

**v21a ~ “The wicked borrows and does not repay”**

- Some Christians stop at the first 3 words – equating wickedness and borrowing
  - But there are legitimate purposes for borrowing
- It’s not sinful to borrow – it’s sinful to borrow and not repay
  - The lender is in a position of strength / borrower weakness
  - Lenders may exploit this / Borrowers may resent this

**v21b ~ “the righteous shows mercy and gives”**

- To give is not to lend ~ *III*: “May I borrow a tissue?”
  - Once a gift is given, all rights to it are forfeited by the giver
- The righteous, out of mercy, gives (*expecting nothing in return*)
  - “Or, do we really expect nothing” ~ Sometimes motives are mixed
  - *III*: Young guy giving \$20 at Church of Christ

**These Statements are Contrasts and Opposites**

- The righteous DO NOT borrow and refuse to repay . . .
- The wicked DO NOT show mercy and give . . .
- These are IDEAL statements (*not absolute*) ~ they reflect OUGHT
- This OUGHT to reflect our view of stuff
  - What is your value of “stuff”? ~ *III*: Ted Tripp – fire and guitar
  - “Do you value stuff over people?”

**v22a ~ “for those blessed . . . shall inherit the earth”**

- Examine your heart ~ decide to devalue stuff . . .
- If you value stuff too much ~ give some away . . .

**Let’s let our stuff go for the sake of one another**

**Let’s have our aid to people remain secret**

**We cannot outgive the Giver**

**God calls us to be generous as He is generous**