

The primary issue with money between God and His people is the issue of trust. Do we trust God to be our provider, or do we partially trust God and look to money to make up the difference or to fill in the gaps where God leaves us unprotected or with less than we want? For this reason, money is a primary competitor to God – even to the extent of becoming an idol that people look to for security, well-being, health, increased possessions, pleasure, and leisure.

1. **Deuteronomy 8:11-20** . . . Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today; [12] otherwise, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them, [13] and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, [14] then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. [15] He led you through the great and terrible wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water; He brought water for you out of the rock of flint. [16] In the wilderness He fed you manna which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do good for you in the end. [17] Otherwise, you may say in your heart, 'My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.' [18] But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day. [19] It shall come about if you ever forget the LORD your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I testify against you today that you will surely perish. [20] Like the nations that the LORD makes to perish before you, so you shall perish; because you would not listen to the voice of the LORD your God.
2. **Proverbs 18:11** . . . A rich man's wealth is his strong city, and like a high wall in his own imagination. (*The rich man trusts in his wealth as if it were a strong city with high walls.*)
3. **Proverbs 22:1** . . . A good name is to be more desired than great wealth, favor is better than silver and gold.
4. **Isaiah 55:2** . . . Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and delight yourself in abundance.
5. **Matthew 6:24** . . . No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.
6. **Matthew 19:23-26** . . . And Jesus said to His disciples, "Truly I say to you, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. [24] Again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." [25] When the disciples heard this, they were very astonished and said, "Then who can be saved?" [26] And looking at them Jesus said to them, "With people this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."
7. **Mark 12:41-44** . . . And He sat down opposite the treasury, and began observing how the people were putting money into the treasury; and many rich people were putting in large sums. [42] A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a cent. [43] Calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury; [44] for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on."
8. **Luke 22:35** . . . And He said to them, "When I sent you out without money belt and bag and sandals, you did not lack anything, did you?" They said, "No, nothing."
9. **Hebrews 13:5-6** . . . Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you," [6] so that we confidently say, "The Lord is my helper, I Will not be afraid. What will man do to me?"

#### Money, Loss, Rewards, Punishment

10. **Proverbs 3:9-10** . . . Honor the LORD from your wealth and from the first of all your produce; [10] so your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats will overflow with new wine.
11. **Hosea 2:8-9** . . . For she does not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the new wine and the oil, and lavished on her silver and gold, which they used for Baal. [9] Therefore, I will take

back My grain at harvest time and My new wine in its season. I will also take away My wool and My flax given to cover her nakedness.

12. **Hosea 8:1-4** . . . Put the trumpet to your lips! Like an eagle the enemy comes against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed My covenant and rebelled against My law. [2] They cry out to Me, "My God, we of Israel know You!" [3] Israel has rejected the good; the enemy will pursue him. [4] They have set up kings, but not by Me; they have appointed princes, but I did not know it. With their silver and gold they have made idols for themselves, that they might be cut off.
13. **Matthew 6:19-21** . . . Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. [20] But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; [21] for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
  1. **Luke 12:33-34** . . . Sell your possessions and give to charity; make yourselves money belts which do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near nor moth destroys. [34] For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
  2. **Luke 18:22** . . . When Jesus heard this, He said to him, "One thing you still lack; sell all that you possess and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."
14. **Matthew 13:22** . . . And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.
15. **Matthew 19:27-30** . . . Then Peter said to Him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed You; what then will there be for us?" [28] And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. [29] "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or farms for My name's sake, will receive many times as much, and will inherit eternal life. [30] "But many who are first will be last; and the last, first.
16. **Luke 6:24** . . . But woe to you who are rich, for you are receiving your comfort in full.
17. **Luke 12:15-21** . . . Then He said to them, "Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions." [16] And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man was very productive. [17] "And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' [18] "Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. [19] And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry." [20] "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?' [21] So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."
18. **Luke 14:12-14** . . . And He also went on to say to the one who had invited Him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, otherwise they may also invite you in return and that will be your repayment. [13] But when you give a reception, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, [14] and you will be blessed, since they do not have the means to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."
19. **Luke 16:8-12** . . . And his master praised the unrighteous manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the sons of this age are more shrewd in relation to their own kind than the sons of light. [9] And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by means of the wealth of unrighteousness, so that when it fails, they will receive you into the eternal dwellings. [10] He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much. [11] Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you? [12] And if you have not been faithful in the use of that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?

## Money and Righteousness

20. **Job 31:24-28** . . . **If I have put my confidence in gold, and called fine gold my trust, [25] if I have gloated because my wealth was great, and because my hand had secured so much;** [26] if I have looked at the sun when it shone or the moon going in splendor, [27] and my heart became secretly enticed, and my hand threw a kiss from my mouth, [28] that too would have been an iniquity calling for judgment, for I would have denied God above.
21. **Psalms 15:1-5** . . . O LORD, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill? [2] He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness, and speaks truth in his heart. [3] He does not slander with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend; [4] in whose eyes a reprobate is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD; he swears to his own hurt and does not change; [5] he does not put out his money at interest, nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things will never be shaken.
22. **Ezekiel 18:5-9** . . . “But if a man is righteous and practices justice and righteousness, [6] and does not eat at the mountain shrines or lift up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, or defile his neighbor's wife or approach a woman during her menstrual period— [7] **if a man does not oppress anyone, but restores to the debtor his pledge, does not commit robbery, but gives his bread to the hungry and covers the naked with clothing, [8] if he does not lend money on interest or take increase,** if he keeps his hand from iniquity and executes true justice between man and man, [9] if he walks in My statutes and My ordinances so as to deal faithfully – he is righteous and will surely live,” declares the Lord God.
23. **Ezekiel 18:10-13** . . . Then he may have a violent son who sheds blood and who does any of these things to a brother [11] (though he himself did not do any of these things), that is, he even eats at the mountain shrines, and defiles his neighbor's wife, [12] **oppresses the poor and needy, commits robbery,** does not restore a pledge, but lifts up his eyes to the idols and commits abomination, [13] **he lends money on interest and takes increase;** will he live? He will not live! He has committed all these abominations, he will surely be put to death; his blood will be on his own head.
24. **I Timothy 3:1-7** . . . It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. [2] An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, [3] not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, **free from the love of money.** [4] He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity [5] (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), [6] and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. [7] And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.
25. **I Timothy 6:6-11** . . . But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. [7] For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. [8] **If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. [9] But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. [10] For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. [11] But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.**
26. **II Timothy 3:1-5** . . . But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. [2] For men will be lovers of self, **lovers of money,** boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, [3] unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, [4] treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, [5] holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.
27. **Titus 1:7-9** . . . For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, **not fond of sordid gain,** [8] but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, [9] holding fast the faithful word which

is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

#### The failure of money

28. **Proverbs 23:4-5** . . . Do not weary yourself to gain wealth, cease from your consideration of it. [5] When you set your eyes on it, it is gone. For wealth certainly makes itself wings like an eagle that flies toward the heavens.
29. **Ecclesiastes 5:10** . . . He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. This too is vanity.
30. **Ecclesiastes 7:11-14** . . . Wisdom along with an inheritance is good and an advantage to those who see the sun. [12] For wisdom is protection just as money is protection, but the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the lives of its possessors. [13] Consider the work of God, for who is able to straighten what He has bent? [14] In the day of prosperity be happy, but in the day of adversity consider— God has made the one as well as the other so that man will not discover anything that will be after him.

#### How the rich are to treat their fellow man

31. **Exodus 22:25-27** . . . If you lend money to My people, to the poor among you, you are not to act as a creditor to him; you shall not charge him interest. [26] If you ever take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge, you are to return it to him before the sun sets, [27] for that is his only covering; it is his cloak for his body. What else shall he sleep in? And it shall come about that when he cries out to Me, I will hear him, for I am gracious.
32. **Leviticus 25:35-38** . . . Now in case a countryman of yours becomes poor and his means with regard to you falter, then you are to sustain him, like a stranger or a sojourner, that he may live with you. [36] Do not take usurious interest from him, but revere your God, that your countryman may live with you. [37] You shall not give him your silver at interest, nor your food for gain. [38] I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan and to be your God.
33. **Deuteronomy 15:12-18** . . . If your kinsman, a Hebrew man or woman, is sold to you, then he shall serve you six years, but in the seventh year you shall set him free. [13] When you set him free, you shall not send him away empty-handed. [14] You shall furnish him liberally from your flock and from your threshing floor and from your wine vat; you shall give to him as the LORD your God has blessed you. [15] You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God redeemed you; therefore I command you this today. [16] It shall come about if he says to you, 'I will not go out from you,' because he loves you and your household, since he fares well with you; [17] then you shall take an awl and pierce it through his ear into the door, and he shall be your servant forever. Also you shall do likewise to your maidservant. [18] It shall not seem hard to you when you set him free, for he has given you six years with double the service of a hired man; so the LORD your God will bless you in whatever you do.
34. **II Corinthians 8:13-15** . . . For this is not for the ease of others and for your affliction, but by way of equality— [14] at this present time your abundance being a supply for their need, so that their abundance also may become a supply for your need, that there may be equality; [15] as it is written, "He who gathered Much did not have too much, and he who gathered little had no lack."