

## **STEWARDSHIP IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY – LESSON 4 “ATTITUDES”**

### **COLOSSIANS 3:1-3; 1 CORINTHIANS 4:2; MATTHEW 6:19-33; 1 TIMOTHY 6:6-10**

---

#### **REVIEW:**

Over the past few weeks we have been talking about stewardship. Of course, when we talk about stewardship, we are talking about being faithful stewards of our time, our talents, and our treasures. As believers, redeemed by the blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:18-19) we belong to HIM (1 Corinthians 6:20) and all that we do should bring HIM glory (1 Corinthians 10:31). As Children of God, if we could get hold of this concept of biblical stewardship in light of eternity it could, should and no doubt, would transform our lives! **Jonathon Edwards**, the great Puritan preacher, often spoke of heaven. He said:

*It becomes us to spend this life only as a journey toward heaven ... to which we should subordinate all other concerns of life. Why should we labor for or set our hearts on anything else, but that which is our proper end and true happiness?*

In one of his resolutions he wrote: *“I am resolved, to endeavor to obtain for myself as much happiness, in the other world, as I possibly can.”*

#### **Over the past few weeks we considered the following points:**

1. As believers we are redeemed by the blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:18-19)
2. As believers we belong to HIM (1 Corinthians 6:15-20)
3. As believers all that we do should bring HIM glory (1 Corinthians 10:31).
4. As believers we are to be faithful stewards of all that He has entrusted into our care (1 Corinthians 4:2)

**As children of God, who are living in light of eternity, it is vital that we have the right attitude about our treasures! It really is a matter of our attitude. Let’s consider two attitudes:**

#### **1) The Wrong Attitudes about our Treasures**

*1Tim. 6:9-10 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.*

For the **love of money** is the root of all evil: which while some **coveted after**, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows

- *There is nothing inherently wrong with money and possessions*
- *The problem with money comes not from the money, but from our attitude about.*
- *Let’s see what can happen when we have the wrong attitude about the money and possessions we have*

### a) The Wrong attitude about them can keep you from serving God

**Matt. 6:19-24** Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. **Ye cannot serve God and mammon.**

- Most people don't serve God because they have put importance on something other than God.
- If you put your importance on money you cannot serve God.
- The desire for money over God is usually because we put the importance on this life over eternal life.

### b) The wrong attitude about money brings many sorrows

**1Tim. 6:6** But godliness with **contentment** is great gain.

**Pro 10:22** The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no **sorrow** with it.

Money cannot buy you peace, contentment and the important things in life. Think about the things people are willing to give up or neglect for the pursuit of riches or career

- marriage
- family
- relationships
- health

### Pondering Points:

- Think about the things in life that have no value but are valuable to you.
- Trusting in money to bring these things is the surest way to misery. It was never designed to give you that.
- One of the leading causes of divorce is disagreement about money.

### Bible illustrations:

- Gehazi
- Achan
- Ananias and Saphria
- Judas
- Demas

### c) The wrong attitude about money & possessions keeps us from many blessings

**Pro 11:24-25** There is that scattereth, and yet **increaseth**; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

**2 Cor. 9:6-7** But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also **bountifully**. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

\*God cannot bless a stingy man, and I'm not just talking about giving to the church

\*The more we give the more God can bless us

\*Just the act of killing our greed and selfishness can bring blessings.

\*Problems are a result of disobedience

### d) The Wrong Attitude about Money Is This: Everything I Have Is Mine

**Psa 24:1** The earth is **the LORD's**, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

**Psa 50:10-11** For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof.

**Job 41:11** Who hath prevented me, that I should repay him? whatsoever is under the whole heaven **is mine**.

**1Cor 6:19-20** What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

- Most of us have made a God of our own imagination
- The God of the Bible owns everything, including you.

## 2) The Right Attitudes about Our Treasures

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

### a) Everything I have was given me from God

### b) If God gave me everything, I ought to give it back to Him

Illus ... Pineapple story

### c) Giving of my treasures keeps me from being selfish