

Wallace D. Wattles

The Science of Getting Rich

Book Overview

A Comprehensive Guide

Welcome to an exploration of Wallace D. Wattles' groundbreaking 1910 book, "The Science of Getting Rich." This self-help classic outlines a scientific approach to wealth creation, based on the premise that anyone can achieve riches by aligning their thoughts and actions with specific principles.

In this presentation, we'll delve into the key concepts, practical strategies, and transformative ideas that have made this book a timeless guide for those seeking financial abundance and personal fulfillment.

The Wallace D. Wattles' 1910 book, "The Science of Getting Rich," is a seminal work in the self-help genre that outlines a scientific approach to wealth creation. Wattles presents a detailed plan based on the premise that aligning one's thoughts and actions with specific principles can lead to financial abundance. This guide will delve into the main themes, key ideas, and practical applications of Wattles' philosophy, providing a thorough understanding of his approach to wealth creation.



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Core Principles and Main Themes

Wattles' book is built on several fundamental principles that form the foundation of his wealth creation philosophy:

- **The Right to Be Rich:** Wattles argues that everyone has an inherent right to be rich, as it is essential for living a full and successful life. He defines true wealth as having all the resources needed for complete mental, spiritual, and physical development.
- **The Science of Getting Rich:** Getting rich is presented as an exact science, governed by specific laws. Following these principles with unwavering faith and action guarantees wealth.
- **Thought as Creative Power:** Thought is the primary force for creating riches from the "Formless Substance." By holding clear mental images of desired outcomes, individuals can set the creative process in motion.
- **Gratitude and Belief:** Gratitude aligns individuals with the universal creative energy, while unwavering belief in the realization of their vision is crucial for attracting wealth.
- **Action as the Complement to Thought:** While thought sets the creative process in motion, right action is needed to receive and manifest wealth. This includes performing present actions efficiently and always striving for advancement.

These principles form the core of Wattles' philosophy, emphasizing the power of thought, gratitude, and focused action in the pursuit of wealth.

Inherent Right to Wealth

Wattles argues that everyone has an inherent right to be rich, as it's essential for living a full and successful life.

True Wealth Defined

Wealth is defined as having all the resources needed for complete mental, spiritual, and physical development.

Poverty as an Illusion

The book challenges the notion of scarcity, asserting that poverty is an illusion and abundance is the true nature of reality.



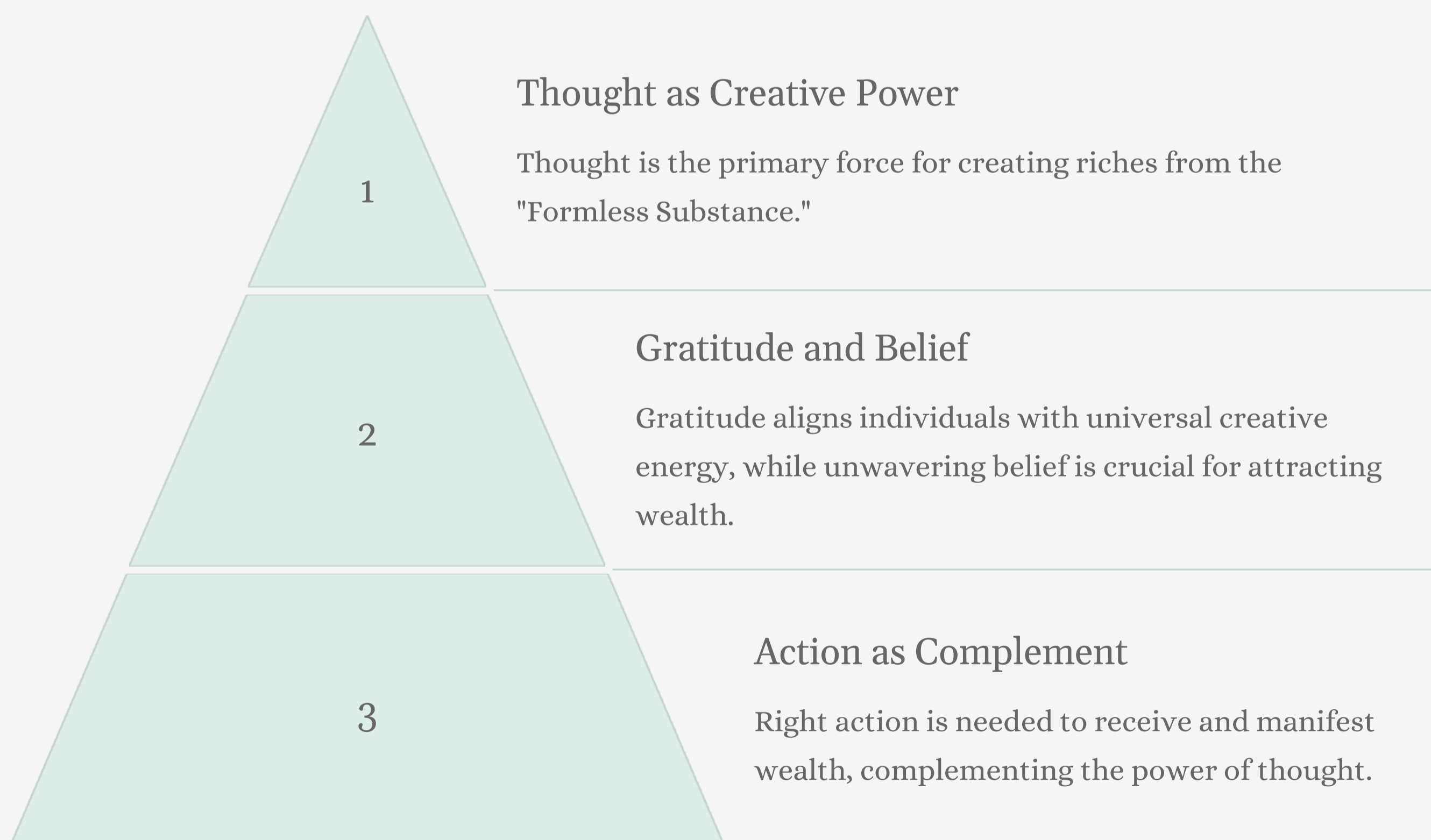
The Formless Substance and Creative Thought

Central to Wattles' theory is the concept of the "Formless Substance," a universal, intelligent entity from which all things are created. This substance is responsive to thought and can be shaped by human intention. Wattles asserts that by impressing clear, focused thoughts upon this Formless Substance, individuals can cause their desires to manifest in physical reality.

The process of wealth creation through thought involves several key steps:

1. Forming a clear mental image of the desired wealth or outcome
2. Maintaining unwavering faith in the realization of this vision
3. Practicing gratitude for current blessings and future manifestations
4. Acting in the "Certain Way" that aligns with these principles

Wattles emphasizes the importance of shifting from a competitive mindset to a creative one. He states, "You must get rid of the thought of competition. You are to create, not to compete for what is already created." This shift in perception is crucial for tapping into the abundance of the universe and attracting wealth.



The Role of Gratitude and Positive Thinking

Gratitude plays a pivotal role in Wattles' philosophy of wealth creation. He asserts that maintaining a grateful mindset is essential for maintaining a connection to the source of wealth and attracting more abundance. Wattles writes, "The more gratefully we fix our minds on the Supreme when good things come to us, the more good things we will receive, and the more rapidly they will come."

This emphasis on gratitude is closely tied to the importance of positive thinking and avoiding negative thoughts. Wattles warns against fear, doubt, worry, and pessimism, stating that these mental states hinder the creative process. Instead, he advocates for a focus on solutions and possibilities, even in the face of apparent scarcity or challenges.

To cultivate this positive, grateful mindset, Wattles recommends:

- Regularly expressing thanks for current blessings
- Visualizing desired outcomes with joy and gratitude
- Avoiding discussions or thoughts about poverty or lack
- Surrounding oneself with positive, success-oriented individuals

By maintaining this grateful, positive state of mind, individuals align themselves with the creative forces of the universe, paving the way for increased wealth and abundance.

Alignment with Abundance

Gratitude aligns you with the source of wealth and abundance, drawing you closer to your financial goals.

Positive Mental State

Cultivating gratitude fosters a positive mental state, attracting more good things into your life.

Strengthening Faith

Regular practice of gratitude strengthens your faith and reinforces the belief that your desires are being fulfilled.



The Certain Way: Thought and Action in Harmony

Wattles introduces the concept of the "Certain Way," a specific approach to thinking and acting that he claims guarantees wealth creation. This method involves a harmonious blend of thought and action, each reinforcing the other in the pursuit of riches.

The key components of the Certain Way include:

1 Clear Vision

Forming and maintaining a precise mental image of desired wealth

2 Unwavering Faith

Believing with certainty in the realization of this vision

3 Purposeful Action

Taking efficient, focused steps towards wealth creation

4 Continuous Advancement

Always striving for growth and improvement in all areas of life

Wattles emphasizes that success in wealth creation is not about working harder, but about working in alignment with these principles. He states, "Do, every day, ALL that can be done that day," highlighting the importance of efficient, purposeful action combined with a clear vision and unwavering faith.

Clear Mental Image

Form a detailed mental picture of your desired wealth. See it vividly, feel the emotions associated with having it, and believe it's already yours.

Unwavering Faith

Maintain steadfast faith in your ability to achieve your financial goals. Avoid doubt, fear, and negative thoughts that can hinder the creative process.

Focused Intention

Impress your clear intentions upon the Formless Substance, setting creative forces in motion to bring your vision into reality.

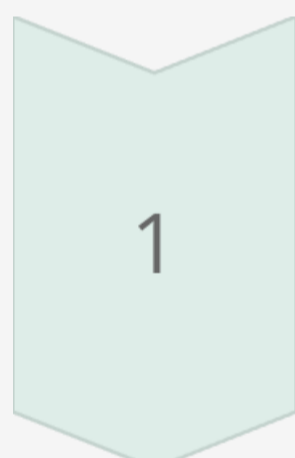


Practical Application and Business Principles

While much of Wattles' philosophy focuses on mental and spiritual aspects of wealth creation, he also provides practical advice for its application in business and daily life. Some key principles include:

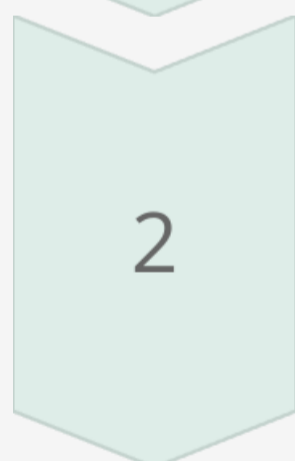
- **Value-Driven Transactions:** Wattles advocates for a business approach where every transaction benefits both parties, ensuring that everyone receives more in use value than they give in cash value.
- **The Impression of Increase:** In all interactions, one should convey an impression of advancement and growth, inspiring others and attracting opportunities for mutual progress.
- **Efficient Action:** Every task, no matter how small, should be performed with full attention and the intention of success, contributing to the overall momentum of wealth creation.
- **Continuous Advancement:** Wattles introduces the concept of the "Advancing Man," encouraging individuals to constantly seek growth and improvement in their chosen field.

Wattles also addresses the concern of those who feel stuck in undesirable circumstances, advising them to use their current situation as a stepping stone towards their goals. He encourages readers to start where they are, do what they can, and consistently apply the principles of the Certain Way to progress towards their desired wealth.



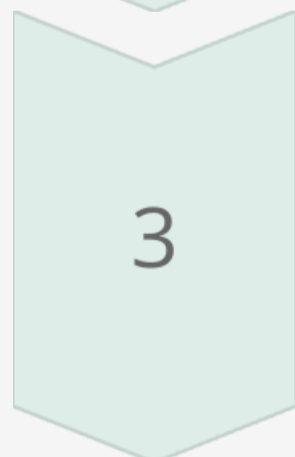
Efficient Action

Perform each task with focused attention and the intention of achieving success.



Continuous Advancement

Strive for improvement in all areas of life, always seeking to provide greater value.



Impression of Increase

Project an aura of growth and abundance in all interactions, attracting more opportunities.



Overcoming Obstacles and Maintaining Focus

Wattles acknowledges that the path to wealth creation may face obstacles and challenges. He offers guidance on overcoming these hurdles and maintaining focus on one's goals:

Avoid Negative Influences

Steer clear of pessimistic people, negative news, and environments that foster doubt or fear.

Stay Focused on Solutions

Instead of dwelling on problems, concentrate on finding and implementing solutions.

Maintain Unwavering Faith

Even in the face of setbacks, hold firm to the belief that your desired outcome is manifesting.

Practice Daily Gratitude

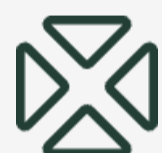
Regularly express thanks for current blessings and future manifestations to align with abundance.

Wattles emphasizes the importance of mental discipline in wealth creation, stating, "The men and women who practice the foregoing instructions will certainly get rich; and the riches they receive will be in exact proportion to the definiteness of their vision, the fixity of their purpose, the steadiness of their faith, and the depth of their gratitude."



Avoid Negativity

Shield yourself from negative thoughts, doubts, and limiting beliefs that can hinder your progress.



Stay Focused

Maintain unwavering focus on your goals, avoiding distractions and conflicting theories.



Use Present Circumstances

View your current situation as a stepping stone, always looking for opportunities to advance.



Conclusion: The Universal Application of Wealth Principles

In concluding his treatise on wealth creation, Wattles asserts that the principles outlined in "The Science of Getting Rich" are universal and applicable to all individuals, regardless of their current circumstances or chosen field of work. He emphasizes that success is ultimately determined by the effective use of mental faculties and alignment with the creative forces of the universe.

Key takeaways from Wattles' philosophy include:

- The power of focused, positive thought in shaping reality
- The importance of gratitude in attracting abundance
- The necessity of efficient, purposeful action in manifesting desires
- The shift from a competitive to a creative mindset in wealth creation
- The universal right to abundance and a fulfilling life

Wattles concludes with a powerful statement that encapsulates his philosophy: "The men and women who practice the foregoing instructions will certainly get rich; and the riches they receive will be in exact proportion to the definiteness of their vision, the fixity of their purpose, the steadiness of their faith, and the depth of their gratitude." This final assertion reinforces the scientific nature of his approach, promising success to those who diligently apply these principles in their pursuit of wealth and abundance.

1

Embrace Your Right to Be Rich

Recognize that desiring wealth is natural and essential for complete self-development.

2

Harness the Power of Thought

Cultivate a clear mental image of your desired wealth and maintain unwavering faith in its manifestation.

3

Practice Gratitude and Positive Action

Align yourself with abundance through gratitude and take efficient, purposeful action towards your goals.

4

Become an "Advancing Person"

Continuously strive for growth and improvement, contributing to the well-being of all.

