



# Wealth Should Help, Not Impress

18 August 2026 | Wealth | 4 minutes

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**We prefer to use wealth for what it makes possible rather than to impress other people.**

Pericles | in Thucydides' account

## What does it mean?

Thucydides gives this thought to Pericles in a speech about Athens. The speech is a literary reconstruction, not a word-for-word record. Its message is simple: wealth should help us live, not merely impress other people.

Today, social media constantly shows us what other people own. This can lead us to buy things we do not need. When we check the real benefit before buying, we keep more money for security, learning, and important goals.

## Put it into practice

- 01 Ask what specific need a large purchase will meet.
- 02 Wait 48 hours if you mainly want to buy something to impress other people.
- 03 Move the money you do not spend into your cash reserve.

## YOUR TASK FOR TODAY

Look at your last three large purchases. Label each one "Useful" or "Mainly for impression."

## YOUR QUESTION

Which purchase would still feel right if nobody else saw it?