

10-15-2023, COTR Texarkana

Title: M-O-N-E-Y...God's Way or My Way, pt-2

Purpose: Provoke people to get and use money the right way by following Biblical principles.

Truth for Today: God will bless us if we get and manage money His way.

Text: Proverbs 10:22

Topic: Money, Possessions, Generosity, Contentment, Giving

Series Title: "Your Best Life Now" ...is found by following God's ways!

Series purpose: Provoke people to embrace the path of Biblical truth to have a blessed life now and rewards in eternity.

M-O-N-E-Y...God's Way or My Way, pt-2

I. Introduction

A. Review Series: "Your Best Life, Now". We're learning how following the Biblical path will lead us to a blessed life now and rewards in eternity.

B. Last week we talked about something everyone agrees on. To live our best life, we need money in our pocket...but are we getting money by practicing Biblical principles and managing it with Biblical priorities or are we getting it the world's way and spending it all for what we want? Pic \$- God's Way/My way; the world's way Text: [Proverbs 10:22 (ESV) **The blessing of the Lord makes rich**, and he adds no sorrow with it. (and toil adds nothing to it)] Last week we saw how Isaac was in a severe famine, but he followed God's instructions, and the Lord blessed his crops 100-fold. I want to help you be blessed like this.

C. Today we're going to contrast the right and wrong ways to get and manage money.

II. CAMERA God won't bless us if we get and manage money the wrong way.

A. CAMERA Biblical principle: Many people make and manage money the wrong way. They get rich on their own without God, but in the end, lose it all and have no eternal reward.

B. Review Pic Laziness [Pr 10:4 (NLT) **Lazy people are soon poor; hard workers get rich.**] If you'll work harder than everyone else, work with excellence and are trustworthy, you'll get promoted quicker than others and your business will prosper. If you're lazy and do just enough to get by, you'll be the 1st one fired.

- c. Stealing, #8 of 10 commandments, [Exodus 20:15 (ESV) **You shall not steal.**] Def. steal: Take what belongs to someone else without intending to return it. 2 pics²
- D. Cheating, lying, and using deception to get money. [Proverbs 21:6 (NLT) **Wealth created by a lying tongue** is a vanishing mist and a deadly trap.] Pic³ Barney's car
- E. Taking advantage of the poor, [Proverbs 22:16 (NCV) Whoever **gets rich by mistreating the poor**, and gives presents to the wealthy, will become poor.] E.g., slum lord, charging astronomical interest, preacher give to me and God will bless you
- F. Making or taking bribes, [Proverbs 17:23 (ESV) The wicked accepts a **bribe** in secret to pervert the ways of justice.] Def. bribe: giving money or gifts to get something want. India concrete contractor.
- G. Coercion, fraud, using force or threats to get money. E.g., Mafia, street lenders
- H. Summary: It's wrong to do anything that takes advantage of people. E.g., Siri said the average credit card interest rate today is 24.45%. Pic CC [Proverbs 22:7 (ESV) The rich rules over the poor, and **the borrower is the slave of the lender.**]
- I. ****We can make money the wrong way but we're on our own. God won't bless us and, in the end, we'll lose it all and have no eternal reward. There's a better way.**

III. God will bless us if we get and manage money the right way.

- A. Review, Hard work and diligence open the door to God's blessing. [Pr. 13:11 (NLT) Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; **wealth from hard work grows over time.**] [Proverbs 10:4 (NIV)...**diligent hands bring wealth.**] Def. diligence: Someone who works hard in a careful and thorough way.
- B. Practicing Biblical ethics/ character cause people to trust us and God will bless us. King Josiah repairing the temple, [2 Kings 22:5–7 (NLT) Entrust this money to the men assigned to supervise the restoration of the Lord's Temple...⁷ But don't require the construction supervisors to keep account of the money they receive, for **they are honest and trustworthy men.**]
- C. CAMERA Faith and obedience open the door to God's supernatural blessing, [Mt. 17:24–27 (NLT)...the collectors of the Temple tax came to Peter...“Doesn't your teacher pay the Temple tax?”...²⁶...Jesus said...²⁷...go down to the lake and throw in a line. **Open the mouth of the**

first fish you catch, and you will find a large silver coin. Take it and pay the tax...”] Typically, there is no supernatural provision when natural provision is available, e.g., manna stopped in Canaan. But when we have needs we can’t meet God, can supernaturally provide if we have faith and obey what He tells us

D. Generosity opens the door to God’s blessing.

1. CAMERA Pr. 11:24–25 (NLT) [**Give freely and become more wealthy**; be stingy and lose everything. ²⁵ The generous will prosper.] Sometimes it’s hard for me to give what I have, e.g., bag avocados. Generosity opens the door to God’s blessing.
2. Sowing and reaping, [2 Cor. 9:1–9 (NLT) I really don’t need to write to you about this **ministry of giving for the believers in Jerusalem.** ² For I know how **eager** you are to help...⁵... But I want it to be a **willing gift, not** one given **grudgingly.** ⁶ Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But **the one who plants generously will get a generous crop.** ⁷ You must each decide in your heart how much to give...“**For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.**” ⁸ **And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others...**]
3. Tithing, i.e., giving/ returning to God 10% of what we earn, [Mal. 3:8–10 (ESV) Will man rob God? Yet **you are robbing** (*NLT cheating*) **me...**In your **tithes and contributions** (*NIV offerings*). ⁹ You are **cursed** with a curse, for you are robbing me...¹⁰ **Bring the full tithe into the storehouse,** that there may be **food in my house.** And thereby put me to the **test...**if I will not **open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.**
 - a. Tithing wasn’t just OT, Jesus affirmed tithing, [Luke 11:42 (NLT) “What sorrow awaits you Pharisees! For you are careful to **tithe** even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but **you ignore justice and the love of God. You should tithe, yes,** but do not neglect the more important things.

E. Caring for the poor and needy [Proverbs 14:21 (NLT)...**blessed are those who help the poor.** Proverbs 19:17 (NLT) If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord— and **he will repay you!**]

IV. Conclusion: How much do we need?

A. CAMERA[Pr. 30:8–9 (NLT)...give me neither poverty nor riches! **Give me just enough to satisfy my needs.** ⁹ For if I grow rich, I may deny you and

say, “Who is the Lord?” And **if I am too poor, I may steal** and thus insult God’s holy name.]

V. Response

A. Prayer: (1) Bless us as we seek to follow Your ways in getting and managing money. (2) If we’re not handling money the right way, forgive us and help us get on the right path, (3) Help us be content with what we have.

B. Souls

VI. Bibliography/ Resources: Logos Bible Software and Library, Platinum Edition, was used to prepare this message.

1. <https://www.evidenceunseen.com/theology/historical-theology/tax-collectors/>
2. <https://pixabay.com/images/search/stealing/>
3. <https://duckduckgo.com/?q=picture+barney%27s+car+andy+griffith+show&iax=images&ia=images&iai=https%3A%2F%2Fi.ytimg.com%2Fvi%2F4WLgwyuE6KY%2Fhqdefault.jpg>

VII. Supplemental Material

A. Roman taxation: The Romans formed would buy Jewish provinces for periods of five years. These Roman businessmen would employ local Jewish men to collect the taxes. The tax collectors would then tax imports, exports, bridge-tolls, road-money, town-dues, and much more.^[2] The highest bidder would win the territory, and consequently, the tax collectors would skim money off the top for themselves. They would harass people and they would tax them on the spot. So, even if a different tax collector shook you down from money up the road, you could be taxed *again* by another collector just hours or minutes later! These tax collectors were accompanied by Roman soldiers.¹

B. Content with what we have, [Phil. 4:11–13 (NLT)...I have learned how to be **content with whatever I have**.¹² I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything...¹³ For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

C. Pr. 12:14 (NLT)...**hard work** brings rewards.

D. Corinthians helping Jews in famine, [2 Corinthians 8:14 (NLT) Right now you have plenty and can help those who are in need. Later, they will have plenty and can share with you when you need it. In this way, things will be equal.]