

Christian Finance and Stewardship



Bible Study Pathways

Lesson 28


Produced by biblepicturepathways.com

Not to be copied for commercial gain

A Story to Ponder...

A young man accepted for the African missionary field reported at New York for "passage," but found on further examination that his wife could not stand the climate. He was heartbroken, but he prayerfully returned to his home and determined to make all the money he could be used in spreading the Kingdom of God over the world. His father, a dentist, had started to make, on the side, an unfermented wine for the communion service. The young man took the business over and developed it until it assumed vast proportions—his name was "Welch," whose family still manufactures "grape juice." He has given literally hundreds of thousands of dollars to the work of missions. —The Presbyterian Advance

Another man took a trip to Russia. One day while buying a coat, he bartered until he got an extremely low price for the coat. At the time, he was quite pleased with his bartering skills. But later, a native Russian told him that the man selling the coat was in tears because he had sold the coat for just what it cost the man, at no profit to himself. Now the tourist was not so pleased with himself. He pictured the man going home to a wife and children empty handed with no food for supper. Later, he tried to find the man to make things right, but never could. He has never forgotten the lesson about money he learned that day.

 The Bible contains right principles concerning how the Christian should deal with money. What does the Bible say should be our first concern? _____



Matt. 6:19-20 "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matt. 6:31-33; Deut. 8:18; Jer. 9:23, 24)



Is it possible to loose heaven through love of money? _____



Matt. 6:24 "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." 1Tim. 6:10 "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." (Mark 10:18-25; Luke 12:15-21)



Is there record of any wealthy men in the Bible who were also rich toward God? What characteristic did they all have in common? _____



Ruth 2:1 "And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz." Ruth 2:4,7-10, 15,16 (Gen. 13:5-9; Gen 14:14-16, 21-24 Job 1:1-3; Job 29:12-16; Job 31:16-22)



What characteristics do those who are rich and misuse money have?



James 5:1-4 "Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth." (Amos 5:12; Psalm 26:9,10; Jer. 22:13; 2 Peter 2:15; Ez. 22:12; Matt. 23:25)



What does the Bible say of those who try to buy and sell "religion" for money? _____



Matt. 10:7-8 "And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give."

Matt. 21:12,13 "And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves. And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves." (Acts 8:18-21; John 2:13-16)



What primary method does the Bible condone for making money?



Eph. 4:28 "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth." 1Thess. 4:11 "And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;" (2 Thess. 3:7-9,12)



List some Biblical occupations that demonstrate principles that can be applied to the choice of occupations today? (Matt. 13:3; Matt. 13:55, Acts 10:6; Acts 18:1,2; Isaiah 40:11, Prov. 31:16, 24; Acts 16:14; Prov.12:11, 28:19)




What additional methods does the Bible allow for making money? _____



Luke 19:23 "Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury?"
Matt. 25:27 "Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury."

? According to the Scriptures, does God recommend “get rich quick” schemes like lotteries, gambling, etc. ? _____

 **Prov. 28:20** “A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.” **Prov. 28:22** “He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.”

? According to the Scriptures, what other methods are not appropriate for making money? _____



Prov. 28:8 “He that by usury and unjust gain increaseth his substance, he shall gather it for him that will pity the poor.”
(Deut. 24:14,15; Lev. 25:35-37; Deut. 23:18)



Does God condone laziness and slothfulness? _____



2Thess. 3:10 “For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.”

2 Thess.3:12 “For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.”



Does the Bible suggest that going into debt is a good idea?



Prov. 22:7 “The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender. **Romans 13:8** Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.” (Deut. 15:6; Deut. 28:12)



If for some reason, we find ourselves in debt, what does the Bible say is our duty? _____



Exodus 22:14 “And if a man borrow ought of his neighbour, and it be hurt, or die, the owner thereof being not with it, he shall surely make it good.” **Eccl. 5:5** “Better is it that thou shouldst not vow, than that thou shouldst vow and not pay.”



What does the Bible say is our monetary duty to the government with regards to taxes, etc.? _____



Mark 12:17 “And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marvelled at him.” (Matt. 22:16-22; Romans 13:7; Matt. 17:24-27)



List some other Biblical finance principles from the verses below.

_____ (Isaiah 55:2 +below)

CONCLUSION

“Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.”

Prov. 16:8 (Prov. 19:17, Luke 10:7, Luke 14:28-30, Prov. 28:6, 1 Cor. 10:31)