

Dollars & Sense

Part One - Putting Money in Its Place

When it comes to money management, God wants us to use good sense.

Proverbs 8:18

With (wisdom) are riches and honor, enduring wealth and prosperity.

3 John 2

“Beloved I wish above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers.”

1 Chronicles 29:12

Wealth and honor come from you alone, for you rule over everything. Power and might are in your hand, and at your discretion, people are made great and given strength.

Psalms 122:9

For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.

Good sense (Wisdom) is heaven’s currency.

Deuteronomy 8:18

But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

James 1:5

If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.

1 Corinthians 4:2

Managers are required to be trustworthy.

Luke 16:11

And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?

Good sense recognizes the dual threat that money creates.

1. Poverty

Haggai 1:5-7

Carefully consider your ways! 6 You planted a lot, but you harvested little. You eat, but you're never full. You drink, but you're still thirsty. You wear clothing, but you never have enough to keep you warm. You spend money as fast as you earn it. 7 This is what the LORD of Armies says: Carefully consider your ways!

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

Make it your goal to live a quiet life, minding your own business and working with your hands, just as we instructed you before. 12 Then people who are not believers will respect the way you live, and you will not need to depend on others.

2. Pride

Proverbs 11:28

Those who depend on their wealth will fall like the leaves of autumn, but the righteous will prosper like the leaves of summer.

1 Timothy 6:9-10

...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.

Proverbs 30:8-9

Make me absolutely honest and don't let me be too poor or too rich. Give me just what I need. 9 If I have too much to eat, I might forget about you; if I don't have enough, I might steal and disgrace your name.

Good sense recognizes everything belongs to God and strives to manage it well.

Psalms 24:1

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.

Romans 1:25

They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.

Matthew 6:24

"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

Good sense recognizes that the first step to managing money is to put it in its place.

Matthew 6:33

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

Malachi 3:8-12

You people are robbing me, your God. And, here you are, asking, "How are we robbing you?" You are robbing me of the offerings and of the ten percent that belongs to me. 9 That's why your whole nation is under a curse. 10 I am the LORD All-Powerful, and I challenge you to put me to the test. Bring the entire ten percent into the storehouse, so

there will be food in my house. Then I will open the windows of heaven and flood you with blessing after blessing. 11 I will also stop locusts from destroying your crops and keeping your vineyards from producing. 12 Everyone of every nation will talk about how I have blessed you and about your wonderful land. I, the LORD All-Powerful, have spoken!

What Happens When We Put Money in Its Place Through the Tithe:

1. We honor God instead of robbing Him.

Proverbs 3:9

Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first and best part of all your income.

2. We come out from under the curse of poverty and pride.

3. We allow God to prove Himself to us.

4. We provide for ministry.

5. We experience God's blessing.

6. God defends us against "the devourer."

7. We become a witness.