

Money and Material Possessions

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I. Introduction.

- A. We desperately need a biblical perspective on material possessions.
- B. Christians need a basic understanding of the materialistic world because they live in a material world. They are not to be enslaved by it.

II. We are to own certain things.

- A. The Bible says that one should not steal or covet.
- B. This means that it is wise that a person has his or her own possessions.
- C. Capital is not to be squandered. (Ecclesiastes 5:14)

III. It is wise to share things with others, so it is helpful to have things to share with them. (Proverbs 13:22)

- A. We are to be a part of the culture, which we live. (II Chronicles 31:21)
- B. Do not sell your future earning power by withdrawing from the world.
- C. Do not live like the world either. (Ephesians 4)
- D. Do not neglect the principles learned in church in your daily life.
- E. Do everything you can to stay out of debt.
 - 1. The Bible does not forbid debt. (Romans 13)
 - 2. However, too much debt is bad.
 - 3. Work hard during school.
- F. The Bible warns against cosigning loans.
- G. A pet can dominate one's life and money when he or she is an adult.
- H. Be wise with credit.
- I. Buy used cars and pay in cash.
- J. Get started with saving money and investments.

Application questions:

1. What does the Bible teach about ownership?

2. Which principle on saving money did you find the most valuable? Explain.

3. What will you do differently this week to start putting one of these principles into practice?
