

PROVERBS SERIES TWELVE
TAKING THE FEAR OUT OF FINANCES (PART TWO)

Dr. Roger Barrier
Proverbs 22:7,23;24:27;6:6-8;30:7-9

This morning I want to finish the proverbial passages we began to examine last Sunday regarding *How To Take The Fear Out Of Finances*. God intends for us to partner with Him in all we do. This especially includes how we handle the resources He puts into our possession. It is a fearful thing to handle our finances alone. On the other hand, they are a thrill and a joy in when we partner up with God.

Oscar Wilde said, "When I was young, I used to think that money was the most important thing in life. Now that I am older, I know it is." Jesus wouldn't exactly agree with that statement; but He might come close. Sixteen of His thirty-eight parables were concerned with how to handle money and possessions. Jesus considered money and possessions important. He dealt with money matters because money matters.

Therefore we should not be surprised at the massive amount of advice and guidance found in Proverbs concerning this topic.

For those who were absent last week, please allow me to share with you the FOUNDATION STONES FOR A BIBLICAL FINANCIAL PLAN which God has outlined in the Scriptures.

1. *The top portion (10%) is immediately returned to God (Proverb 3:9-10; Malachi 3:6; and Luke 11:42).*
2. *Taxes are paid to the government (Matthew 22:21; and Romans 13:1-7).*
3. *Family needs are met (1 Timothy 5:8).*
4. *Debts on depreciating items are paid off (Psalm 37:21; and Romans 13:8).*
5. *Part of every pay check is saved to pay for future needs (Proverbs 6:6-8).*
6. *Faithful management yields a surplus that allows us to respond to the needs of others (2 Corinthians 8:14).*

We saw last Sunday that the initial way to take the fear out of finances is to surrender the first portion of our income voluntarily to God (Proverb 3:9-10). This morning we will examine several more key Proverbs which will help us take the fear out of dealing with our finances.

WE TAKE THE FEAR OUT OF FINANCES:

BY ALLOCATING OUR RESOURCES INSTEAD OF ATTEMPTING TO PAY FOR OUR DESIRES (Proverb 24:27).

BY CAREFULLY MONITORING THE CONDITION OF OUR FINANCES. IN OTHER WORDS, EVERYBODY NEEDS A BUDGET (Proverb 27:23)!

BY SAVING AND INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE (Proverbs 6:6-8; Proverb 21:20; 1 Timothy 5:8; and Genesis 41: 33-39).

AND BY EXPERIENCING THE BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF WEALTH: GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT (1 Timothy 6:6-8; and Proverbs 30:7-9).