with the dangers which may beset it” (Clason 22). It explains that before someone even thinks of investing their money in any form; make sure that the dangers of investing are their main concern. With attention to how important money really is and how to multiply it, investing does not mean that the money is going to multiply. Therefore, make sure that wherever investing is possible make sure of the consequences that it may imply.

In comparison to being poor, being rich is also hard. In this world there is a lot to give and to receive back. In the end, all of the quotes given above are some of the step to becoming wealthy. Becoming wealthy is one’s choice of accepting the rules and actually obeying them. One cannot become wealthy if they do not know how to control their incomes. Therefore, the quotes above should help readers become wealthy and to pursue their own happiness.

Works Cited

Clason, George S. *The Richest Man in Babylon.* *BizBuilderUSA.org,* 1926. *Microsoft Word* file.