



God's Ways of **MANAGING MONEY**

God and Money (1)

God's Ways of Managing Money

- New Sermon Series (4 weeks)
 - God and Money (Aug 10)
 - Biblical Principles of Money Management (Aug 17)
 - Lessons from Rich Men in the Bible (Aug 24)
 - Habits that Lead God's Financial Blessing (Aug 31)

Why Money Matters?

Every person interacts with money in some way every day.

The Bible is very concerned with what we do with money.

- 2,350 verses in the Bible about money, which is twice as many as faith and prayer combined.
- 16 out of 38 of Jesus' parables deal with money and possessions.
- Nearly 25% of Jesus' words in the New Testament deal with biblical stewardship.
- 1 out of 10 verses in the Gospels deal with money.

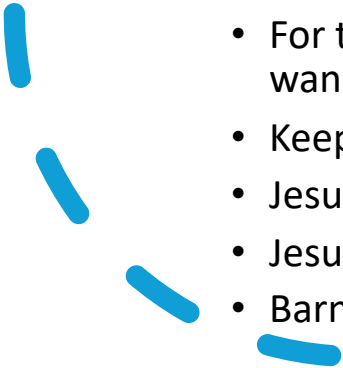
Money impacts your life eternally


- What we do with our money is a matter of heaven and hell.
- Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you... For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in...(Matthew 25:34-36).
- "Go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven..." When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth. Then Jesus said, "it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 19:21-23).



Is Money Good or Evil?

- Money is essentially good
 - Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and **wealth (rich)** and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise! (Revelation 5:12).
 - Money is good if it is used for God's purpose.
- Money could be a great potential for both harm and good
 - Money is not evil, it is neutral. But in the hands of sinful people it can do much evil.
 - For the love of money is **a root** of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs (1 Timothy 6:10).
 - Keep your lives free from the love of money (Hebrews 13:5).
 - Jesus' ministry was supported by rich women (Luke 8:1-3)
 - Jesus' tomb was provided by Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea (Matthew 27:57).
 - Barnabas sold his field to support the work of ministry (Acts 4:36-37).





Purposes for Money

Money provides for basic needs

- God demonstrates His loving care by providing the resources for food, clothing, and shelter to maintain life through which develops a spirit of contentment and gratitude.

Money confirms direction

- God uses money to confirm His direction we must make.
- People who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction (1 Timothy 6:9).

Money meets the needs of others

- God provides for His children through the generous gifts of others.
- At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need (2 Corinthians 8:14).

Money demonstrates God's power

- Test me and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it (Malachi 3:10).
- Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap (Luke 6:38).

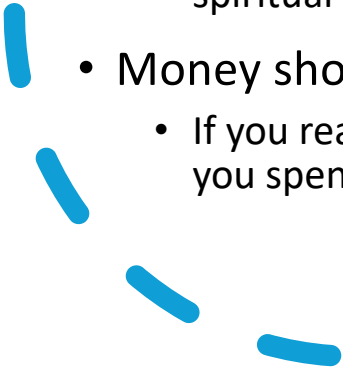
Areas in Which God Does not Use Money

- God never uses money to worry us
 - God promises to meet the needs of those who trust in Him (Matthew 6:25).
- God never uses money to corrupt us
 - Christians whose financial life is characterized by greed, deceit, ego are at enmity with God.
- God does not want Christians to use money to build their ego
 - Christians should not use money to feel important or increase their self-worth.
- God does not want money to be spent on excessive or wasteful personal desires
 - If extra money is spent on being lavish, it will likely be taken away.



Your Money Management Matters to God

- God uses money to test you
 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For **where your treasure is, there your heart will be also** (Matthew 6:19-21).
 - Your finances are God's favorite tool to test you. God tests you first to see if you are responsible. If you can trust you with material possessions, then God can trust you with spiritual power.
- Money shows what you love most
 - If you really want to know what's important to you, look at your finance statement. The way you spend money tells others what you love the most.



Your Money Management Matters to God

- Money shows what you really trust most
 - Do you trust in your money for security or in God?
 - Do you trust in money to provide happiness or in God?
 - Money is the acid test of faith.
 - Those who trust in their riches (money) will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf (Proverbs 11:28)
- Money shows if God can trust you
 - If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities. And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?(Luke 16:10-11).
 - Faithful stewardship of money and material things is a test of your character and preparedness for greater responsibilities, both in this life and the life to come.
 - You need to approach your finances with integrity, generosity, and an eternal perspective.

Jesus Teaching about Money

- Money is not the measure of your life
 - Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions (Luke 12:15).
- God cares more about your heart than your money
 - A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of (Luke 6:45).
- Use money to bring people to Christ
 - I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings (Luke 16:9).
- The best financial investment you can make
 - Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:20-21).

Examples of Christian Finance

- 10-10-80 Rule
 - 10% for Giving;
 - 10% for Saving;
 - 80% for Living;
- John Wesley's Sermon
 - Earn all you can; Save all you can; Give all you can.
- Andrew Carnegie
 - Gospel of Wealth: Wealth should be administered responsibly and given back to society during your lifetime.
- John D. Rockefeller
 - Think of giving not only as a duty but as a privilege.
 - Giving is the secret to a healthy life. Not necessarily money, but whatever a person has to give of encouragement, sympathy and understanding.



Questions to Ask Your Money

- Do you recognize that God owns all resources, and you are merely a steward?
- In spending this money, am I acting as if I own it, or am I acting as the Lord's steward?
- Does your spending reflect your commitment to building God's Kingdom or your own?
- What Scripture passage requires me to spend this money in this way?
- Can I offer up this purchase as a sacrifice to the Lord?
- Will God reward me for this expenditure when I meet God in heaven?