

Do Your Dollars Make Sense

Part 1: The Ultimate Financial Planner

(Luke 16:11)

So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?

There are more than 2,300 verses on money, wealth, and possessions.

Approximately 15% of Jesus' preaching and 11 of 39 parables are about finances.

What are some Biblical principles for financial freedom?

1. Keep Good Records

(Proverbs 27:23-24a)

Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; for riches do not endure forever,

Ignorance of financial condition + easy credit = disaster.

2. Budgeting

(Proverbs 21:5)

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

(Proverbs 21:20b) – (God's IQ test)

The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down.

If you want to control your debt you've got to nip it in the budget. (Rick Warren)

3. Save

(Proverbs 21:20a)

The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down.

(Proverbs 6:6-8)

Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

(Proverbs 13:11)

Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow.

4. Practice Generosity

(Proverbs 3:9-10)

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Important principle for all of life (not just money) = whatever you want God to bless in your life, put Him first. *Tithe* (10%)

(Malachi 3:10)

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "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.

3 things practicing generosity does:

1. Reminds us that everything is God's so we give with gratitude.
2. Helps us make God our first priority.
3. Is a declaration of faith.

(1 Corinthians 16:2)

On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.

What most people do:

Earn it

Enjoy it

Repay it (past)

Save it (future)
Give it (eternal)

The order God blesses:

1. Earn it
2. Tithe it
3. Save it
4. Repay it
5. Enjoy it

(Job 31:24-25, 28)

"If I have put my trust in gold or said to pure gold, 'You are my security,' if I have rejoiced over my great wealth, the fortune my hands had gained...then these also would be sins to be judged, for I would have been unfaithful to God on high."