

GOD'S FOUR PURPOSES FOR MONEY

PART 1

INSPIRED BY A CLASS TAUGHT IN BIBLE COLLEGE (BRO. ATWOOD)

PROVERBS 3:9-10 (NLT)

*"Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce.
10 Then He will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine."*

✚ IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT... THE WAY WE HANDLE OUR MONEY...
CAN BE THE BEST INDICATOR OF THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF OUR HEARTS.
ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE A BIT AWKWARD TO DISCUSS, THE WORD OF GOD,
PLACES GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE MATTER OF MONEY AND POSSESSIONS.

✚ ONE STUDY SAYS...

The Bible contains more than 500 references to prayer, and almost 500 references to faith, but there are more than 2,000 references to money and possessions. Out of 38 parables that Jesus gave in the Gospels, 16 parables deal with how we handle our money. Jesus said more about money and possessions than about heaven and hell combined. One out of every 10 verses in the gospels deals with money or possessions!

✚ WE MUST KEEP IN MIND THAT... GOD'S "ULTIMATE" PURPOSE FOR MONEY "IS NOT"...
TO PROVIDE SECURITY, TO ESTABLISH INDEPENDENCE,
OR TO CREATE POWER & INFLUENCE!
(That Is The World's Ultimate Purpose For Money)

✚ GOD'S "ULTIMATE" PURPOSE FOR MONEY IS TO...
KEEP A MONITOR ON OUR HEARTS!

✚ IN MATTHEW 6:19-21 (AMP)... JESUS SAID...
*"Do not store up for yourselves [material] treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in and steal;
²¹ for where your treasure is, there your heart [your wishes, your desires; that on which your life centers] will be also."*

GOD'S FIRST PURPOSE FOR MONEY IS:

1) TO PROVIDE FOR OUR BASIC NEEDS. -----Which is FOOD & CLOTHING!

✚ IN MATTHEW 6:24-33... JESUS BREAKS IT DOWN LIKE THIS...
No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other;

or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."
25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?
27 Which of you by taking thought (or by worry) can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?
31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

✚ IN OTHER WORDS...

**OUR BASIC NEEDS WILL BE MET IF WE SIMPLY PUT GOD FIRST
AND REMAIN IN RIGHTSTANDING WITH HIM!**

✚ THE APOSTLE PAUL WENT ON TO SAY... IN 1 TIMOTHY 6:6-10 (NLT)...

"Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. 7 After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. 8 So, if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content. 9 But 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. 10 For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows."

✚ VINE'S DEFINES THIS WORD "CONTENT"... AS...
SATISFACTION WITH WHAT ONE HAS!

✚ IN PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13... PAUL SUMS IT UP LIKE THIS

"Not that I speak from [any personal] need, for I have learned to be content [and self-sufficient through Christ, satisfied to the point where I am not disturbed or uneasy] regardless of my circumstances. ¹² I know how to get along and live humbly [in difficult times], and I also know how to enjoy abundance and live in prosperity. In any and every circumstance I have learned the secret [of facing life], whether well-fed or going hungry, whether having an abundance or being in need. ¹³ I can do all things [which He has called me to do] through Him who strengthens and empowers me [to fulfill His purpose—I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace.]"

✚ NEVER FORGET THAT...

DISCONTENTMENT CAN DESTROY OUR ABILITY TO ENJOY THE THINGS THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US, BECAUSE WE MAY BE FOCUSING ON THINGS WE THINK WE SHOULD HAVE, RATHER THAN, ON WHAT GOD HAS PROVIDED!

✚ NOTICE, IN PHILIPPIANS 4:15-19 (NLT)... THE APOSTLE PAUL'S PERSPECTIVE...

"As you know, you Philippians were the only ones who gave me financial help when I first brought you the Good News and then traveled on from Macedonia. No other church did this. ¹⁶ Even when I was in Thessalonica you sent help more than once. ¹⁷ I don't say this because I want a gift from you. Rather, I want you to receive a reward for your kindness. ¹⁸ At the moment I have all I need—and more! I am generously supplied with the gifts you sent me with Epaphroditus. They are a sweet-smelling sacrifice that is acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from His glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus."

✚ THE BOTTOM-LINE IS THIS...

IF GOD DID IT FOR PAUL, HE WILL DO IT FOR ME!

✚ ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT...

JESUS IS OUR... JEHOVAH JIREH... THE LORD WHO PROVIDES!

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+ THE WAY WE HANDLE OUR MONEY...

Can be the best indicator of the _____ of our hearts. Although it may be a bit awkward to discuss, the Word of God places great emphasis on the matter of

_____ and _____.

+ GOD'S “ULTIMATE” PURPOSE FOR MONEY “IS NOT” ...

To provide _____, to establish _____, or
to create _____ and _____!

+ GOD'S “ULTIMATE” PURPOSE FOR MONEY IS TO...

Keep a _____ on our _____.

GOD'S FIRST PURPOSE FOR MONEY IS:

1) To _____.

+ IN OTHER WORDS...

Our basic needs will be met if we simply, _____ and
remain in _____!

+ VINE'S DEFINES THIS WORD “CONTENT” AS...

_____ with what one has!

+ NEVER FORGET THAT...

_____ can destroy our ability to _____ the
things that God has given us, because we may be _____ on things we
think we should have, rather than on what _____!

+ THE BOTTOM-LINE IS THIS...

If God _____, He will _____!

+ ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT...

Jesus is our _____; The _____ who _____!