

The Intentional Life (Part 7)
“The Intentional Biblical View of Finances”
(Matthew 6:19-21)

Introduction: How we view our finances will determine how we use them. And seeing God’s word putting such a strong emphasis on this subject, should show us we need to settle on a right concept on our finances and have an intentional biblical view of our finances. Having the intentional biblical view and exercising intentional principles and practices in light of those views is not only a challenge facing every believer, but one that will impact the life of every believer as well.

Having said all of this, I want to share with you the importance of having an intentional biblical perception, understanding of the principles and practices of our finances and how this can raise your level of living.

I. The intentional biblical perception of finances:

Finance can be a great blessing, but the key is what you think of it. Jesus said...

A. Where my heart is focused will determine my motivation:

If my perception towards my finances is “I always “Need” it or more of it”...

1. **This is a desire that can never be satisfied** – (Eccl 5:10a)
It is never a question of having more – it is just a question of what are doing with what you have.
2. **This is a desire that can lead to evil** – (1 Tim 6:10)
3. **This is a desire that lacks contentment** – (1 Tim 6:6-7; Heb 13:5)
4. **This is a desire that will actually separate you from God** – (Matt 6:24; Josh.7; Num 22; Acts 5)

B. Our finances are always a test for us –

1. **Agur knew this to be true when he made this request of God regarding his own finances** - (Prov 30:8-9) *David cleared all this up for us way back in the Old Testament – (Ps 24:1)*
2. **God is the sole proprietor of everything we have**
3. **God is also the sole provider for every circumstance you have –**
 - a. **The Old Testament emphasizes that God sovereignly controls all circumstances to His own end** - (Isa 46:9-10)
 - b. *This same idea is seen in Daniel – (Dan 2:19b-22)*
 - c. *This is the same kind of theology that sustained Daniel when he was thrown in the den of Lions (Dan.6)*
4. **God is also the sole provider for all you have need of –**
 - a. Jesus said- (Mt. 6:25-33)
 - b. *David bears witness to this when he wrote: in Ps 37:25*

II. The intentional biblical principles of finances:

The Bible has a lot to say about managing the finances we have, and we must intentionally manage what we have because it ultimately belongs to God –

1. **God’s word says God is the source of all we have** - (Phil. 4:19; Prov. 8:20,21; 2 cor. 9:8)
2. **God’s word says giving is essential to getting** – (Prov. 3:9; Acts 20:35; Lk. 6:38; 2 Cor. 9:7;)
3. **God’s word instructs us to work for our money** (Prov. 14:23; 28:19; 2 Thes. 3:10)
4. **God’s word cautions us to be content with what we have** – (Heb. 13:5)
5. **God’s word supports keeping track of where we are spending our finances** – (Prov. 23:23; 24:3,4)
6. **God’s word warns against the burden of debt** – (Pslm. 37:21; Prov. 22:7; 27:13)
7. **God’s word supports saving money** – (Prov. 21:20; 22:3; Mt. 25:3,4)
8. **God’s word instructs us to seek wise counsel** – (Ps. 1:1; Prov. 15:22)

III. The intentional biblical practices of finances:

1. **Practice focusing on what’s important.**
Once again let’s look at Jesus’ words (Mt.6:19-22)
2. **Practice giving offerings to the Lord** – (Num. 28:26; 2 Chorn. 31:5; Prov. 3:9; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-8; Ac. 20:35; Lk. 6:38)
3. **Practice not allowing your wants to exceed your needs.**
Mark 10:19, (*Mark 10:21-22*).
4. **Practice saving** The Bible supports good planning, and saving is a good plan.

Conclusion: I have to understand how I view my finances will greatly impact my life and level of living. God’s word spends a great deal of time and effort on this subject so that I can see how important it is for me to have an intentional biblical perception of finances, know the intentional biblical principles to help guide my finances and, to use intentional biblical practices with my finances so I get the most out of what God has entrusted to me.

So, how have you been doing?

Do you need to change your perception of your finances today?

Do we need to re-examine God’s financial principles for us to follow?

Do we need to change some of our financial practices?

What can we intentionally do to raise our level of living when it comes to our finances?