

DILIGENCE AND LAZINESS / *Proverbs 22:13*

Proverbs makes it clear that diligence—being willing to work hard and do one’s best at any job given to him or her—is a vital part of wise living. We work hard, not to become rich, famous, or admired (although those may be by-products), but to serve God with our very best during our lives.

The Diligent	The Lazy	Reference
Become rich.	Are soon poor	10:4
Gather their crops.	Sleep during harvest.	10:5
Are an annoyance.		10:26
Are prosperous	Are idle.	12:11
Gain many benefits		12:14
Will become leaders	Will become slaves	12:24
Make good use of resources . . .	Waste good resources.	12:27
Are fully satisfied	Want much but get little	13:4
Bring profit	Experience poverty	14:23
Have an easy path	Have trouble all through life	15:19
	Are like those who destroy.	18:9
	Go hungry	19:15
	Won't feed themselves.	19:24
	Won't plow in season	20:4
Stay awake and have food to spare	Love sleep and grow poor	20:13
Make careful plans	Make hasty shortcuts	21:5
	Love leisure and become poor.	21:17
Love to give	Desire things but refuse to work for them . .	21:25-26
	Are full of excuses for not working.	22:13
Will serve before kings		22:29
	Sleep too much, which leads to poverty . . .	24:30-34
Reap abundance through hard work	Experience poverty because of laziness. . .	28:19