

**“Biblical Money Principles”  
1 Tim. 6:6-12, 17-19**

**Big Idea – The Bible gives practical advice about wealth and money.**

1 Timothy 6:6 Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth.

7 After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it.

8 So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.

9 But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction.

10 For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

11 But you, Timothy, are a man of God; so flee all these evil things. Follow after righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness.

12 Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you, which you have confessed so well before many witnesses.

17 Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment.

18 Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others.

19 By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

20 Timothy, guard what God has entrusted to you. Avoid godless, foolish discussions with those who oppose you with their so-called knowledge.

21 Some people have wandered from the faith by following such foolishness.

**“Learn to develop a right attitude about money”**

**Seek moderation; learn to be content. vs. 6-8**

1 Timothy 6:6 Godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.

8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

Money doesn't bring satisfaction

Money doesn't last forever - Prov. 23: 5 For riches can disappear as though they had the wings of a bird! You'll never see a U-haul moving van behind a hearse!!!

Basic needs are sufficient - Live within your wages – don't spend unwisely

***The Man Who Had Everything***

Christopher Winans, in his book, Malcolm Forbes: *The Man Who Had Everything*, tells of a motorcycle tour that Forbes took through Egypt in 1984 with his Capitalist Tool motorcycle team.

After viewing the staggering burial tomb of King Tut, Forbes seemed to be in a reflective mood. As they were returning to the hotel in a shuttle bus, Forbes turned to one of his associates and asked with all sincerity: "Do you think I'll be remembered after I die?"

Forbes is remembered. He is remembered as the man who coined the phrase, "He who dies with the most toys wins." That was the wisdom of Malcolm Forbes. In fact, that was his ambition. That's why he collected scores of motorcycles. That's why he would pay over a million dollars for a Faberge egg. That's why he owned castles, hot air balloons and countless other toys that he can no longer access.

The Lord Jesus Christ gave us words of superior wisdom when he said, "What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?" (Matthew 16:26). It is a fatally deficient wisdom that declares "He who dies with the most toys wins."

Proverbs 30: 8 "Give me just enough to satisfy my needs. For if I grow too rich, I may deny You and say Who is the Lord? If I am too poor I may steal and thus insult God's holy Name."

Philippians 4:11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation,

Heb. 13:5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

"Realize if you're not happy with what you have now, you will not be happy with more."

### **Seeking to become rich is a trap**

1 Tim. 6: 9 But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction.

10 For the love of money is at the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

Proverbs 23:4 Don't weary yourself trying to get rich. Why waste your time?

Charles Swindoll, *Living Above the Level of Mediocrity*, said,

"I'll never forget a conversation I had with the late Corrie ten Boom. she said to me, in her broken English, "Chuck, I've learned that we must hold everything loosely, because when I grip it tightly, it hurts when the Father pries my fingers loose and takes it from me! "

## **Learn what God wants for His children vs. 11, 12**

1. Flee these things
2. Follow right living, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and meekness (strength under control)
3. Fight the good fight of faith – vss. 12-16 – “it’s a battlefield brother not a recreation room”

## **Don’t assume it’s wrong to have money – vs. 17**

1 Timothy 6:17b “...God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Nicodemus – all had money; poverty is not automatically better than wealthy.

## **Commands for the rich: Not, get rid of all your money, but rather**

**Do good works, don’t just give money  
Be generous and willing to share**

1 Timothy 6: 18 “Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.”

Like the “good Samaritan” Luke 10:33 - 37

## **Don’t think some is mine and some is God’s**

1 Chron. 29: 11b “For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, And You are exalted as head over all.

12 Both riches and honor come from You, and You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; In Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.”

## **Work hard to get it –**

Prov. 10: 4 He who has a slack hand becomes poor, But the hand of the diligent makes rich.  
5 He who gathers in summer is a wise son; He who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.

Prov. 14:23 All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

**Avoid unwise debt** – could be credit card debt, or interest debt on a depreciating item.

Prov. 22: The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant (or slave), to the lender.

#### Average Debt

Every person in the U.S.A. today has an average of \$12,000 of debt. Rick Beggs, Ronald Blue & Co., 1997

#### Marketing of Credit Cards

Americans owe over \$400 billion on their credit cards. Consumer debt is at a six-year high. The average household gets about 25 credit card promotional offers a year. Experts worry that the “irresponsible and rabid marketing of credit cards” could result in a crisis for the economy.

1. Ellen is 30 years old. She has a \$3,500 balance on her Citibank credit card at 18% interest. She makes the minimum payment each month. How old will she be when she has her credit card paid off? Answer? [70 years old]

2. Susan and Tom needed a new washing machine, so they went to Sears and found one for \$299. They got a Sears charge card and made the minimum payment each month. By the time the washing machine was paid off, how much did Susan and Tom actually pay for that washing machine? Answer? \$1,199

#### **Always repay what you owe**

Psa. 37:21 The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously;

Every time you lend money to a friend you damage his memory.

Before borrowing money from a friend, decide which you need more, (the money or the friend).  
- Addison H. Hallock

#### **Never loan money to someone if you cannot afford to lose it.**

#### **Plan ahead – develop a budget –“a plan of spending”**

#### **Save for the future - Prov. 6:6 the ant saves for winter**

SAVINGS: According to Social Security records, 85 out of 100 Americans have less than \$250 when they reach age 65. - Reported in Master Your Money, Ron Blue

Almost half of Americans report having less than \$5,000 in savings and investments, including 1 out of 10 who have none at all. Significantly, more than one-fourth of Americans did not save or invest any of their income in the past year.

When it comes to money, the way to be wise is to be a saver. Here are four simple rules given by the late financier, J. P. Morgan, for saving money.

1. Start early. Today is the day to start your savings program.
2. Save a definite amount.
3. Save regularly and systematically.
4. Use your savings productively.

### **3. Move from credit to contentment – how?**

Cut up your cards or pay off all balances-use credit cards as cash only and pay the bill at the end of the month,

Give to God first – (Prov. 3:9); put treasure in Heaven- Matt. 6:20,21

Trust God to supply all your needs - Phil. 4:19

Learn to tell the difference between need and greed - be content.