

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES AND PERSONAL FINANCES

Accounting



Matthew 25:14-30

The parable of the talents

Romans 14:12 (LB)

“Yes, each of us will give an account of himself to God.”

Budgeting and Planning

Proverbs 22:3 (LB)

“A prudent man foresees the difficulties ahead and prepares for them; the simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences.”

Proverbs 24:3-4 (LB)

“Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts.”

Luke 12:16-21

The parable of the rich fool

I Cor. 16:1-2 (LB)

“Now here are the directions about the money you are collecting to send to the Christians in Jerusalem. On every Lord’s Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn. Don’t wait until I get there and then try to collect it all at once.”

Business Life

Deuteronomy 25:15 (LB)

“All who cheat with unjust weights and measurements are detestable to the Lord your God.”

Psalms 112:5 (RSV)

“It is well with the man who deals generously and lends, who conducts his affairs with justice.”

Proverbs 10:4 (LB)

“Lazy men are soon poor; hard workers get rich.”

Proverbs 11:1 (LB)

“The Lord hates cheating and delights in honesty.”

Proverbs 13:11 (LB)

“Wealth from gambling quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows.”

Proverbs 16:8 (LB)

“A little, gained honestly, is better than great wealth gotten by dishonest means.”

- Proverbs 24:10 (RSV) “If you faint in the day of adversity your strength is small.”
- Luke 16:10-11 (LB) “. . .for unless you are honest in small matters, you won’t be in large ones. If you cheat even a little, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities. And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?”
- Romans 12:17 (LB) “Never pay back evil for evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honest clear through.”

Contentment

- Luke 3:10-14 The preaching of John the Baptist
- II Cor. 6:10 (LB) “Our hearts ache, but at the same time we have the joy of the Lord. We are poor, but we give rich spiritual gifts to others. We own nothing, and yet we enjoy everything.”
- Phil. 4:11-13 (LB) “Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to get along happily whether I have much or little. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of contentment in every situation, whether it be a full stomach or hunger, plenty or want; for I can do everything God asks me to with the help of Christ who gives me the strength and power.”
- I Timothy 6:6-10 (LB) “Do you want to be truly rich? You already are if you are happy and good. After all, we didn’t bring any money with us when we came into the world, and we can’t carry away a single penny when we die. So we should be well satisfied without money if we have enough food and clothing. But people who long to be rich soon begin to do all kinds of wrong things to get money, things that hurt them and make them evil-minded and finally send them to hell itself. For the love of money is the first step towards all kinds of sin. Some people have even turned away from God because of their love for it, and as a result have pierced themselves with many sorrows.”

Cosigning Notes

Proverbs 11:15 (LB) “Be sure you know a person well before you vouch for his credit! Better refuse than suffer later.”

Debt

Psalm 37:21 (LB) “Evil men borrow and ‘cannot pay it back’! But the good man returns what he owes with some extra besides.”

Proverbs 3:27-28 (LB) “Don’t withhold repayment of your debts. Don’t say ‘some other time’, if you can pay now.”

Proverbs 22:7 (LB) “Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender.”

Romans 13:8 (RSV) “Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.”

Discipline

II Cor. 8:11 (LB) “Having started the ball rolling so enthusiastically, you should carry this project through to completion just as gladly, giving whatever you can out of whatever you have. Let your enthusiastic idea at the start be equaled by your realistic action now.”

Hebrews 12:11 (RSV) “For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant; later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.”

Facts

Proverbs 14:8 (LB) “The wise man looks ahead. The fool attempts to fool himself and won’t face facts.”

Proverbs 23:23 (LB) “Get the facts at any price, and hold on tightly to all the good sense you can get.”

Proverbs 27:23-24 (LB) “Riches can disappear fast. And the king’s crown doesn’t stay in his family forever - so watch your business interests closely. Know the state of your flocks and your herds.”

James 1:5 (RSV) “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives to all men generously and without reproaching, and it will be given him.”

Investments

Matthew 6:19-21 (RSV) “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

II Peter 3:10 (RSV) “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up.”

Needs

Matthew 6:25-33 Anxiety and God’s Kingdom

Prosperity

II Chron. 31:21 (RSV) “And every work that he undertook in the service of the house of God and in accordance with the law and the commandments, seeking his God, he did with all his heart, and prospered.”

Psalm 1:1-3 The happiness of the godly

Proverbs 10:22 (LB) “The Lord’s blessing is our greatest wealth. All our work adds nothing to it.”

Luke 6:38 (RSV) “Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For what measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

II Cor. 8:9 (LB) “You know how full of love and kindness our Lord Jesus was: though he was so very rich, yet to help you he became so very poor, so that by being poor he could make you rich.”

Savings

Proverbs 21:5 (LB) “Steady plodding brings prosperity; hasty speculation brings poverty.”

Proverbs 21:20 (LB) “The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets.”



Tithing and Giving

- Deuteronomy 14:23 (LB) “. . .the purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives.”
- Proverbs 3:9-10 (LB) “Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income, and he will fill your barns with wheat and barley and overflow your wine vats with the finest wines.”
- Malachi 3:8-10 (RSV) “Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How are we robbing thee?’ In your tithes and offerings. . . .Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.”
- Matthew 23:23 (LB) “Yes, woe upon you, Pharisees, and your other religious leaders - hypocrites! For you tithe down to the last mint leaf in your garden, but ignore the important things - justice and mercy and faith. Yes, you should tithe, but you shouldn’t leave the more important things undone.”
- II Cor. 8:13-14 (LB) “Of course, I don’t mean that those who receive your gifts should have an easy time of it at your expense, but you should divide with them. Right now you have plenty and can help them; then at some other time they can share with you when you need it. In this way each will have as much as he needs.”
- II Cor. 9:6-8 (LB) “But remember this - if you give little, you will get little. A farmer who plants just a few seeds will get only a small crop, but if he plants much he will reap much. Everyone must make up his own mind as to how much he should give. Don’t force anyone to give more than he really wants to for cheerful givers are the ones God prizes. God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more, so that there will not only be enough for your own needs, but plenty left over to give joyfully to others.”

