

# ***“Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is”***

Acts 28:30

July 17, 2016

**INTRO:**      **VIDEO – “No Turning Back”**

**CONTEXT:**      Paul’s in a Roman prison...  
He’s an “*ambassador in chains*” - Eph. 6:20

**TEXT:**                      **Acts 28:30**

*And he stayed two full years  
in his own rented quarters  
(at his own expense)  
and was welcoming all  
who came to him...*

**T/S:**      We spent the last 4 weeks focusing on some of  
**WHAT** Paul did for those 2 years (writing  
Philippians, Ephesians, Philemon & Colossians)...

**Today...** we will look at **HOW** Paul was able to do what he did for those 2 years...

**NOT** by way of his *“procedures”* but rather, by way of his *“provisions”*

**BIG IDEA:** You desperately need to understand the biblical relationship between the “ME,” Messiah, Money & Mission.  
**(Read: 2 Timothy 3:16-17 & John 14:15)**

**T/S:** The Bible & Jesus have much to say about money...

## **PREVIEW:**

1. **Biblical PASSION**
2. **Biblical PARADIGMS**
3. **Biblical PERSPECTIVES**
4. **Biblical PRIORITIES**
5. **Biblical PROVISION**
6. **Biblical PHONIES**
7. **Biblical PURPOSE**
8. **Biblical PURITY**
9. **Biblical PRAGMATICS**
10. **Biblical POWER**

**T/S:**

# **1. Biblical PASSION**

**\*\*\* We began with: “No Turning Back!” \*\*\***

# **2. Biblical PARADIGMS**

**VIDEO: “Money”**

**Hebrews 13:5**

*Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."*

# **3. Biblical PERSPECTIVES**

**VIDEO: “Money Rant”**

**Illustration: Isma & the \$1,000 life saving gift**

## 4. Biblical PRIORITIES

**VIDEO:** “God & Money – Who Rules Your Heart?”

To those who say: “I can’t afford to tithe...”

**Proverbs 23:4**

*Don't wear yourself out to get rich; stop giving your attention to it.*

## 5. Biblical PROVISION

**VIDEO:** “Biblical Look @ Tithing”

**Read Malachi...** *“robbing from God...”*

## 6. Biblical PHONIES

**VIDEO:** “The Skinny on Tithing”

**Read Acts 5...** (Ananias & Sapphira – **ouch!**)

## 7. Biblical PURPOSE

**VIDEO: “Sacrificial Giving”**

**2 Corinthians 9:7**

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

- \*\*\* This is NOT an excuse to not tithe...**
- \*\*\* This is a heart calibrating verse...**
- \*\*\* Right-hearted giving is the point!**

## 8. Biblical PURITY

**VIDEO: “First Fruits”**

**FYI... Proverbs speaks of “first fruits” 22X**

**Read Haggai... a scathing rebuke with grace**

## 9. Biblical PRAGMATICS

**VIDEO: “Dave Ramseys”**

Tithing was before the Law...  
like work was before sin...

**BOTH** are **faith-building blessings...**  
**NOT punishment.**

**1 Timothy 6:10**

*For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.*

## 10. Biblical POWER

**VIDEO: “The Power of the Plate”**

**Acts 28:30 = Philippians 4:18-19** (cf. 2 Cor. 8)

*...I am amply supplied,  
now that I have received from Epaphroditus  
the gifts you sent.*

**Let us have the heart of Exodus 35-36...**

**Like Jesus, Paul & the N.T. Church...  
we're doing our Acts 1:8 best:**

### **Jerusalem: LOCAL**

- Sunday worship & equipping
- Mid-week Life Groups & equipping
- Stepping Stones (105 VBX) & weekly equip
- Choices Pregnancy Ctr. daily equipping
- Crossroads daily equipping
- Living Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve "in-service" Service
- Worship Team blitzes
- A.I.T.'s

### **Judea & Samaria: REGIONAL**

- St.J Vermont (now a new "local" as well)
  - \* Missionaries supported
  - \* Mustard Seed Soup Kitchen
  - \* Thrift Shop
  - \* 52 towns/villages of the NEK
- Baltimore
  - \* Graffiti Church
  - \* Helping Up Mission
  - \* Prayer walking & Community support
- NAMB (Annie Armstrong Easter offering)

## **Ends of the earth: GLOBAL**

- IMB (directly, Lottie Moon, & Co-op)
- Church planting in China (Dream & Erik)
- Moses & Ugandan family
- Brother CV & brothers/sisters in India
- Jonathan in Cheyselles & Ethiopia
- Dolomites in northern Italy

**CLOSE:**                      **What about YOU?**

**What do you want?**

*He who loves money will not be satisfied with money,  
nor he who loves wealth with his income;  
this also is vanity. – Ecc. 5:10*

**Don't ride on the backs of the obedient!**

I plead with you to read & respond to  
**John 14:15 & John 3:36**

**Let's Pray**

## Statistic: Jesus' Teachings on Money

Jesus talked much about money. **Sixteen of the thirty-eight parables were concerned with how to handle money and possessions.**

**In the Gospels, an amazing one out of ten verses (288 in all) deal directly with the subject of money.**

**The Bible offers 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but more than 2,000 verses on money and possessions.**

## **What Did Jesus Teach About Money? What Does The Bible Say About Money?**

May 19, 2015 by [Jack Wellman](#)

The Bible, just like Jesus, has a lot to say about money. What can we learn from Jesus and from Scripture about money?

### **Woe to the Rich**

Jesus always said things that were contrary to the ways of the world and looking at the ways of the world and that these ways of the world are not working very well, we need to seriously consider what Jesus taught about money. For one thing He said **“He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty”** (Luke 1:53). That seems just the opposite of the way the world seems to think.

## Jesus had a different attitude about money than most of us have saying:

**“Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?... O you of little faith... So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them”** - Matthew 6: 25, 31, 32

The “pagans” are those who are not born again and they seem to think that the world revolves around things like wealth and possessions but the fact is that instead of owning possessions, the possessions can own them.

What the world seeks is not what they should be seeking as once again

## **Jesus says:**

**“Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own”**

**- Matthew 6:33, 34**

## Money or God?

The church in the 1<sup>st</sup> century shared what they had with those who didn't have as we read in Acts 4:32, 34; **“No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had... There were no needy persons among them.”**

**There is a contest in the human passions between God and between money** and **Jesus flatly says:**

**“So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions”**  
**(Luke 14:33).**

**The young rich ruler** came to Jesus to see how he might receive eternal life but he falsely believed that he had kept all the commandments (Luke 18:18, 21a) so **Jesus tells him:**

**“If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”** But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving **(Luke 18:22-23a)** and he went away **“very sad, for he was extremely rich”** **(Luke 18:23b).**

## There's Nothing Wrong with Wealth

Some of Jesus' greatest supporters helped Him by their wealth so Jesus was not condemning those who had money but those which money had them. **Luke 8:1-3** records that "Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and **many others, who provided for them out of their means.**" Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus both had wealth and Joseph even allowed Jesus to be buried in the tomb for which had made for himself (Luke 23:50-53). **Many of the patriarchs were rich** like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob so wealth in itself is not evil **but as the Bible says "the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil" (1 Tim 6:10a)** but it isn't the root of "all" evil as some people assume. If not for money, there would be no missionary work, no evangelism, no support of the church's work for the homeless, no prison ministries and nursing home ministries but it is **because some have that "craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs" (1 Tim 6:10b).**

## Pursing Wealth

It seems that we all think we have arrived in life if we have a nice home, a nice car, plenty of money in the bank, and all of our bills paid off or paid before the money runs out at the end of the month but money can be its own worst enemy.

**Proverbs 15:27** says “The greedy bring ruin to their households, but the one who hates bribes will live” and “even though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them” (**Psalm 62:10**).

This is why Jesus said “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal” (**Matt 6:19**) rather “lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal” (**Matt 6:20**).

To know where your heart really is **Jesus said** it is “where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (**Matt 6:21**).

**Trying to serve two masters is impossible** because:

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

- **Matthew 6:24**

**Solomon wrote:**

**“People who work hard sleep well, whether they eat little or much. But the rich seldom get a good night’s sleep”**

**- Eccl 5:12**

## **Conclusion**

Your money can't buy another minute, it can't buy you happiness, or it can't buy you a clean heart or a clear conscience.

**You can say:**

**“I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”” But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God”**

**- Luke 2:18b-21**

**Isaiah asks**

**“Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food” (Isaiah 55:2)**

**“For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul”**

**- Mark 8:36-37**

The answer to that rhetorical question is nothing!

## **How Many Times Is Money Mentioned in the Bible?**

[By Shelley Moore](#)

Money is mentioned 140 times in the King James Version of the Bible. If we include the words gold, silver, wealth, riches, inheritance, debt, poverty, and related topics, it turns out that the Bible pays a great deal of attention to financial matters -- more than nearly any other subject.

## History

- The word "money" in the Bible refers to gold and silver, the two forms of currency used in that part of the world during Biblical times. Looking at the King James Version, the book also specifically mentions gold 417 times and silver 320 times.

Gold is referenced more often in the Bible than any other metal. It is mentioned already in the story of Adam and Eve in the second book of Genesis, verses 11-12, speaking of the land of Havilah "where there is gold; and the gold of that land is good."

Silver first appears in Genesis 13:2, telling of Abram's "riches of cattle, silver, and gold."

## Significance

- For an example, **financial matters are mentioned more often in the Bible than prayer, healing, and mercy.**
- The topic of **sin, however, is addressed more frequently than finances**, with even the specific word "sin" and variations on it appearing nearly 600 times!

## Features

- With all the discussion in this book about money, what does the Bible actually have to say about it? The New International Version will be used for all examples below.

The main theme advises against being too **attached to money**, and pointing out that wealth can be fleeting. The **Bible encourages trusting in God to provide rather than trying to build up and hoard large amounts of wealth.**

**Proverbs 23:4-5** states: "*Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the wisdom to show restraint. Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.*"

- **Hebrews 13:5** says, "*Keep your lives free from the love of money and learn to be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you.'*"

### Warning

- The Bible warns that the pursuit of money can cause problems in one's faith and in other areas of life.

**Ecclesiastes 5:10** notes, "*Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless.*"

In **Matthew 6:24**, Jesus says, "*No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.*"

**1 Timothy 6:10** states, "*For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*"

### Considerations

- The Bible states the importance of tithing (giving a tenth of one's income to charity) and sharing. Jesus advised giving away more than a tithe. He says in Luke 12:33, "Sell your possessions and give the money away to those in need."
- The followers of Jesus had a communal way of life. In **Acts 4:32-35**, we are told: "*All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had . . . There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.*"

## What were Jesus' teachings on money?

Jesus' teachings on money were a continual theme in his messages.

*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"*  
**(Matthew 6:19-21).**

“Then he said to them, *‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions’*  
**(Luke 12:15).**

*"‘No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.’ The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. He said to them, ‘You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight’”*  
**(Luke 16:13-15).**

**Jesus' Teaching on Money – He taught us not to worry**  
Cautioning us about the futility of worrying was part of Jesus' teachings on money.

*“So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own”*  
**(Matthew 6:31-33).**

*“Then Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds!’”*  
**(Luke 12:22-24).**

- [JesusCentral.com](http://JesusCentral.com)