

Breakthrough in your finances

Matthew 6:19-21

Mothers Day - have a fan; someone who focuses on your well being; someone to share your life with, a spectator;

Things that would trip up your life

you could get into bondage very easy in this area

It is a subject that Jesus spoke to more than any other

money - your finances

the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.

Announce the title

From Dr. David Jeremiah's [The Grace of Giving](#), page 32

After 30 years of teaching and preaching God's Word, I have noticed an interesting phenomenon. If I teach a series of messages on the stewardship of time, people get energized about using their time better and becoming more productive. If I do a series on the stewardship of talent (say, a series on spiritual gifts), people get motivated about discovering their spiritual gifts and finding places to serve. But when I do a teaching series on the stewardship of treasure, people get protective - even defensive at times.

Why is that? It's because money speaks so deeply to us. It is the best representation we have of our values and priorities; what we really believe. Money is also the primary feedback we get in our culture about the contribution we are making.

Read the Text

1. Decide your boss

Jesus sees your stuff as a rival

Matthew 6:24: "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

You either use your stuff as a steward

Or your stuff uses you as a servant

Your stuff serves you or you serve your stuff

****We load our idols with expectations they cannot deliver.**

1 Timothy 6:9-10: “People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierces themselves with many griefs.”

Note the self-destructive nature of money love. It’s a life of self-mutilation in which we repeatedly pierce ourselves with grief after grief. The good we seek destroys us. The happiness we try to wrest from them can only be found elsewhere

Materialism is a fruitless attempt to find meaning outside of God. ¹

It is a matter of multiplication or division

*Idolatry has always included the source of your provision - Canaan land was a place of agriculture - their supply was not viewed in harvest and not money - the wealthy and blessed had fields that produced magnificent crops and flocks that multiplied healthy herds;

Caesarea Philippi

*God multiplies your resources - like a boomerang or a springboard

feeding the 5000

widows oil

parable of the ten talents

*God divides your resources
your harvest is less

you put you money in a bag with holes in it

2. Decide your beliefs

***Money is a test**

As believers in Christ, our theology gives us perspective. It tells us that this life is the preface - not the book. It’s the preliminaries - not the main event. It’s the tune-up - not the concert.

¹Ibid., p. 45.

When you're on a long airplane flight, you naturally talk to people, socialize, eat, read, pray, sleep, or maybe talk about where you're going. But what would you think if a passenger by the window seat started hanging curtains over the window, taped photographs to the seat in front of him, painted murals, and put up wall hangings? ²

Giving involves testing

God test us

Abraham and Isaac

The widow of Zeraphath - 1 Kings 17:8-16 and the widows mite

We test God

***Money is a tether**

where your treasure is there your heart will be also

be careful what happens with your wealth - you buy a second home; a luxury investment

***Money is temporary**

-your life is so much more than you possess

Matthew 6:25: “

“Would you rather have a barn of stall bread or a father who owns a bakery.”

3. Decide your behavior

every spending decision is a spiritual decision

***God wants you to enjoy money -**

1 Timothy 6:17: “Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;”

***God wants you to enjoy using the money He gives you to further His kingdom.**

-invest in the kingdom of God

Matthew 6:31–34: “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

-sacrifice for the kingdom of God

²Ibid., p. 102.

Luke 12:31-34: “But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. ³² Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that fails not, where no thief approach, neither moth corrupt. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”