

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie

Gospel of Wealth by Andrew Carnegie: A Vision for Philanthropy and Social Responsibility

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie stands as one of the most influential ideas on philanthropy and wealth distribution in modern history. Penned in the late 19th century by industrialist Andrew Carnegie, this philosophy reshaped how society views the responsibilities of the rich. Instead of hoarding wealth or passing it down unchecked, Carnegie advocated for a purposeful and ethical use of riches to benefit the wider community. But what exactly did Carnegie mean by the “Gospel of Wealth,” and why does it continue to resonate today? Let’s dive deep into this compelling concept, its historical context, and its enduring impact.

Understanding the Gospel of Wealth by Andrew Carnegie

At its core, the gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie is a belief that the wealthy have a moral obligation to use their fortune to improve society. Carnegie, who amassed a vast fortune through steel manufacturing, believed that those who accumulated great wealth were merely trustees of their riches, responsible for using their money to foster the welfare and advancement of others.

In his famous 1889 essay titled “The Gospel of Wealth,” Carnegie argued against leaving large sums of money to heirs or allowing the state to redistribute wealth through taxes. Instead, he promoted the idea that the rich should actively engage in philanthropy during their lifetimes. The goal? To empower communities by funding libraries, schools, hospitals, and other public institutions that could elevate society as a whole.

The Historical Context Behind Carnegie’s Philosophy

The late 19th century was a period marked by rapid industrialization in America, which created vast disparities in wealth. Industrial magnates like Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, and J.P. Morgan accumulated fortunes that dwarfed the earnings of average workers. This era, sometimes called the Gilded Age, exposed stark contrasts between wealth and poverty.

Carnegie’s gospel of wealth emerged as a response to growing concerns about inequality and the social responsibilities of the newly rich elite. Unlike some contemporaries who either flaunted their riches or hid them away, Carnegie sought a balanced approach—acknowledging the benefits of capitalism but urging the wealthy to give back consciously and constructively.

The Key Principles of the Gospel of Wealth

Carnegie laid out several essential ideas in his essay, which continue to guide modern philanthropy:

1. Wealth as a Trust

Carnegie saw wealth as a form of trust bestowed upon individuals by society. Those who were fortunate enough to acquire significant riches were, in his view, caretakers rather than owners. This meant they had an ethical duty to administer their wealth for the public good rather than for mere personal gratification.

2. Giving During One's Lifetime

One of Carnegie's most distinctive recommendations was that the wealthy should distribute their fortunes while still alive. He argued that giving away money after death often led to mismanagement or waste and missed the opportunity to witness the positive effects of philanthropy firsthand.

3. Promoting Self-Improvement

Rather than simply handing out money, Carnegie believed philanthropy should empower recipients to help themselves. Funding libraries, educational institutions, and cultural centers was a way to provide tools for learning and self-betterment, enabling individuals to climb the social and economic ladder independently.

4. Avoiding Indiscriminate Charity

Carnegie cautioned against indiscriminate charity that might foster dependency or encourage laziness. Instead, he favored strategic giving that helped people develop their skills and contribute meaningfully to society.

The Impact of Carnegie's Gospel on Modern Philanthropy

The gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie has left a lasting legacy on how philanthropy is perceived and practiced. His ideas inspired generations of wealthy individuals to take an active role in giving back and shaping society.

Philanthropic Foundations and Public Institutions

Carnegie himself put his philosophy into action by donating over \$350 million (a staggering sum for his time) to build more than 2,500 libraries worldwide, establish universities, and fund scientific research. Many of these institutions remain pillars of education and culture today.

Inspired by Carnegie, numerous other industrialists and entrepreneurs established foundations that focus on education, health, and social welfare, such as the Rockefeller Foundation and the Ford Foundation. These organizations reflect the gospel of wealth's emphasis on structured, impactful giving.

Shaping Corporate Social Responsibility

Carnegie's ideas also helped lay the groundwork for corporate social responsibility (CSR). Modern businesses increasingly recognize their role beyond profit-making, engaging in community development, environmental stewardship, and ethical labor practices. This broader sense of duty to society echoes the spirit of the gospel of wealth.

Critiques and Evolving Perspectives

While the gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie remains influential, it has also faced criticism and sparked debate. Some argue that Carnegie's philosophy places too much power in the hands of wealthy individuals, potentially bypassing democratic processes for deciding how resources should be allocated. Others point out that philanthropy alone cannot solve systemic inequalities rooted in economic and political structures.

Moreover, the modern landscape of wealth creation and distribution is vastly different from Carnegie's era. Issues like globalization, digital economies, and rising economic disparities require fresh approaches alongside traditional philanthropy.

Balancing Wealth and Social Equity

Today, many philanthropists and social entrepreneurs build on Carnegie's principles while also advocating for policies that address root causes of inequality. This includes supporting initiatives for fair wages, education reform, and inclusive economic opportunities.

Technology and New Philanthropic Models

The rise of technology has introduced innovative ways to give back, such as impact investing, crowdfunding for social causes, and data-driven philanthropy. These tools help maximize the reach and effectiveness of charitable efforts, aligning with Carnegie's vision of thoughtful and strategic giving.

Lessons from the Gospel of Wealth for Today's Generations

Reflecting on the gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie offers valuable insights for anyone interested in wealth, responsibility, and social change:

- **Recognize the power of wealth:** Whether you're an individual or a business, understanding that money can be a tool for positive transformation is crucial.
- **Give with intention:** Impactful philanthropy requires thoughtfulness, focusing on initiatives that empower and uplift communities sustainably.
- **Engage actively:** Supporting causes during one's lifetime allows for more meaningful involvement and accountability.
- **Promote education and self-reliance:** Helping others acquire skills and knowledge builds long-term social capital.

Andrew Carnegie's gospel of wealth remains a timeless reminder that with great resources comes a great opportunity—and responsibility—to create a better world. It challenges us not just to accumulate, but to contribute, shaping a legacy that outlives personal fortunes.

Whether you are a budding entrepreneur, a philanthropist, or simply curious about the ethics of wealth, the gospel of wealth invites a deeper reflection on how money can serve humanity in meaningful ways.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main idea of Andrew Carnegie's 'Gospel of Wealth'?

The main idea of Andrew Carnegie's 'Gospel of Wealth' is that the rich have a moral obligation to distribute their wealth responsibly to benefit society, particularly through philanthropy and supporting institutions.

that promote the welfare and advancement of the community.

When was the 'Gospel of Wealth' written and published?

Andrew Carnegie wrote the 'Gospel of Wealth' essay in 1889, and it was published in the June 1889 issue of the magazine 'North American Review.'

How did Andrew Carnegie's 'Gospel of Wealth' influence philanthropy?

The 'Gospel of Wealth' greatly influenced philanthropy by encouraging wealthy individuals to actively give away their fortunes during their lifetimes to support education, libraries, and cultural institutions, thereby promoting social progress and reducing economic inequality.

What criticisms have been made about the 'Gospel of Wealth'?

Critics argue that the 'Gospel of Wealth' justifies economic inequality by placing the responsibility of wealth distribution on the rich rather than addressing systemic issues. Some also contend that it promotes a paternalistic approach to philanthropy, where the wealthy decide how to use their wealth without democratic input.

How does the 'Gospel of Wealth' relate to Andrew Carnegie's own philanthropic efforts?

The 'Gospel of Wealth' reflects Carnegie's personal philosophy and was demonstrated through his extensive philanthropy, including funding over 2,500 libraries, educational institutions, and cultural organizations worldwide, aiming to provide opportunities for self-improvement.

What are the key principles Carnegie outlines in the 'Gospel of Wealth'?

Carnegie outlines several key principles: the wealthy should live modestly, use their surplus wealth to benefit society, avoid passing down large inheritances to heirs, and invest in public institutions that help people help themselves.

How is the 'Gospel of Wealth' relevant in today's economic and social climate?

The 'Gospel of Wealth' remains relevant as debates about wealth inequality and philanthropy continue. It encourages modern billionaires to consider their social responsibilities and the impact of their wealth on society, promoting sustainable and meaningful contributions to public welfare.

Additional Resources

Gospel of Wealth by Andrew Carnegie: An Analytical Review of Philanthropy and Capitalism

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie stands as one of the most influential ideological frameworks in the history of American philanthropy and capitalism. Penned in 1889, this essay by the industrialist and steel magnate Andrew Carnegie articulated a philosophy that wealth accumulation was not merely a sign of personal success but came with a profound social responsibility. The gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie remains a pivotal reference point for discussions surrounding the ethical obligations of the rich, the role of philanthropy, and the intersection of capitalism with social welfare.

This article delves into the core tenets of Carnegie's gospel of wealth, situating it within its historical context and evaluating its enduring impact on philanthropic practices and economic thought. Through a balanced, investigative lens, we explore how Carnegie's ideas have shaped modern perceptions of wealth redistribution and social duty, while also addressing the criticisms and challenges associated with his framework.

Historical Context and Origins of the Gospel of Wealth

The gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie emerged during the Gilded Age, a period characterized by rapid industrialization, vast economic growth, and significant disparities in wealth distribution. Carnegie himself was an emblematic figure of this era—rising from modest beginnings to become one of the richest men in the world through his leadership of the Carnegie Steel Company.

In his 1889 article published in the *North American Review*, Carnegie outlined his belief that the wealthy had a moral obligation to use their fortunes for the greater good of society. This was not a call for simple charity but a structured approach to philanthropy that emphasized strategic investment in public institutions such as libraries, schools, and universities. Carnegie's proposal was revolutionary in its attempt to reconcile the capitalist accumulation of vast wealth with a socially conscious redistribution philosophy.

Core Principles of Carnegie's Gospel of Wealth

At its heart, the gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie rests on several foundational ideas:

- **Wealth as a Trust:** Carnegie argued that the rich are trustees of their wealth, responsible for managing it in ways that benefit society.
- **Opposition to Inheritance:** He was critical of the idea that vast fortunes should be passed down to heirs, which he believed could lead to idleness and waste.

- **Philanthropy Over Charity:** He distinguished between charity, which he saw as relief for the poor, and philanthropy, which should be a proactive investment in social infrastructure.
- **Self-Improvement and Opportunity:** Carnegie emphasized funding institutions that empower individuals to improve themselves, thereby creating a cycle of social uplift.

These principles reflect a nuanced understanding of social dynamics, where wealth is both a personal achievement and a public resource.

Impact on Philanthropic Practices and Social Responsibility

The gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie has had a significant and lasting influence on how the wealthy approach philanthropy. His advocacy for structured giving inspired a generation of industrialists and entrepreneurs to establish foundations and endowments aimed at long-term social impact.

Carnegie's Personal Philanthropy

Carnegie himself exemplified his gospel through extensive philanthropy. Over his lifetime, he donated more than \$350 million (equivalent to billions today) to various causes including the establishment of over 2,500 public libraries worldwide, educational institutions such as Carnegie Mellon University, and cultural organizations. His giving strategy emphasized sustainable development rather than temporary relief, aligning with his belief that wealth should be used to create opportunities rather than merely alleviate poverty.

Legacy in Modern Philanthropy

The principles outlined in the gospel of wealth have influenced contemporary philanthropic models, particularly the concept of “effective altruism” and strategic philanthropy. Modern billionaires such as Bill Gates and Warren Buffett have echoed Carnegie’s ethos by pledging substantial portions of their wealth to foundations aimed at systemic change.

Moreover, Carnegie’s skepticism of indiscriminate charity has shaped debates on welfare policy and the role of private wealth in public good. His insistence on the responsible stewardship of riches has led to increased transparency and accountability within philanthropic organizations.

Critical Perspectives and Controversies

While the gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie is widely praised, it has also faced criticism from various quarters. Critics argue that Carnegie's approach, while well-intentioned, ultimately serves to legitimize vast inequalities by placing the responsibility for social welfare in the hands of the wealthy rather than through democratic governance or systemic reform.

Wealth Concentration and Power Dynamics

Some analysts contend that Carnegie's model perpetuates a power imbalance, where a small elite determines the allocation of resources based on personal values rather than societal needs. This raises questions about accountability and inclusivity in philanthropic decision-making.

Philanthropy vs. Structural Change

There is ongoing debate about whether philanthropy, as conceptualized by Carnegie, can address root causes of poverty and inequality. Critics argue that philanthropy often treats symptoms rather than causes, and that systemic reforms—such as progressive taxation and stronger social safety nets—are necessary complements to private giving.

Comparisons with Other Philanthropic Models

Contrasting Carnegie's gospel with other philanthropic philosophies highlights its unique features and limitations. For instance, the "social gospel" movement focused more on social justice and reform through collective action, whereas Carnegie's approach was more individualistic and centered on elite stewardship.

Relevance in Today's Economic and Social Climate

In an era marked by unprecedented wealth concentration and rising social inequality, revisiting the gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie offers valuable insights. The tension between wealth accumulation and social responsibility remains a pressing issue, especially as new generations of billionaires face public scrutiny over their social impact.

The Role of Tech Billionaires and Modern Philanthropy

The rise of technology magnates with vast fortunes has revived interest in Carnegie's ideas. Philanthropic pledges such as The Giving Pledge, initiated by Gates and Buffett, resonate strongly with the gospel of wealth's principle that the wealthy should actively give back during their lifetimes.

Challenges in Implementation

However, implementing Carnegie's vision today involves navigating complex challenges including global inequality, political polarization, and debates over the legitimacy of private wealth in public affairs. The need for transparency, community engagement, and adaptive strategies is greater than ever.

Potential for Evolving the Gospel of Wealth

Contemporary philanthropy is increasingly integrating concepts of social justice, equity, and participatory grantmaking—areas where the gospel of wealth might be expanded or reinterpreted. This evolution reflects broader societal changes and a more critical assessment of the power dynamics inherent in wealth redistribution.

The gospel of wealth by Andrew Carnegie remains a seminal text that provokes reflection on the ethical dimensions of wealth and the responsibilities of the affluent. Its influence echoes through the philanthropic landscape, challenging both individuals and institutions to consider how best to harness wealth for societal advancement. While not without its critiques, Carnegie's vision continues to inform and inspire dialogue on the role of capital in shaping a more equitable world.

[Gospel Of Wealth By Andrew Carnegie](#)

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Gospel of Wealth Andrew Carnegie, 2010-11-01
The Gospel of Wealth is not just a narrative; it's a profound exploration of the human soul navigating through mystery, transformation, and unseen realms. Written by Andrew Carnegie [Author], this book captures the spiritual yearning that transcends earthly limits and opens doors to inner awareness. This isn't merely a story — it's a meditative journey for seekers of truth, peace, and the deeper meanings of existence. The Gospel of Wealth is for anyone who dares to ask — what lies beyond the seen? What awakens when the gates open? A timeless piece that is felt more than read, and remembered long after the last word.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Gospel of Wealth Andrew Carnegie, 2016-03-28
Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) was a Scottish immigrant to the United States. He arrived as a poor child, but—as the epitome of the rags to riches story, built himself into one of the richest men in the world. As a young man, who worked as a telegraph operator, and used his wits and business acumen

to parlay his job into greater investments during and after the Civil War. Those investments in railroads, bridges, oil derricks, and more made him very wealthy by the 1880s. Then he brought the Bessemer process for steel-making to the United States, and eventually sold his Carnegie Steel Company for \$480 million in 1901 (the current equivalent of nearly \$14 billion). Following that accumulation of staggering wealth, Carnegie dedicated the remainder of his life to philanthropy, giving away nearly 90 percent of his fortune by the time of his death. His 1889 article *Wealth* (later retitled *The Gospel of Wealth*) details his belief in the responsibility of philanthropy by the self-made rich. He wrote that the best way of dealing with the new phenomenon of wealth inequality was for the wealthy to redistribute their surplus means in a responsible and thoughtful manner, arguing that surplus wealth produces the greatest net benefit to society when it is administered carefully by the wealthy. He also argues against extravagance, irresponsible spending, or self-indulgence, instead promoting the administration of capital during one's lifetime toward the cause of reducing the stratification between the rich and poor. Carnegie's massive philanthropic efforts especially emphasized libraries, world peace, education, and scientific research. He built Carnegie Hall, and founded the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the Carnegie Institution for Science, the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, the Carnegie Hero Fund, Carnegie Mellon University, and the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Gospel of Wealth and Other Timely Essays

Andrew Carnegie, 1901

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Gospel of Wealth (Condensed Classics) Andrew Carnegie, Mitch Horowitz, 2021-02-07 The Definitive Edition of Andrew Carnegie's Classic on How Wealth Is Won—and Rightly Used Here is a unique edition of *The Gospel of Wealth* in which Carnegie's original statement is combined with its two sequels for a full-circle experience of the industrialist's meditation on purposeful money-getting. PEN Award-winning historian Mitch Horowitz introduces this volume and weaves together Carnegie's essays for an illuminating journey through the thought of one of history's wealthiest men. In this expanded and definitive edition of Carnegie's writing on wealth you will discover the industrialist's perspective on: The law of competition and its necessity for human progress. The proper way to spend fortunes and the problem of inheritance. How mass wealth gets created. The proper circumstances under which to get rich. Mitch's introduction provides the historical background of Carnegie's work, and his weaving together of Carnegie's essay with its follow-ups supplies the most complete insight into the financial thinking of one of the titans of modern commerce.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Gospel of Wealth Essays and Other Writings

Andrew Carnegie, 2006-09-26 Words of wisdom from American philanthropist Andrew Carnegie Focusing on Carnegie's most famous essay, *The Gospel of Wealth*, this book of his writings, published here together for the first time, demonstrates the late steel magnate's beliefs on wealth, poverty, the public good, and capitalism. Carnegie's commitment to ensuring and promoting the welfare of his fellow human beings through philanthropic deeds ranged from donations to universities and museums to establishing more than 2,500 public libraries in the English-speaking world, and he gave away more than \$350 million toward those efforts during his lifetime. *The Gospel of Wealth* is an eloquent testament to the importance of charitable giving for the public good. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Gospel of Wealth and Other Timely Essays

Andrew Carnegie, 2018-03-06 Andrew Carnegie was one of the wealthiest people to have ever lived. But by the time he had died he had given away ninety percent of his wealth. He followed his motto, which he set out in *The Gospel of Wealth*, The man who dies thus rich dies disgraced, through to his end. Born in Scotland, to a poor weaving household, he emigrated to the United States of America with

his family when he was thirteen. Through the course of the next fifty years he rose through the ranks of employment and invested widely until in 1901 he sold his Pittsburgh-based Carnegie Steel Company to J. P. Morgan for \$480 million and became the richest American alive for a couple of years. Carnegie explains his remarkable early years and how he made his first investments in his initial essay, *How I served my apprenticeship*. He gives remarkable insight into his ability to see potentially lucrative opportunities, even at a young age. The main focus of this collection of essays is however on *The Gospel of Wealth*, in which Carnegie outlines his philosophy of philanthropy. He was aware that the United States in the late nineteenth century had produced a great number of self-made super-rich industrialists, like himself, and was concerned that they would waste their new found wealth through extravagance and instead urges everyone to think of and assist those less fortunate than ourselves. The following essays within the book cover a wide variety of topics that Carnegie was interested in from labor rights to imperialism, relations between Britain and America to the value of trusts. Each one is a fascinating insight into the opinions of a brilliant nineteenth century business leader who held views which are still relevant in the modern day. *The Gospel of Wealth* and other timely essays is essential reading for anyone interested in the opinions of one of the wealthiest Americans to have ever lived who valued giving away money more than earning it. Andrew Carnegie was one of the wealthiest people in America during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. After he had earned his millions however he spent much of the remainder of life using his wealth to help with large-scale philanthropy, with special emphasis on local libraries, world peace, education, and scientific research. He passed away in 1919 and his book *The Gospel of Wealth* and other timely essays was first published in 1901.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: How to win fortune Andrew Carnegie, 2017-11-12

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: *Autobiography of Andrew Carnegie* Andrew Carnegie, 2019-11-19 Andrew Carnegie's *Autobiography* provides a fascinating insight into the life of one of the most influential industrialists of the 19th century. Written in a clear and engaging manner, Carnegie recounts his rise from humble beginnings as a penniless immigrant to becoming one of the richest men in America. The book offers a unique perspective on the Gilded Age and the impact of industrialization on society, making it a valuable historical document for readers interested in this period. Carnegie's writing style is concise yet reflective, allowing readers to delve into his thoughts and motivations behind his business decisions and philanthropic efforts. This autobiography serves as a bridge between the worlds of business and literature, offering readers a firsthand account of the American dream in action. Andrew Carnegie's *Autobiography* is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of industry, business, and philanthropy. Carnegie's insights into wealth accumulation and the responsibilities that come with it are as relevant today as they were in his time. This book serves as a powerful reminder of the impact one individual can have on society, urging readers to reflect on their own contributions to the world around them.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: *Autobiography of Andrew Carnegie* Andrew Carnegie, 2005-01-01 Much more than a book of sage business advice--though it is that, too--this extraordinary autobiography of one of the greatest American success stories is the tale of the nation's entrepreneurial spirit itself.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: *The Gospel of Wealth by Andrew Carnegie* Adriana Rosales, Andrew Carnegie, 2018-05-24 This literary critique of Andrew Carnegie wealth gospel comes at a time when revisiting the past and present unite. We live in a time when abundance is real, and the future looks better than most believe. Today in 2018 people on the planet are wealthier than ever. Still the wealth belongs to a few elites 129 years later. Not for long. The future Carnegie fought for is here and today more than ever the possibility for world peace and transfer of wealth is imminent. Contrary to popular belief the world is getting better, and the average person can accumulate wealth faster than ever. What was once believed to be impossible is now happening and is common space. Mr. Carnegie was a pioneer in spreading his wealth for the benefit of humanity. His massive donations to public libraries can be considered the equivalent of the internet to the lay person in the early 1900'. We are better as a species because of one man's relentless hope for peace

on earth and being but a wealth trustee to the poor. Mr. Carnegie understood his wealth was no accumulated alone but by the hands and hard labor of the poor that dedicated their lives to building the greatest nation known to man. The man who dies rich dies a disgrace. A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never-failing spring in the desert.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Autobiography of Andrew Carnegie and The Gospel of Wealth Andrew Carnegie, 2019-06-08 From his humble beginnings as a Scottish immigrant to his ascension to wealth and power as a 'captain of industry', Andrew Carnegie embodied the American 'rags to riches' dream. Alive in the time of the Civil War, Carnegie was the epitome of a self-made man, first working his way up in a telegraph company and then making astute investments in the railroad industry. Through hard work, perseverance, and an earnest desire to develop himself in his education, culture, and personal economy, Carnegie finally made his considerable fortune in steel. What is perhaps most remarkable about this historical figure, however, was his overwhelmingly generous practice of philanthropy in his later life. In his essay, *The Gospel of Wealth*, Carnegie relates his ideas on the distribution of the riches of wealthy society to the poor in a responsible capitalistic system. In setting an example of his own beliefs, Carnegie gave away millions of dollars for the public good, demonstrating his own willingness to promote human welfare, and the betterment of man. That essay is included in this volume along with the story of his life in his own words. This edition is printed on premium acid-free paper.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Gospel of Wealth and the Autobiography of Andrew Carnegie Andrew Carnegie, 2018-08-09 Andrew Carnegie was a Scottish-American industrialist, business magnate, and philanthropist. He led the expansion of the American steel industry in the late 19th century. He later became a leading philanthropist in the United States and in the British Empire. Carnegie was born in Scotland, and emigrated to the United States with his parents in 1848. He first worked as a telegrapher, and by the 1860s had investments in railroads, railroad sleeping cars, bridges, and oil derricks. He later built Pittsburgh's Carnegie Steel Company, sold to J. P. Morgan in 1901 for \$480 million, which became the U.S. Steel Corporation. After selling Carnegie Steel, he surpassed John D. Rockefeller as the richest American for the next couple of years. His 1889 article proclaiming *The Gospel of Wealth* called on the rich to use their wealth to improve society, and stimulated a wave of philanthropy. Carnegie devoted the remainder of his life to large-scale philanthropy.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Gospel of Wealth and Other Timely Essays Andrew Carnegie, 1903

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Autobiography of Andrew Carnegie and His Essay Andrew Carnegie, 2014-06-18 One of the earliest memoirs of an American capitalist, this 1920 volume recounts an immigrant's rise from clerk to captain of industry and steel magnate. Includes Carnegie's treatise on his philanthropic views.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Gospel of Wealth Andrew Carnegie, 2014-10-29 Andrew Carnegie (November 25, 1835 - August 11, 1919) was a Scottish American industrialist who led the enormous expansion of the American steel industry in the late 19th century. He was also one of the highest profile philanthropists of his era and had given away almost 90 percent - amounting to, in 1919, \$350 million (in 2014, \$4.76 billion) - of his fortune to charities and foundations by the time of his death. His 1889 article proclaiming *The Gospel of Wealth* called on the rich to use their wealth to improve society, and stimulated a wave of philanthropy. Carnegie was born in Dunfermline, Scotland, and emigrated to the United States with his very poor parents in 1848. Carnegie started as a telegrapher and by the 1860s had investments in railroads, railroad sleeping cars, bridges and oil derricks. He accumulated further wealth as a bond salesman raising money for American enterprise in Europe. He built Pittsburgh's Carnegie Steel Company, which he sold to J.P. Morgan in 1901 for \$480 million (in 2014, \$13.6 billion), creating the U.S. Steel Corporation. Carnegie devoted the remainder of his life to large-scale philanthropy, with special emphasis on local libraries, world peace, education and scientific research. With the fortune he made from business, he built Carnegie Hall, and founded the Carnegie Corporation of New York, Carnegie

Endowment for International Peace, Carnegie Institution for Science, Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, Carnegie Hero Fund, Carnegie Mellon University and the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, among others. His life has often been referred to as a true rags to riches story. Carnegie spent his last years as a philanthropist. From 1901 forward, public attention was turned from the shrewd business acumen which had enabled Carnegie to accumulate such a fortune, to the public-spirited way in which he devoted himself to utilizing it on philanthropic projects. He had written about his views on social subjects and the responsibilities of great wealth in *Triumphant Democracy* (1886) and *Gospel of Wealth* (1889). Carnegie bought Skibo Castle in Scotland, and made his home partly there and partly in New York. He then devoted his life to providing the capital for purposes of public interest and social and educational advancement. He was a powerful supporter of the movement for spelling reform as a means of promoting the spread of the English language. Among his many philanthropic efforts, the establishment of public libraries throughout the United States, Britain, Canada and other English-speaking countries was especially prominent. In this special driving interest and project of his he was inspired by a visit and tour he made with Mr. Enoch Pratt (1808-1896), formerly of Massachusetts but who made his fortune in Baltimore and ran his various mercantile and financial businesses very thriftily. Pratt in turn had been inspired and helped by his friend and fellow Bay Stater, George Peabody, (1795-1869) who also had made his fortune in the Monumental City of Baltimore before moving to New York and London to expand his empire as the richest man in America before the Civil War.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: Andrew Carnegie David Nasaw, 2007-10-30 A New York Times bestseller! "Beautifully crafted and fun to read." —Louis Galambos, *The Wall Street Journal* "Nasaw's research is extraordinary." —San Francisco Chronicle "Make no mistake: David Nasaw has produced the most thorough, accurate and authoritative biography of Carnegie to date." —Salon.com The definitive account of the life of Andrew Carnegie Celebrated historian David Nasaw, whom *The New York Times Book Review* has called a meticulous researcher and a cool analyst, brings new life to the story of one of America's most famous and successful businessmen and philanthropists—in what will prove to be the biography of the season. Born of modest origins in Scotland in 1835, Andrew Carnegie is best known as the founder of Carnegie Steel. His rags to riches story has never been told as dramatically and vividly as in Nasaw's new biography. Carnegie, the son of an impoverished linen weaver, moved to Pittsburgh at the age of thirteen. The embodiment of the American dream, he pulled himself up from bobbin boy in a cotton factory to become the richest man in the world. He spent the rest of his life giving away the fortune he had accumulated and crusading for international peace. For all that he accomplished and came to represent to the American public—a wildly successful businessman and capitalist, a self-educated writer, peace activist, philanthropist, man of letters, lover of culture, and unabashed enthusiast for American democracy and capitalism—Carnegie has remained, to this day, an enigma. Nasaw explains how Carnegie made his early fortune and what prompted him to give it all away, how he was drawn into the campaign first against American involvement in the Spanish-American War and then for international peace, and how he used his friendships with presidents and prime ministers to try to pull the world back from the brink of disaster. With a trove of new material—unpublished chapters of Carnegie's *Autobiography*; personal letters between Carnegie and his future wife, Louise, and other family members; his prenuptial agreement; diaries of family and close friends; his applications for citizenship; his extensive correspondence with Henry Clay Frick; and dozens of private letters to and from presidents Grant, Cleveland, McKinley, Roosevelt, and British prime ministers Gladstone and Balfour, as well as friends Herbert Spencer, Matthew Arnold, and Mark Twain—Nasaw brilliantly plumbs the core of this fascinating and complex man, deftly placing his life in cultural and political context as only a master storyteller can.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: Autobiography of Andrew Carnegie Andrew Carnegie, John Charles Van Dyke, 1920 *Autobiography of Andrew Carnegie - Popular Edition*.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The Autobiography of Andrew Carnegie Andrew Carnegie, 2017-03-16 Andrew Carnegie (November 25, 1835 - August 11, 1919) was a Scottish

American industrialist who led the expansion of the American steel industry in the late 19th century, and is often identified as one of the richest people and Americans ever. He built a leadership role as a philanthropist for the United States and the British Empire. During the last 18 years of his life, he gave away to charities, foundations, and universities about \$350 million (in 2015 share of GDP, \$78.6 billion) - almost 90 percent of his fortune. His 1889 article proclaiming The Gospel of Wealth called on the rich to use their wealth to improve society, and it stimulated a wave of philanthropy.

gospel of wealth by andrew carnegie: The ABC of Money Benjamin Franklin, Andrew Carnegie, 2008-07-01 From the days of farmer's bartering for bushels of corn to establishing the concept of credit, this practical guide gets at the root of the subject of money: why it exists and, more importantly, what money really is. THE ABC OF MONEY is an undiscovered gem offering a wealth of knowledge and Carnegie's shrewd philosophies on the subject - a fascinating look at the history of debased coin and greenbacks, and the value of currency from one of the great American industrialists. ANDREW CARNEGIE (1835-1919) was an American industrialist and philanthropist. His previous works include The Gospel of Wealth (1889) setting forth his idea that rich men are trustees of their wealth and should administer it for the good of the public. Carnegie's benefactions (totaling about \$350 million) included Carnegie Hall (1892) in New York City, the Carnegie Institution of Washington (1902), the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission (1904), the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching (1905), the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (1910), and over 2,800 libraries. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN (1706-1790) composed The Way to Wealth composed this essay for the twenty-fifth anniversary issue of Poor Richard's Almanac, the first issue of which, under the fictitious editorship of Richard Saunders, appeared in 1733. Franklin brought together the best of his maxims in the guise of a speech by Father Abraham. Though it is frequently reprinted as The Way to Wealth, it is also known by earlier titles: Poor Richard Improved and Father Abraham's Speech.

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