

Which one will you serve – God or Money?

April 6th & 7th, 2013

Matthew 6:19-24

In this passage in Matthew, we read how Jesus gives insight into identifying our true allegiances. Jesus said, “*Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*” A quote from Martin Luther reiterates this point, “*Whatever man loves, that is his God. For he carries it in his heart; he goes about with it night and day; he sleeps and wakes with it, ...*” Jesus warns His followers against regarding worldly possessions as treasures.

“*On the contrary, He implies, they should make it their aim to use their material wealth wisely and generously, for by such wisdom and generosity they may well be adding to their true and abiding spiritual riches.*”¹

📖 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Jesus clearly states the key point of His teaching: “*No one can serve two masters*”

☞ Which one will you serve – God or Money?

Scriptural warnings regarding the pursuit of money and wealth:

Ecclesiastes 5:10 “He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.”

“*Money has never made man happy, nor will it; there is nothing in its nature to produce happiness. The more of it one has, the more one wants.*” - Benjamin Franklin²

Proverbs 13:11 “Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.”

1 Timothy 6:9-10 “But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.”

2 Timothy 3:1-2 “But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,”

Hebrews 13:5 “Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for He has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’”

📖 Philippians 4:11-13 → The Secret of Contentment!

Scriptural insights regarding the stewardship of God’s resources:

📖 Proverbs 3:9-10

📖 Malachi 3:8-12

☞ The tithe was established before the law

Genesis 14:20 Abraham gave a tenth of everything to Melchizedek.

Genesis 28:22 Jacob vowed to give to God a full tenth of all God gave to him.

📖 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

“*When we acknowledge God’s ownership over all we have, our possessions, money, and resources, every decision becomes a spiritual decision! No longer do we ask, ‘Lord, what should I do with my money?’ The question will be, ‘Lord, what do you want me to do with your money?’”*³

1 John 5:20-21

*“And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding,
so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true,
in His Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.
Little children, keep yourselves from idols.”*

Endnotes:

¹ Tasker, R. V. G. General Ed., *The Tyndale New Testament Commentaries*, 20 Vols., Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 1961. Print.

² "Money Quotes." *www.brainyquote.com*. Xplore, Inc. Web. <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/topics/topic_money.html>.

³ Crown Financial Ministries. *The Biblical Financial Study*. Gainesville, GA: Crown Financial Ministries, Print.

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