

Finances

Jerry Bridges

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Matthew 25:14ff.
- B. This message is supposed to give the scriptural basis for a practical finance management.
- C. There will be a time that we will give account to the Lord for our stewardship of our material wealth.

II. The most important thing about money is our attitude toward it.

- A. All material wealth belongs to God. (Psalm 24:1; Psalm 50:10-12)
- B. The wealth that we possess is entrusted to us, but owned by God.
- C. We must give an account for 100% of what He has entrusted to us- not just our tithe.

III. All that we have comes from God. (Deuteronomy 8:17-18; 1 Corinthians 4:7)

- A. God gives us the health, strength and ability to earn material wealth. This is not something that we did.
- B. Even what we give back to God comes from God and should be given in prayerful submission to His authority. (1 Chronicles 29:14-16)

IV. God expects a return on what he provides to our lives and He will begin to judge if there is no return. (Haggai 1:5-7ff)

V. God has provided a guaranteed method for earning that return. (2 Corinthians 9:6-10)

- A. The more you give, the more you will get back. (1 Kings 17:12ff; Luke 4:24-25)

VI. You should manage your money, not just spend it.

- A. Husbands have the financial responsibility for their household and God will hold him to account. (Ephesians 5)

- B. Budgeting is a good way to manage your manage.

1. What are your objectives? What do you live for? (Matthew 6:25; Luke 12:15)
2. Budgets help make sure that your resources get used as planned.
3. Budgets keep you from overextending yourself.
4. Budgets enable you to prorate large expenses.

Application questions:

1. Do you currently have a budget? How has or how could a budget help you manage resources better?

2. What does Jerry mean when he says that the most important thing about money is our attitude toward it?

3. Why do you think God might have instituted the principle that your resources will be multiplied in accordance with your giving? What might be His purpose for this?
