

XLVIII. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS
LESSON FORTY-EIGHT
... ABOUT MONEY MANAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

In lesson 47, What The Bible says about Stewardship, we concluded that we belong to God and that everything we possess (our abilities, time, material possessions and money) belong to God.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20, "what? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

Haggai 2:8 "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts."

1 Chronicles 29:11-12, "Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for ALL that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom O lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all."

Ephesians 5:16, "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

Matthew 25:15, "And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ABILITIES; and straightway took his journey."

John 9:4, "I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day. the night cometh, when no man can work."

We further concluded, that since, we are not owners, our relationship to that which God has given us is therefore, that of a steward, manager and administrator.

1 Peter 4:10 says,

"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

In this lesson we want to specifically talk about being good stewards of the money which God in His grace has given us to manage.

To be a good steward in finances is to manage the money which God gives us according to God's plan, not according to what we think best, nor are we to manage our finances according to the world's methods, but rather, **GOD'S WAY**. God has an order for every area of our lives. To be in God's order is to do things God's way and then, receive God's abundant blessings.

In Psalm 81, verses 13 - 16, God says,

"Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in **My WAYS** I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries. The haters of the Lord should have submitted

themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever. He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee."

GOD'S ORDER FOR THE STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

The Bible establish four priorities in money management. What are these priorities and their order?

1. 1 Corinthians 16:2
 1. Genesis 14:18-20
 2. Hebrews 7:2
 3. Malachi 3:10
2. Romans 13:7
 1. Matthew 22:21
 2. Luke 20:25
3. Psalms 37:21
 1. Proverbs 22:7
 2. Proverbs 3:27-28
 3. 2 Rings 4:7
 4. Romans 13:8a
4. 2 Kings 4:7c
 1. 1 Timothy 5:8

Conclusions We would note from the above Scriptures that the priorities of money management and their order are:

1. First fruits (tithe) to God;
2. Taxes to the government;
3. Taking care of financial obligations (debts);
4. Providing for household needs.

Why this order?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

What is the order of priorities which you are practicing in your money management?

How does it compare to God's order for the managing of money?

From the Scriptures above, what is the goal of God's order of money management?

What would be the reason for getting out of debt and staying out of debt?