

GOD HAS A PLAN FOR YOUR FINANCIAL & SPIRITUAL LIVES



“No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.”

Matthew 6:24

Notes:

One of the most difficult things for many Christians to recognize is that God wants to be in control of our spiritual and financial lives. Consider the story of Joe Walsh. Joe had become a very successful salesman and had spent most of his young adult life preparing himself to be a success in the business world. Joe went to school, read all the “How to” books on achieving financial prosperity and success. He went to church with his family on a regular basis, gave occasionally as money was available, and seemed content with life. Joe’s attitude about God was He was only in control on Sunday mornings from 11:00 am to 12:00 am and the rest of the week, JOE was in control. UNTIL..... Joe lost his job, he got behind on his bills, he was on the verge of losing his home, his marriage, his sense of self worth.

Who do you think is controlling your life and finances today? Is it God or You? Think for a few moments and jot down a few areas of your life that you haven’t surrendered to God.

Why do you think Jesus talked so much about money, over 2350 times in the Bible? _____

Answer:

*How we handle money impacts our relationship with God and our Families.
Money competes with God for mastery of our lives.
Life evolves around the use of money.*

Money is a necessary commodity to have in order to survive in today’s culture. For many it is the single largest stumbling block that keeps us from having a close relationship with God. Read **Haggai 2:8** and in your own words who you think should be in control of the finances in your family. _

On a scale of 1-10 rank how much you have allowed yourself or God to control the finances in your family.

You 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 God

What does God want you to learn from this? _____

Managing Your Lifestyle



*“All a man’s ways seem right to him, but the Lord weighs the heart.”
Proverbs 21:2*

Let’s take a look to see how God views wealth in the Scriptures.

Read **Deuteronomy 8:1-20** and evaluate what you think God is saying to you concerning ownership, wealth, and relationship with Him.

Have you ever had a difficult time financially, or felt like you were being led through the wilderness? Why did God lead the Israelites in the wilderness for 40 years? Read **Deuteronomy 8:2** _____

Do you think God has been leading you through the wilderness? Why?

In **Deuteronomy 8:3** what does God say we need to survive other than bread? _____

What was Gods purpose? **Deuteronomy 8:5-6** _____

What was about to happen if Israel would listen to God?

Deuteronomy 8:7-10 _____

God issues a warning that followed Israel’s blessing, what was that warning? What do you think God wants you to learn in this passage?

Deuteronomy 8:11 _____

As Americans we value our homes, food, clothing, shelter, businesses and wealth as much or more than any other culture in the world. Read **Deuteronomy 8:12-13**. Who do you think was providing these things for the Israelites? _____

Who do you think is providing them for you today? _____

What is the danger in Gods eyes of obtaining success and wealth?

Read **Deuteronomy 8:14** _____

Has this ever happened to you? Why? _____

What is your definition of success? _____

How do you achieve success? Read **Joshua 1:8** _____

Managing Your Lifestyle

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Managing Your Lifestyle



Notes:

Read **Deuteronomy 8:17-18** How does your own attitudes about money compare with those of the Israelites? Where did they begin to get off track?

Who does vs **(18)** say gives the ability and power to make money?

What do you think God wants you to learn from this passage? _____

Read **Deuteronomy 8:19** What are the dangers of not learning the lessons of verse 18? _____

What was Gods reasoning for this? **Deuteronomy 8:20** _____

Society measures us by our material success, items such as clothes, homes cars etc. Read **Job 1:20-22** and **Jeremiah 27:5**. What is the key ingredient that determines success in our lives? _____

Many times God allows us to go through certain situations or hardships in order to help us grow or trust Him more. During these periods of times it is easy to be overcome with worry, anxiety and a feeling of hopelessness. Read God's Word and share what he wants you to do in these situations.

Matthew 6:31-33 _____

Psalms 34:9-10 _____

Phillipians 4:19 _____

Does this give you comfort? Why? _____

Think back to a difficult time in your life where the Lord ultimately used it to teach you a lesson in order to better your life. Write it down.

Managing Your Lifestyle



Notes:

Eternal salvation is based on our trusting the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Savior, who died on the cross for us personally, and was raised again and now sits at the right hand of the father. However if we are going to be followers of Christ, we must be willing to transfer the ownership of ALL of our assets to the LORD by allowing Him to control them as He wishes. "In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:33 Sometimes God will test you in this. What do you think God is asking you to do right now? _____

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