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UNDERSTANDING THE CONCEPT OF “WEALTH”

In economic literature the definitions of ‘wealth’ and other similar concepts like ‘richness’ and ‘welfare’ directly point to the level of living of the country, its population and separate individuals. Modern society tries to make wealth affordable for everyone and the more equally it will be spread among its members the less the social imbalance will be, the level of poverty will reach its minimum and the depth of the poverty will disappear etc.

One of the efficient ways to solve this problem is the use of Christian thinking in the management of economic processes. Presented paper aims at explaining the concept ‘wealth’ in different respects (namely, its Christian understanding) as well as Christian aspect of ‘income equalization’. ‘... Give us this day our daily bread ...’ (Mt. 6,11), the interpreters of the holy letters teach us that under ‘bread’ in our prayers we must imply giving us necessary amount of food, other staple goods and creation of dwelling conditions. In the whole, the entreaty should express the wish to have welfare in order to help others.

The paper discusses not only the wealth and so called ‘Mammon’s’ slaves, but the correlation of the rich to the Christ as well as the gospel concepts of Our Savior. In addition, the matters in connection with the concept of ‘wealth’ with the religious connotations should not be confused.