

CONFLICT

Blessing or Curse?



Conflicts are Inevitable ... Even in the Church.

- *The poor were condemned to economic ruin.*
- *The poor were shackled by social oppression.*
- *The poor were oppressed by religious shame.*

In the Midst of Conflict Everyone Needs Wisdom.

- *The legitimate poor are in a “favored” position with God.*
- *The legitimate poor are in a fortunate place in life.*
 - *Dependence*
 - *Contentment*
 - *Generosity*
 - *Hope*

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- *The rich are in a precarious position.*

In the Midst of Conflict Everyone Needs Wisdom.

Proverbs 30: ⁷ “Two things I ask of you, O Lord; do not refuse me before I die: ⁸ Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. ⁹ Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, ‘Who is the Lord?’ Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.

The Next Time a Conflict Erupts...

- *Pull back and seek wisdom.*
- *Embrace conflict as a blessing, not a curse.*
- *Willingly and eagerly enter into the other person's world and circumstances.*
- *Finishing well as an individual means finishing strong as a community.*