

Money and Possessions

I. Introduction-

"In God we trust"

Whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. Mathew 7:12
Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Mathew 6:19

Money; something generally accepted as a measure of value, or a means of payment

Possessions; something owned, occupied, or controlled : personal property

Heart; kardia, the center of all physical and spiritual life

II. God's financial planning guide-

I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. Deuteronomy 30:1 & 15

If; on the assumption that, a conditional phrase

A. Jesus gives each follower talents, possessions, and opportunities to honor God-

"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Mathew 25:14

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. I Peter 4:4

Talents; money, property, abilities

B. The future reward for who used their talents (and stored their treasure in heaven)-

Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master. Mathew 15:19

C. The future judgment for the wicked and slothful servant who stored and used their talents on earth-

He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours. But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant!, Cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' Mathew 25:24

III. Jesus gives His followers the blessing to work using their talents-

A. Work is a gift from God to be enjoyed-

Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working." John 5:17

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. Genesis 2:1

Work; to labor to make gains by trading, to create and cause to exist, produce

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. II Chronicles 16:9

"Thus says the LORD who made the earth, the LORD who formed it to establish it—the LORD is his name: Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. Jeremiah 33:2

B. Every Christ followers is created for good works-

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:8

C. Our work is to tell others about Jesus and the good news of the His kingdom

Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Mathew 28:18

I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. Acts 20:24

1. Bondservants work heartily for the Lord

Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality. Colossians 3:22

Bondservant= volunteer out of love for our master

2. Slothful servants will lose their reward-

You wicked and slothful servant!, Cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. Mathew 25:30
How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man. Proverbs 6:9
Wicked and slothful; useless, good for nothing
Sluggard; slothful, lazy

IV. Biblically responsible investing of our talents for Jesus and His kingdom-

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. Galatians 6:7

Invest; to commit money and resource in order to earn a financial return in the future

Financial issues- Shana Burt **91.5 FM Calvary Satellite Network YouTube**

“Follow our money and our time”

The Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more. Luke 12:42&47

“Give me five minutes with a person's checkbook, and I will tell you where their heart is.” Billy Graham

A. Biblically responsible investing of our time and energy-

1. Invest where God is working-

They also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. Mathew 25:44

2. Invest where truth is taught-

Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. Ephesians 4:15

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. II Timothy 4:3

B. Where we should give our money to help the needy-

1. Who should we give to?

If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. I Tim 5:8

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. James 2:14

2. Who should we not give to-

Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age, having been the wife of one husband, and having a reputation for good works. I Timothy 5:9

For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. II Tim 3:10

C. Testing our investment plan-

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting! Psalms 139:23

D. The debt test-

The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender. Proverbs 22:7

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. Romans 13:8

He said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” Luke 12:15

1. Loaning to those in need is a blessing from the blessing that God gives us

The LORD will open to you his good treasury, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hands. And you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. And the LORD will make you the head

and not the tail, and you shall only go up and not down, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God.

Deuteronomy 28:12

2. Debt is a Curse-

The sojourner who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. He shall lend to you, and you shall not lend to him. He shall be the head, and you shall be the tail."

Deuteronomy 28:43

He said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions. Luke 12:16

United states national debt- \$ 34,680,757, 234, 738 adding 2.5 trillion this year

Consumer debt \$17 trillion, credit card \$900 billion

Debt; a state of being under obligation to pay or repay someone or something in return

Consumer debt; a debt incurred from buying something that depreciates in value over time

Investment debt; a debt incurred from buying something that can be reasonable expected to appreciate in value over time

President Trump overspent \$7.8 Trillion

President Biden projected to increase debt \$7.9 trillion