

GOD GAVE US HIS FINANCIAL PLAN

#S286R

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No doubt many people will say, "What has money to do with God's will? why are you talking about money? why not talk about spiritual things?" Therefore "the Truth of God is reproached" (the late Pastor said), because we teach Divine Healing and God's Financial Plan. We are falsely accused of always talking about these two subjects. It does not make a particle of difference what people think about it, (whether it pleases them or not;) what we are 'especially concerned about', is whether or not it 'pleases God'. As apostle Paul said, "If I was pleasing men, I certainly would not be pleasing God."

If we once get into God's financial plan, we will be more than pleased with it. We are pleased with it personally, so we make no apology for talking about God's banking plan, which is the subject. Money is the paramount issue of every human life, and with very few exceptions, and, if we were honest as we look back upon our past life, we would have to acknowledge that the love of money had guided and controlled our lives and actions, up to the time that we had placed our finances into God's hands. That is true concerning all 'professors of Christianity' without exception: one's entire life is being guided and controlled, not by the will of God, but by money; UNTIL we really come to know God, and it could not be otherwise. The natural man has no other object in life than to accumulate money, how to secure money, and how to keep it. Of course, with it bearing such an important relation to the natural man's life, it has also a paramount value in Divine things; because if God could get us away from that all-absorbing desire and get underneath us and cause us to get on Scriptural grounds concerning money matters, He would get hold of our whole person.

In Luke 16th chapter, Jesus says that while the financial side of Divine life is the smallest end; yet, if we were 'faithful' in this (the smallest thing), we would be faithful in the larger or greater 'spiritual things'.

The person who is un-Scriptural or unfaithful in the smallest or financial part of this Divine life for Salvation, is unfaithful or unscriptural in the greater (spiritual) interests, and they will never be right until they do become Scriptural financially. God charges us so to handle the money which passes thru our hands Scripturally, so that we will have a future home when we leave this world, (which proves that God considers money of paramount importance in the Divine life).

We have two passages of Scripture to consider which teach us that we are to bank our money in Heaven. It is not a question of losing the money in this banking plan: it is only a question of where we deposit our surplus cash (or "rainy-day" account), whether upon earth in an earthly bank in some earthly investment, or, whether we deposit it in Heaven's bank.

We want to impress upon people's minds (the Pastor said), that if you were to give your money away; to never see it again; and to go without yourself, that would be unscriptural. We are simply coming to everyone with God's plan, which is to invest your money where it will be perfectly safe, and where you will receive the greatest return financially and spiritually for time and eternity. And we contend that anyone who believes that God means what He says would not hesitate for a moment: to deposit in His bank. "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break

through and steal; But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matt.6:19-21). Where our surplus money is stored (where our "rainy-day" account is), there will our heart be also. A person who professes to be a Christian, who has possessions and treasures stored on earth, and who says their heart is not on them and refuses to obey this Scripture, makes God a liar: either they are wrong, or God is.

(Luke 12:33) we have another passage on this subject: "Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that fails not, where no thief approaches, neither moth corrupts." (Selling what we have and giving alms is the way we are to deposit; giving to worthy poor, first to 'the household of faith'; secondly to any outside worthy poor. If the world could grasp what this passage really means in the original (and follow it) it would bring wonderful results.

If we were being asked to sell our possessions and give them away, and that was to be the end of it, there may be some excuse for complaining and being prejudiced against God's financial plan; but all God desires of us is to keep our bank account in Heaven. Whether we give much or give little, if we lay our little or big treasure in Heaven, it will become a bank account in Heaven which can never be 'overdrawn'. (God will always have what we need when we need it).

Weymouth translation brings this Scripture out clearly: "Sell your possessions and give alms. Provide yourselves with purses that will never wear out, a treasure inexhaustible in Heaven, where no thief can come or moth consume, For where your wealth is stored, there also will your heart be." (Jesus told us).

"A treasure inexhaustible in Heaven". A bank account which you can never overdraw; all you can possibly use for yourself or anybody else; you could never come to the end of it.!

We find people working hard and neglecting their eternal interests, to save something for their old age. How much better it would be if they would invest their money in Heaven's bank and receive a return of a hundred times as much as they deposited, and also have access to a bank account which could never be overdrawn in this entire life.

Suppose you had a friend who was a banker, an honest, reliable man, and he would tell you to invest your money in his bank and would allow you the privilege of overdrawing your account whenever you desired; would you worry about your old age? Would you lay up a "rainy-day" account?

We recall a man who had a get-rich-quick scheme, who promised to pay 50% on investments and he fooled thousands of people. God offers 10,000% (a hundredfold). And, you are never deceived nor disappointed when dealing with God in this matter (or in any other matter).

Mark 10:17-30, we have some practical teaching on this subject: "And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him and asked him, "Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?"

We must listen and consider this matter carefully! It is not a question of blessings in this life only, we are not only to receive an inexhaustible treasure in this life, but it has to do with our eternal life (which makes it all the more important).

"And Jesus said unto him, Why call thou me good? there is none good but one, that is God, Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honor thy father and mother. And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth. Then Jesus, beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing Thou lackest."

[The average professor of Christianity would have said the man was perfect, but Jesus told him he lacked one thing. The large majority of Christians today are lacking, in this qualification of Salvation; so we should ourselves be warned and warn others.]

(Jesus continued) "Go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me." (meaning, trust on God to provide for you and your family.)

[(In other words) 'Sell your possessions and give to the poor and it will become a bank account in Heaven. So, let us all keep before us, this truth, that it is not there waiting until we reach there; but it is there on deposit for us, to be drawn upon every day in the year. and every hour of the day if we need it.]

"And he (the man) was sad at that saying and went away grieved: for he had great possessions. And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches, enter into the kingdom of God." (People who lay up their treasures on earth.) "And the disciples were astonished at His words."

We do not suppose this teaching of God's plan concerning money had ever been taught in their church (or synagogue), "And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God."

Many people will tell you: "I have money laid up on earth, but I do not trust in it; I trust in the Lord." And the same with healing. If you would go into room of sick people and tell those poor souls that they could be healed by the Lord (instead of them lying there suffering), and they will reply: "Oh, I am trusting in the Lord." (However, they have employed a doctor in their unbelief, and they are carefully following his directions and taking his medicine.)

You then could tell them that, to experience God's 'healing touch', it is necessary to put aside that medicine and all human help, and they would immediately reply; 'I think God gave the doctors their wisdom and we ought to do the best we can to help ourselves.' Unfortunately for them, they consider that to be trusting God for health of their bodies (when it is 'unbelief on God'. It is just as Jeremiah said: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it. (Jere.17:9)

What they are really believing is, that the medicine is doing the work, not God at all. If they are not trusting in the medicine, why are they taking it? If we obey and trust God for our 'eternal life', if we take a risk for our eternal interests by trusting God, why can we not trust Him for these lesser things (such as the healing of our body and the supply of our financial needs?) Anyone really trusting God for their greater 'spiritual interest', could trust Him for these lesser things.

(Again) "the disciples were astonished at his words, But Jesus answered again, and said unto them," "Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! It is easier for

a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. And they were astonished out of measure, saying among themselves, Who, then can be saved?" (Mark 10:24-26). (That attitude caused astonishment in those days, and it is just the same today.) The Pharisees took great exception to that financial teaching of Jesus. In the 16th chapter of Luke, we find them deriding Him. "And the Pharisees also, who were 'covetous' (and loved money) heard all these things: and they derided him. And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knows your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men(including money to be depended on) is abomination in the sight of God." (Luke 16:14).

(Getting back to Mark 10), we read: "And they were astonished out of measure, saying among themselves, Who then can be saved? And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible." But, opposition to God's financial plan comes from those who never placed themselves without reserve into God's hands. Until that is done, it would profit them nothing to give their money away to feed the poor. That message is for those who are in the will of God and willing to stay there. Paul brought that out in the great love chapter. (1 Cor.13:). "Though I speak with the tongues of men and angels and have not charity (love) I am become as sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal, And, though I have the 'gift of prophecy', and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profits me nothing. That love of God comes in and takes possession of us when we have fully surrendered to the will of God. It is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. It would not do us a particle of good if we gave away everything we possessed and gave our bodies to be burned, if this love of God was not shed abroad in our hearts. This message is not for a carnally minded person at all. However, when a person in the will of God, has the same Spirit which controlled Jesus Christ in them (that very love of God permeating their life), they will be delighted to obey God's financial plan. Also, there will be an inexhaustible treasure for that person, whereupon they can draw at any hour of the day or night until Jesus returns to take His people (for God's bank is always open).

Let us encourage our hearts with that message from Jesus, "With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible." (When we are in the 'will of God', to obey these Scriptures becomes a delight, and we are assured of 'hundredfold'.

"Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee." [he meant, We have done just what you asked this young man to do; we have surrendered our lives to Thee, what is it going to profit us?] Then Jesus explained the profits received in this life:

"Verily, I say unto you, There is no man that: hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or Lands, for my sake and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions;" (Mark 10:29-30) [He shall receive a hundredfold in this life, a hundred times as much as we forsake for the Kingdom of God.]

So, our question is, if we really can get hundredfold for every dollar we invested, would we put our money in a bank where one only receives three or four percent interest? Would we invest it in a house? What would we do? Of course, one would not be satisfied until they drew that money out of the bank or sold the house and deposited the money where they would receive the hundredfold. That is what God promises those who deposit in Heaven's bank, and the soul who Believes that assertion of God, will have no trouble to obey and to receive that hundredfold, "AND IN THE WORLD TO COME ETERNAL LIFE." (This really means that it will make a 'real Christian' out of us if we forsake everything for HIS sake (including our money).

We have Scriptures to prove that if we surrender our money, it will return to us. Proverbs 19:17 it is written that every penny we give to the poor is loaned to the Lord; it is really placed into God's hands (into His bank). When we place money into any bank, we give the banker the privilege of using that money until we desire it again. That is just what it means when you give money to the poor, you are loaning it to God. Suppose (or imagine) God came down out of Heaven and asked you to loan him \$500., saying He wanted to buy a poor widow some coal to heat her home. Would you let God have it? (Prov.19:17) "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord: and that which he hath given, will he pay him again."

(And in Prov.11:24 we are told that) "There is one who scatters (spreads what they profit), yet increases more; And, there is one who withholds more than is right, But it leads to poverty." [That means that 'ill-gotten gains' bring a curse, as was made note for everyone James 5:4) "I tell you that the pay of the laborers who have gathered in your crops, pay which you are keeping back, is calling out against you; and the outcries of those who have been your reapers have entered into the ears of the Lord of the armies of Heaven."]

This means people who are charging excess prices, making excess profits by unjust means, getting rich quick; but they are gathering these riches and God will turn these riches over to the person who 'will lay their treasures in Heaven instead of on earth'. We do not suppose we will all believe that, but it is true nevertheless (the Pastor said.) All those profiteers, brokers and bankers, doctors and druggists, lawyers, etc., who have cheated people; and real estate profiteers who have roped people into all sorts of schemes to make unjust profit themselves, ..the money they have accumulated will pass from their hands, into the hands of that person who will lay up their treasure in Heaven, and who pity the poor by giving their surplus cash to them." (as Jesus told that rich man).

Proverbs 11:24,25 also likens this subject of one's finances to something else. Every penny we invest in God's kingdom, or give to the poor, is as 'seed sown' in the earth. We are likened to the farmers. The farmer goes out and scatters the corn or wheat seed and is sure of a harvest of many-fold. He does not see the wheat after it leaves his hands, but he always receives a much greater amount of wheat than he sowed. He sowed a few bushels and receives in return hundreds; of bushels. "There is that scattereth (like a farmer) "And yet increaseth; and there is that withholds more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."(25)"The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself." (That is what God told us.)

So, there is not a Christian who is fully surrendered to God who desires increase in wages and will start to give to 'God's work' and to 'God's poor', who will not find their salary being increased, The more seed we sow, the greater the harvest of our returns. We just sow a little more seed and see what happens. "The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that waters shall be watered also himself."

In the New Testament there is teaching on this subject, which is brought out wonderfully (2 Cor.9) "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." (Paul was speaking of those Corinthians, concerning their consideration for the poor people of God at Jerusalem). "Every man according as he purposes in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver."

We are not to give because we think we have to, not grudging what we do give, nor give of necessity; but only because we are prompted by the love of God. Thru the power of the Holy Spirit we can give cheerfully. When we are willing to let God have His way in these things, He will make us cheerful about giving. "And, God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things; may abound to every good work." (Vs.8

The real underlying thought in that passage is that God is able to multiply every penny we give, that we may have sufficient enough for every need and desire of our own first, and also to have enough for every good work of the Lord. We will have everything we need for the present, not to lay up ahead for the future), and all we can use to give away for the Lord's cause, and for His poor.

(It is written 2 Cor.9:10-12) "And God who continually supplies seed for the sower and bread for eating, will supply you with seed, and multiply it, and will cause your almsgiving to yield a plentiful harvest. May you be abundantly enriched so as to show all liberality such as through our instrumentality brings thanksgiving to God. For the service rendered in this sacred gift not only helps to relieve the wants of God's people, but it is also rich in its results and 'awakens a chorus of thanksgiving' to God."

God teaches us from these verses, that we are not only to receive a hundredfold, but we are to have enough for ourselves and to give to the poor, for as we sow our seed, He will multiply it.

There is no telling what God will do when we begin to deposit in Heaven's bank; He will send all we can bear, without having our head turned with pride. He will send it in such quantities as our spiritual condition can stand. Our finances will increase and expand every year, beyond anything we ever dreamed. One very important point in this banking in Heaven is this: the valuable training and knowledge of God is involved, and we will want to deal with God Himself. That is a most valuable result of depositing in Heaven's bank, a privilege of dealing directly with Himself, which is the greatest need we have.

The First Century Gospel Church/Philadelphia