

moneykeyprinciples

Our Lord's Principles Regarding Money and Things

(Scriptures from the NIV)

Luke 16:13 "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

God reminds us to know our financial condition - Prov 27:23 Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds.

Our lives including our finances should exhibit order - 1 Cor 14:40 But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.

Planning is encouraged - Prov 21:5 The plans of the diligent lead to profit.

We are not to covet what others possess - Ex 20:17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

With God's help contentment can be learned - Phil 4:11-13 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, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

Receiving wise counsel on our finances is encouraged - Prov 1:5 let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance.

We are warned not to be in debt - Prov 22:7 The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

We are commanded to repay our debts - Prov 3:27-28 27 Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. 28 Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow"--when you now have it with you.

We are discouraged from cosigning (surety/striking hands) - Prov 17:18 A man lacking in judgment strikes hands in pledge and puts up security for his neighbor.

God encourages planned, generous, cheerful giving - 2 Cor 9:6-7 6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

We are told to give to: family 1 Tim 5:8, **parents** Matt 15:4-6, **widows and orphans** James 1:27, **ministers of the Gospel** Gal 6:6, **the poor** Prov 19:17, **all men** Gal 6:10, **and enemies** Prov 25:21-22,

The Word reminds us that God owns everything - Ps 24:1 The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

God controls all events on earth - 1 Chron 29:11 Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

The Lord uses every circumstance for a good purpose in the life of the Godly - Rom 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

God provides for the needs of His people - Neh 9:15 In their hunger you gave them bread from heaven and in their thirst you brought them water from the rock; you told them to go in and take possession of the land you had sworn with uplifted hand to give them.

God provides riches and material possessions for His people - 1 Chron 29:12 Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

We are warned against greed - Col 3:5-6 5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

God demands absolute honesty - Deut 25:13-16 13 Do not have two differing weights in your bag--one heavy, one light. 14 Do not have two differing measures in your house--one large, one small. 15 You must have accurate and honest weights and measures, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. 16 For the LORD your God detests anyone who does these things, anyone who deals dishonestly.

The Lord encourages saving/investing where the goal is either: providing for your family 1 Tim 5:8, or **leaving an inheritance** Prov 13:22

God wants us make restitution when we have hurt another - Num 5:5-8 5 The LORD said to Moses, 6 "Say to the Israelites: 'When a man or woman wrongs another in any way and so is unfaithful to the LORD, that person is guilty 7 and must confess the sin he has committed. He must make full restitution for his wrong, add one fifth to it and give it all to the person he has wronged.

We are to never trust in riches - 1 Tim 6:17-19 17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

We are never to worry about material possessions - Matt 6:31-34 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

We are to lend to the needy who ask for a loan without charging interest - Ex 22:25 "If you lend money to one of my people among you who is needy, do not be like a moneylender; charge him no interest.

As His chosen stewards, we must: give up ownership of our possessions to the Lord - Luke 14:33; and **leave everything to follow Him** - Matt 19:27-29

We are commanded to pay taxes - Rom 13:5-7 5 Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience. 6 This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. 7 Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

The Bible commands us to work – I Thess. 4:11 Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you.

God forbids business partnerships with unbelievers - 2 Cor 6:14-15 14 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?

"For three things the world is sustained: For the study of scriptures (torah), for worshipping and serving God (avodah), and for deeds of loving kindness (gemilut hesed)." the Mishnah

So What May we Conclude in the Matter of Money?

(Balance, balance, balance!)

- 1. Don't worry about money - *it is not yours***
- 2. Work hard at everything you do - *it honors your Lord***
- 3. Plan well --- *just don't place your trust in your plan***
- 4. Don't waste**
- 5. Avoid debt like the plague**
- 6. Be honest with God and man**
- 7. Give generously - *God loves cheerful givers and honors their faith***
- 8. Live simply but have some fun to recharge your emotional battery**
- 9. Invest some money for the future support of you and your family**
- 10. Be content with what you have at the moment**
- 11. Trust God for both guidance and your necessities - *"for without faith it is impossible to please Him"* Heb 11:6**

****Before making a purchase ask yourself, "Will this item or investment become a tool or an idol?"***

Luke 12:32-34 NIV

32 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.

33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

