

Essential Values Concerning

# FINANCES

- Money is a **very sensitive topic** for most people.
- Many **hearts** have been greatly offended by various abuses causing them to **fear** and **avoid** the topic of money.

- Everyone has an **opinion** or **reaction** to money.
  - Some embrace the topic with gladness
  - Others run and avoid the topic with passion

## Ephesians 4:11-14 *(NKJV)*

<sup>11</sup>“And He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some **pastors and teachers.**”



## Ephesians 4:11-14 *(NKJV)*

<sup>12</sup>“For the **equipping** of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the **edifying** of the body of Christ.”



## **Ephesians 4:11-14** *(NKJV)*

**13**“Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”



## Ephesians 4:11-14 *(NKJV)*

14“That we should no longer be children **tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting.”



## 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup>“**All Scripture** is given by inspiration of God and **is profitable** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction **in righteousness.**”





## 2 Timothy 3:16-17 *(NKJV)*

<sup>17</sup>“That the man of God may be **complete, thoroughly equipped** for every good work.”



### 3 John 1:2-4 *(KJV)*

2“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou prosper and be in health, even as **thy soul prospereth.**”



### 3 John 1:2-4 *(KJV)*

3“For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the Truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the Truth.”



### 3 John 1:2-4 *(KJV)*

4 "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in Truth."



- **True prosperity** is wholeness in our entire spirit, soul and body.
- True prosperity is **wholeness** in every area of our lives.

## Psalm 1:1-4 *(NLT)*

1“Oh the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers.”



## Psalm 1:1-4 *(NLT)*

<sup>2</sup>“But they delight in the law of the Lord,  
meditating on it day and night.”



## Psalm 1:1-4 *(NLT)*

<sup>3</sup>“They are like trees planted along the riverbank, **bearing fruit each season.** Their leaves never wither, and **they prosper in all they do.**”





## Psalm 1:1-4 *(NLT)*

4“But not the wicked! They are like worthless chaff, scattered by the wind.”



- A Prosperous Soul:
  - Meditates on His Word day and night
  - John 6:63
  - Matthew 4:4
- A life that is not fruitful is a life that is not prosperous.

- Life in Christ is destined to be fruitful.
- God's perspective of prosperity is wholeness and fruitfulness in every area of our lives.
- Why?

- We have the Presence of God!
  - We are born of His Seed.
  - We are born of His Nature.
  - We are filled w/ His fullness.
  
- We are planted by the River of Life!

## 2 Samuel 6:11 *(NKJV)*

11“**The ark of the Lord remained in the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite three months. And the Lord blessed Obed-Edom and all his household.**”



## 1 Chronicles 13:14 *(NKJV)*

14“**The ark of God remained with the family of Obed-Edom in his house three months. And the Lord blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that he had.**”



- We are Blessed!
  - Whatever we do should prosper
  - Wherever we go should prosper
  - Whatever we touch should prosper
- Whatever we do is destined to prosper because His Life and His Presence is in us.

- Few people connect their spiritual walk with their finances.
- Many sincere people have a tendency to **compartmentalize** their lives.
  - Natural lives vs spiritual lives
  - Finances vs spiritual.



- In this series we are going to cover:
  - Some obvious things
  - Some misconceptions
  - Some profound Truths
  - Some practical wisdom

- The Treasures of Your Heart
- The Value of Giving
- The Value of Believing
- The Value of Stewardship
- The Value of Work

# 1. The Treasures of Your Heart

- Jesus spoke on finances more than any other subject.
- From God's perspective, finances is a very important topic.
- Why?

## **Matthew 6:19-21** *(NKJV)*

<sup>19</sup>“Do not lay for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal.”



## **Matthew 6:19-21** *(NKJV)*

<sup>20</sup>“But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.”



## Matthew 6:19-21 *(NKJV)*

21“For where your treasure is **there your heart will be also.**”



- God is not after your finances...

**GOD IS AFTER  
YOUR HEART!**



- How we relate to money **matters**.
- How we relate to money reveals what we truly **value**.
- Finances **effect** our everyday lives.

- Finances **effect** every area of our lives.
  - Marriages
  - Children
  - Lifestyle choices
  - Ministries
  - Dreams & Destinies
  - And more...

## Matthew 6:21 (NKJV)

21“For where your treasure is **there your heart will be also.**”



- Your **attitude** and **behavior** towards finances will reveal what you treasure.
- Your heart will go where your money is.

- “If they only knew my heart.”
  - What you treasure reveals where your heart is:
    - Finances
    - Family
    - Church
    - The Kingdom of God
    - Etc.

- People either:
  - Have such an **attitude** and/or **misconceptions** towards finances AND/OR,
  - Have such a **reliance** or **love for** money that they avoid the subject OR,
  - Have an eagerness to **learn** and **embrace** the subject with gladness.

- Finances will reveal the condition of the heart **faster** than anything else.
- Many people are very **protective of their hearts** concerning finances.

- Finances will **always** reveal either:
  - A heart that wants to serve and worship Him OR,
  - A heart that needs to be whole. *(3 John 1:2)*
- Riches are not the problem.
  - What are we trusting in?
  - What has our heart?



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

<sup>17</sup>“Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, ‘Good Teacher, **what shall I do** that I may inherit eternal life?’”



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

<sup>18</sup>“So Jesus said to him, ‘Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.’”



## Mark 10:17-30 *(NKJV)*

19““You know the commandments: “Do not commit adultery,” “Do not murder,” “Do not steal,” “Do not bear false witness,” “Do not defraud,” “Honor your father and your mother.”””



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

<sup>20</sup>“And he answered and said to Him, ‘Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth.’”



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

<sup>21</sup>“Then Jesus, looking at him, **loved him**, and said to him, ‘One thing you lack: Go your way, sell to the poor, and you will have **treasure** in heaven; and come, take-up the cross, and follow Me.’”



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

<sup>22</sup>“But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.”



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup>“Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, ‘How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the Kingdom of God.’”



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

<sup>24</sup>“And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, ‘Children, how hard it is for those who **trust** in riches to enter the Kingdom of God.’”





## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

25““It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God.””



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

<sup>26</sup>“And they were greatly astonished, saying among themselves, ‘Who then can be saved?’”



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

27“But Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With man it is impossible, but not with God, for with God all things are possible.’”



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

28“Then Peter began to say to Him, ‘See we have left all and followed You.’”



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

29“So Jesus answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, **there is no one who has left** house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, **for My sake and the Gospel’s,**”



## Mark 10:17-30 (NKJV)

<sup>30</sup>“**who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time**—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions and in the age to come, eternal life.”



- **The Rich Young Ruler:**

- Genuinely sought (ran to) Jesus
- Asked: “What must I do to have eternal life?”

- **Jesus:**

- Loved him
- Was not angry w/ him
- Revealed what was in his heart
- Showed him one thing he lacked



- Many well-meaning Christians:
  - Trust their own management of their finances more, than they trust God's Word in obtaining a....

**100-FOLD RETURN  
ON THEIR GIVING  
IN THIS LIFE!**

- Honestly:

- For some it is easier to trust their riches than a Promise from God.
- How many of us have struggled with trusting God with our finances?

- Sin:
  - Trying to satisfy a need God has already provided on our own effort.
- Sin Consciousness:
  - Living in state of mind that is separated from God and denying the provision He has already provided for you.

- Faith comes by hearing the Word.
  - Romans 10:17
- Nothing will destroy faith more than a consciousness of sin.

## Hebrews 11:6 *(NKJV)*

<sup>6</sup>“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that comes to God must believe that He is, **and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**”



## Galatians 5:6 *(NKJV)*

6“For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, **but faith working through love.**”



## Philemon 1:6 *(KJV)*

6“That the communication of thy faith may become effectual **by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.**”



## Mark 10:29-30 (NKJV)

<sup>30</sup>“**who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time**—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions and in the age to come, eternal life.”





- How many trust:

**WHATEVER I SOW FOR HIS SAKE  
AND THE GOSPEL'S  
I WILL RECEIVE A 100-FOLD RETURN  
IN THIS LIFE!**

- Jesus was not trying to take from him.
- Jesus wanted to multiply what he would give in faith, trusting God.

- God is not after your finances...

**GOD IS AFTER  
YOUR HEART!**

- Jesus wanted the man to trust Him in giving vs trusting the **false security** of hoarding his treasures.
- There is **true security** and prosperity in the Promises of God vs. our riches.

- **PLEASE NOTE:**

- Jesus is not telling all of us to sell everything we have and give it to the poor.
- God is not telling us we can't have anything and we must give it all away.
- **Jesus was revealing his heart (his treasure)!**

- **Zacchaeus:** *(Luke 19:1-10)*
  - Jesus touched his heart.
  - Zacchaeus own response:
    - “**I will give** ½ my goods **to the poor**; I will restore 4-fold from those I stole from.”
  - Jesus response:
    - “Salvation has come to this house.”

- Be honest:

- Do you have possessions or do they have you?

- Who is in control?

- What is controlling your trust?

- Who is your Lord?

- God or Mammon?

- Where is your heart?
- Where is your treasure?
- Where is your security?
- What are you trusting?
- What is the Source of your prosperity?



## 1 Timothy 6:17-18 (NKJV)

<sup>17</sup>“Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, **nor to trust in the uncertain riches but in the Living God, Who gives richly all things to enjoy.**”



## 1 Timothy 6:17-18 *(NKJV)*

<sup>18</sup>“Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, **ready to give, willing to share.**”



- We must learn to **trust Him** in sowing and reaping as we did in the uncertainty of riches.
- There is **true security** in giving when you **trust God** instead of clinging to uncertain riches.

- Are we really in control of our finances or are our finances controlling us?
- We have to answer these questions honestly as:
  - Individuals
  - A Family
  - A Church

- How often do our finances control our faith?
  - In what we are believing God for
  - In what He is calling us to do

- Trusting God does not equate being:
  - Hasty
  - Irresponsible
  - Poor stewards
  - Shrewd
  - Creating unnecessary financial stress on:
    - Ourselves
    - Our Families
    - Our Church

- We have to apply these same principles to the vision God has given us as a church.
- As a church, we must trust God in what He is calling us to do, not uncertain riches.

- (2) Extremes:

1. Poverty and Holiness are synonymous.

2. Wealth and Riches equates great faith.



## Micah 4:12 *(NKJV)*

**12**“But they do not know the thoughts of the Lord, nor do they understand His counsel; For He will gather them like sheaves to the threshing floor.”



# 1. Poverty and Holiness are synonymous.

- Poverty is virtuous
- Vow of Poverty
- “Money is the root of all evil”

- It is intellectually dishonest to teach God **wills** for poverty.
- Poverty is a curse

## Psalm 35:27 (NKJV)

27“Let them rejoice and be glad, who favor My righteous cause; and let them say continually, ‘**Let the Lord be magnified in the prosperity of His servant.**’ ”



## Proverbs 10:22 *(NKJV)*

22 “The blessing **of the Lord** makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it. ”



## Deuteronomy 8:18 *(NKJV)*

<sup>18</sup>“And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is today.”



- God give us the power to get wealth?

**TO ESTABLISH  
HIS COVENANT!!**

### 3 John 1:2 *(KJV)*

2“Beloved, I wish above all things that **thou prosper** and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”





## Psalm 84:11 *(NKJV)*

11“For the Lord God is a sun and shield;  
the Lord will give grace and glory; **no  
good thing will He withhold** from those  
who walk uprightly.”



- Job (Job 1:3, 10)
- Abraham (Genesis 3:2; 19:23)
- Isaac (Genesis 26:12-16)
- Jacob (Genesis 30:41-43)
- Joseph (Genesis 39:2)
- David
- Solomon

## 2. Wealth and riches equate great faith

- “A man’s faith is measured by his wealth.”
- ‘prosperity gospel’
- ‘Get rich quick’ scheme

## 1 Timothy 6:3-6 *(NKJV)*

<sup>3</sup>“If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the Words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness.”



## 1 Timothy 6:3-6 *(NKJV)*

4“He is proud, knowing nothing, but he is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions.”



## 1 Timothy 6:3-6 (NKJV)

**5**“Useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the Truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself.”



## 1 Timothy 6:3-6 *(NKJV)*

6“Now godliness **with** contentment is great gain.”



## 1 Timothy 6:5 *(NLT)*

5“These people always cause trouble. Their minds are corrupt, and they have turned their backs on the Truth. **To them, a show of godliness is just a way to become wealthy.**”





- Those who preach God for material gain
  - Paul: “Withdraw yourself”
- To some, God is **only** another money market account.
  - Acts 8:18-23 (Simon the Sorcerer)

- There are those who give **only** to get
  - No worship
  - No honor

- There are those who are upset if they do not see a quick return.
  - They will quit God; the church; tithing
  - Giving is not a 'Get rich quick' scheme
  - Kingdom of God: Seed, time and harvest

- There is no principle in Scripture for 'Giving **only** to Get.'
  - Truth: You will reap what you sow

- We Give to Get, **to Give Again.**
  - Genesis 12:2-3 / Ephesians 4:48
  - Biblical perspective:

**WE ARE BLESSED  
TO BE A BLESSING!**

## Luke 6:38 (NKJV)

<sup>38</sup>“Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use it will be measured back to you.”



- We are not sowing and reaping for the purpose of heaping on our own lusts.

**WE ARE BLESSED  
TO BE A BLESSING!**

- God give us the power to get wealth?

**TO ESTABLISH  
HIS COVENANT!!**



- God is not after your finances...

**GOD IS AFTER  
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