

Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 89

How to Manage your Financial Life

“19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21 KJV)

“19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:” (Matthew 6:19 KJV) Jesus started to speak here about an important subject that people of the world along the ages were concern with, and this is about having material things, treasures, money, finances, properties, lands, gold, silver, gems, clothes, and for us today cars, etc. * Here Jesus warned against laying treasures on earth because it can be corrupted and destroyed. He mentioned moth which attack the clothes and eat them and they are destroyed. So the stored material here is expensive clothes. Many people they buy and they spend on expensive clothes and they put big amount of their income on that. * Jesus also mentioned the rust that will corrupt the metals. Many today they spend much money on expensive cars, mobiles and other appliances. * Finally Jesus mentioned the thieves who will come and steal money, silver, gold and the precious stones. Here Jesus is also targeted what man can be entangled with of covetousness, greed, love of money, and the love of the world and use what God give only for hoarding or for wrong personal thing, dishonesty, and man withhold what he receive from being used for Godly purposes.

* Jesus Here when recommended not to lay treasures on earth, he is not against keeping money or collecting finances, but He said that because there is a better place to keep your money and it will be of great revenue to you and will be safe and where there no moth, no rust, and thieves cannot reach, nor destroy nor steal from them, and that place is Heaven where moth, rust and thieves cannot reach to destroy or steal from them. ***“20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:” (Matthew 6:20 KJV)*** * The purpose now is to seek treasures in Heaven, that God would be pleased with us and we will have the reward from Him and we will also have a secure future.

How we can store in Heaven? This is by converting our earthly treasures to Heavenly one, by using what God give us for His glory. Let us read the following Scripture to understand how we can achieve treasures in Heaven, the eternal life, the reward from God and the assurance for the future. ***“17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.” (1 Timothy 6:17-19 KJV)*** Here Apostle Paul recommended the following: Those who are rich that they should be humble, not high minded, trust in God and not in the material riches that are uncertain; and they should live for God; they should enjoy what God give them, based on the statement that ***“who giveth us richly all things to enjoy”***, and they should do good, to be rich in good works, ready to distribute and communicate the material things that they have to those who are in need, and with such they are storing for

themselves good foundation against the time to come that with such attitude they are securing the future and they will be able to hold on eternal life.

“21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” (Matthew 6:21 KJV) Jesus what He means here is that where your heart is, there will be your treasure. It means what you have of material treasures and possessions will be directed to what you like and what you love. To put your treasure in Heaven then you need to love Heaven, to love God and to love the Word of God and to love His commands. Our mind should be in the same mind of God so we will know how to keep our treasures in Heaven. Now we will go further into the Scripture to find out how we can make treasures in Heaven.

1. We must work so we can have income so we can translate that into Heavenly treasure: “Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.” (Ephesians 4:28 KJV) Every person who follow God need to work and labor doing what is good so he will not live on or take advantage of other peoples’ work, and he can spend on himself and can finally help others.

2. We must understand that we need to provide for ourselves: “And let our's also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.” (Titus 3:14 KJV)

3. We must understand that we need to enjoy the work of our hands but in a Godly way: “There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God.” (Ecclesiastes 2:24 KJV)

4. We must understand that we need to provide for our families: “But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel” (1 Timothy 5:8 KJV) We need to provide not only food but also discipline and impart the fear of God.

5. We must understand that we should not be in debt and we need to work out to pay all our debts: “Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.” (Romans 13:8 KJV)

6. We must understand that we need to give what is belongs to God: As the following:-

A. Our first fruit: “Thou shalt not delay to offer the first of thy ripe fruits, and of thy liquors: the firstborn of thy sons shalt thou give unto me.” (Exodus 22:29 KJV) The first fruit applied to all the products of whatever man reproduces it belongs to God from fruit, vegetables, animals, cars, machines, etc. To make it simple to you those who are working with a salary, they need to give their first salary to God. Subsequently every year you give your first month salary to God. If you don’t have regular salary, then calculate your income for the whole year and divided by twelve month and give one month to God. There are people who have some other calculations but finally it will end up equal to the above formula which is a fair formula. There is more detailed teaching about the firstfruit, and if you have any question about that you can contact me to discuss or study the sermon titled ‘Giving the Firstfruits’.

“Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast: it is mine.” (Exodus 13:2 KJV) The first born of our children belong to God and we need to redeem them paying the value of them; according to the Bible is 5 shekels which now can be of the value of 200 dollars.

The firstfruits are supposed to be given to the priests, and now today to the pastor of the church who care for the church and the work of God, **“And the first of all the firstfruits of all things, and every oblation of all, of every sort of your oblations, shall be the priest's: ye shall also give unto the priest the first of your dough, that he may cause the blessing to rest in thine house.” (Ezekiel 44:30 KJV)** When we give the firstfruits to God we are causing the blessings of God to fall on our homes. **“9 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: 10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.” (Proverbs 3:9-10)**

B. The tithes: **“10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.” (Malachi 3:10 KJV)** It is easy to calculate the tithes by giving ten percent of our income. *** When we don't tithe we are robbing God as we read here, “8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.” (Malachi 3:8) * When we don't tithe we make ourselves vulnerable to the devourer, to satan and its work with the pestilences that will attack and destroy the fruit of our work, “11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.” (Malachi 3:11 KJV) What Jesus said in Matthew 6:19-20 about thieves, moth and rust, will be allowed in our lives when we fail to tithe our income.**

The tithes supposed to be given to the Levites and for us today to the full time workers in the church. The tithes and the firstfruits are two different entities and not one. About the Levites who were receiving the tithes they were tithing it and giving the tenth of it to the priests. **“37 And that we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and the tithes of our ground unto the Levites, that the same Levites might have the tithes in all the cities of our tillage. 38 And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes: and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers, into the treasure house. 39 For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.” (Nehemiah 10:37-39 KJV)** **For all what we receive we need to give tithes and firstfruits.**

C. Our vows and our various offerings. God love the cheerful giver as we read here, **“6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:6-7 KJV)** We need to give all of that with a cheerful heart, because God love the cheerful giver, so His blessings will continue and we will have treasures in Heaven and get hold on eternal life.

7. We must understand that we need to give to the poor and help those who are in need: And we had spoken the guidelines about that in other messages. **Giving to the poor and needy is also giving to what belongs to God. In fact giving to the poor is lending to God, “He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.” (Proverbs 19:17 KJV)** God will pay us good when we are in need as we care for those who are in need.

8. We must understand that we need to save for the future to come: We need to save twenty percent or one fifth of our income and not to touch it but to keep it for the future. This is come from the advice of Joseph, who has the Spirit of God, to Pharaoh the King of Egypt in teaching him how to face the coming famine, **“33 Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt. 34 Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years. 35 And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up corn under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. 36 And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine.” (Genesis 41:33-36 KJV)** To do that we need to do the followings:

I. Use free resources without spending money, “1 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.” (Isaiah 55:1 KJV)

II. Don't spend money on unnecessary things, “2 Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.” (Isaiah 55:2 KJV) **We spend on our needs and not on our wants.**

III. Discipline yourself and don't waste or throw away, following the example and the teaching of Jesus who asked His disciples to collect what was left over after the miracle that he did in multiplying the bread, **“12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. 13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.” (John 6:12-13)**

My dear and beloved: *** Accept the teaching of the Word of God and be willing to pass through suffering and learn to discipline yourself to control your expenses so you can save and you can use what God give to you to invest and to support the work of God. * Commit yourself and put your heart in these commands of God so you can make treasures not only on earth but above all in Heaven.** Please be free to contact me if you have a question or you need further verification. Let us pray.

My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that teaches me how to manage my financial life and how to make treasures in Heaven.

Repent and renounce your sins; renounce the lack of hard work, being in debts, non willing to pay your debts, the lack of tithing and putting God first, the lack of wise

spending, the lack of giving to the poor, the lack of saving and the lack of a cheerful heart and non awareness and the indifference to have treasures in Heaven, dishonesty, hording, taking advantage of others and being not rich in good deeds. Lord I repent and renounce the following sins _____.

Lord I commit myself to apply what I learned in this message into my life. I commit myself to work hard, to tithe my income and give the firstfruits and the various offerings to you. Lord I commit myself to budget well, to help the poor and needy and to keep the one fifth of my income for saving. Lord I commit myself to be a blessing to others so that I can store treasures in Heaven. Lord as I commit myself to obey your Word, open the windows of heaven and pour out so much blessing, and prevent the devourer that will not take the fruit from my life and enable me to have treasure in Heaven and everlasting life.

Lord thank you for my brethren and sisters who repented of their sins and committed their lives to obey your Word and apply them in their lives. Lord bless them and protect them and rebuke all the devourer from their lives and enable them to have treasures in Heaven. Lord help them to continue to live their lives for you and let them be rich in good deeds and be blessings to others.

Lord bless us as a church as we commit ourselves to live according to your Word and your will. Lord sustain us in our perseverance in applying your Word in our lives. Lord enable us always to preach and teach your Word so people will hear, have chance to repent and amend their ways. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need to go and evangelize and reach new people, and make new disciples and train more workers to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with us all in Jesus' name, Amen.

Lessons from the sermon of Jesus on the mountain Part 89. How to manage your financial life. Matthew 6:19-21. 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Ephesians 4:28. Titus 3:14. Ecclesiastes 2:24. 1 Timothy 5:8. Romans 13:8. Exodus 22:29. Exodus 13:2. Ezekiel 44:30. Proverbs 3:9-10. Malachi 3:10, 8, 11. Nehemiah 10:37-39. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7. Proverbs 19:17. Genesis 41:33-36. Isaiah 55:1-2. John 6:12-13.

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