



Financial Responsibility

INTRODUCTION: In Jesus' teachings, He talked more about money than He did about heaven, hell, and eternal life combined. Money does not make or break a man - it merely reveals him. Bad money management and a guilty conscience together. A clear conscience are pointed out in I John 2:15,16.

- 1. Lust of the flesh.**
- 2. Lust of the eyes.**
- 3. The pride of life.**

Financial bondage can be operational in all three areas.

I. The facts about money.

A. What is it? I Timothy 6:10

B. Whose is it? Haggai 2:8

C. God's plan for money:

1. To provide our needs. Philippians 4:19
2. To show His power to bless. Malachi 3:10
3. To train us. Deuteronomy 14:23 (L)
4. To bless others. Romans 12:13
5. Financial freedom for His children.

a. What is financial freedom?

b. Evidences of financial bondage:

1. Indebtedness.
2. Constant pressure of bills.
3. Obsessed with business.
4. Desire to get rich quick.
5. Concern for temporal things.
6. Inability to learn from past mistakes.



c. Evidences of financial freedom:

1. No past due bills.
2. No undue vulnerability to financial pressure.
3. Proper priorities.
4. Having a margin.
5. Concern for God's work.
6. Willingness to learn from past mistakes.

D. Some Biblical teachings:

1. It can be a blessing. Proverbs 10:22

2. It can be harmful. It can cause a man to:

- a. Forget God. Proverbs 30: 8,9 Deuteronomy 8:11 (L)
- b. Stop trusting God. Job 31:24-28 (L)
- c. Be deceived. Mark 4:19
- d. Fall in love with it. I Timothy 6:10
- e. Rest on an unstable foundation. Proverbs 23:4,5 (L)
- f. Become ungrateful. Deuteronomy 8:12-14
- g. Become proud. Jeremiah 12:2
- h. Double minded. Luke 12:15
- i. Rob God. Malachi 3:8

3. Does not bring happiness. Ecclesiastes 5:10,11 (L)

4. The only advantage of money is the use of which it is put. I Timothy 6:18,19 (L)

II. Principles to apply regarding money:

A. Earning

1. Work. Proverbs 14:23 (L), Proverbs 20:4, II Thessalonians 3:10
2. Doing something is better than doing nothing.
3. Don't try to make money for Jesus.
4. Be astute. Work hard. Proverbs 10:4, Proverbs 10:4,5 (Wisdom for Modern Man), Proverbs 22:29, Ecclesiastes 9:10 (RSV) Colossians 3:23



5. Watch the trap of the working wife:
 - a. A higher tax bracket.
 - b. Children and babysitter cost.
 - c. Deflates the husband's ego.
 - d. Health problems due to pressure.
 - e. Cost of lunches and instant food, transportation.
 - f. The danger of your money and "my money."
 - g. Increased possibility of an affair.

B. Save

1. How?

- a. Pay self first.
- b. Pay cash.
- c. Let George do it.
- d. Save a certain coin.
- e. Preserve the "windfalls."

2. Why save?

- a. To have a margin.
- b. Available to God.
- c. Emergencies.
- d. To help others.

C. Spending

1. Plan. Proverbs 16:9 (L) (Budget)

- a. List needs in order of importance.
- b. Discontinue any services not needed.
- c. Make planning a family affair.
- d. Be realistic in goals and objectives.
- e. Keep records.
- f. Have a personal allowance for every member of the family.

2. Don't get financially exposed.

- a. Don't loan money.
- b. Don't co-sign a note. Proverbs 27:13 (L) Proverbs 17:18 (L)
- c. Stay out of debt on high-depreciating items.



- d. Close charge accounts.
- e. Destroy credit cards. Zechariah 10:2 (L)
- f. Wait for God to provide. Philippians 4:19
- g. Don't presume on God's grace. Matthew 4:6,8 Psalm 19:13

3. Buy wisely.

USE IT UP, WEAR IT OUT MAKE IT DO, OR DO WITHOUT!

- a. Cars (see comparison 1963-1972 Chevrolet)
- b. Shop
- c. Build sales resistance.
 - 1. Get the facts. Proverbs 23:23 (L)
 - 2. Does it do what it claims to do?
 - 3. Does my use of it justify the purchase of it?
 - 4. Am I buying more than I need?
 - 5. Is it the best price?

D. Giving

1. We are responsible for our stewardship. I Corinthians 4:2

2. Where to give?

- a. Where you are getting help. Galatians 6:6
(Williams) Matthew 10:10 (L)
- b. The poor. Proverbs 19:17 (L), Deuteronomy 14:28 (L)
- c. Where you believe God will get the best return.
 - 1. Are they communicating a message true in the scriptures?
 - 2. Are people responding positively to the message?
 - 3. Are the lives of the leadership illustrations of the message?
 - 4. Is the organization reproducing itself?
 - 5. Is there a standard of excellence along with a freedom from waste?

3. Why give?

- a. God commands it. Malachi 3:10
- b. It is good for you.
- c. Others are blessed. II Corinthians 9
- d. You get prayed for.
- e. God gets thanked.



4. How to give.

- a. *Regularly and proportionately.* I Corinthians 16:2
- b. *Cheerfully.* II Corinthians 9:7
- c. *Generously.* II Corinthians 9:6, Luke 6:38, Isaiah 32:8 (L)

III. Try to determine why you are short of money.

- A. Do I need it?
- B. Is God testing my faith? Deuteronomy 8:3
- C. Did mis-spend the money He has already provided?
- D. Have I violated financial principles?
 - 1. Stinginess. Proverbs 11:24,25
 - 2. Hastiness. Proverbs 21:5, Proverbs 19:2 (Amplified)
 - 3. Stubbornness. Proverbs 29:1, Proverbs 13:18
 - 4. Laziness. Proverbs 6:9-11
 - 5. Drunkenness and gluttony. Proverbs 23:21
 - 6. Craftiness. Proverbs 28:20 (RSV) Proverbs 16:11 (L)

BOOKS TO READ:

Richest Man in Babylon by: George S. Clason, published by Hawthorn Publishers.

Guide to Personal Finances by New York Times, Harper & Row Publishers.

How to Live on Your Income - Reader's Digest

Champaign Living on a Beer Budget - G.P. Putnam's Sons

How to Win the Grocery Game by Delight Dixon Omohumdro.



THE DEBT TRAP

Here's what adding \$1000 per year to your debt will total in just 15 years at a compound annual interest rate of 10%:

YEAR	DEBT ADDITION	INTEREST	TOTAL DEBT
1	\$1,000	\$ 100	\$ 1,100
2	\$1,000	\$ 210	\$ 2,310
3	\$1,000	\$ 331	\$ 3,641
4	\$1,000	\$ 464	\$ 5,105
5	\$1,000	\$ 610	\$ 6,715
6	\$1,000	\$ 771	\$ 8,486
7	\$1,000	\$ 948	\$ 10,434
8	\$1,000	\$ 1,143	\$ 12,577
9	\$1,000	\$ 1,357	\$ 14,934
10	\$1,000	\$ 1,593	\$ 17,527
11	\$1,000	\$ 1,852	\$ 20,379
12	\$1,000	\$ 2,138	\$ 23,517
13	\$1,000	\$ 2,451	\$ 26,968
14	\$1,000	\$ 2,797	\$ 30,765
15	\$1,000	\$ 3,176	\$ 34,941

Now, to repay the debt in approximately the same length of time it took to accumulate it at \$1,000 per year, it takes an annual payment of \$4,000 per year. You can be out of debt in just 16 ½ years at the \$4,000 per year repayment.

What has debt accumulation of \$1,000 per year for years cost you?

Interest first 15 years \$ 19