

HOW TO BE WISE WITH YOUR WEALTH (Sermon Series on the Book of James #9)

Introduction: The root of all evil is the love of money.

TWO WRONG USES OF WEALTH: AVOID THESE!

#1. THE ACCUMULATION OF WEALTH: DON'T HOARD IT!

James 5:2-3 (NIV) "You have hoarded wealth in the last days..."

- Three ways
 1. Stock pile food.
 2. Collect clothes.
 3. Gather metals.

James 5: 2-3 (NIV) "Your wealth has rotted... moths have eaten your clothes... your gold and silver are corroded..."

- Result: whatever I accumulated will deteriorate!

#2. THE ALLOCATION OF WEALTH: DON'T WASTE IT!

James 5:5 (NIV) "You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence."

- Television productions: Life style of the rich and famous!

TWO RIGHT USES OF WEALTH: PRACTICE THESE!

#1. RIGHT ACCUMULATION: SAVE MONEY FAITHFULLY!

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

- Two keys to saving
 1. Learn to live on a margin.
 2. Learn contentment.
- Biblically, you do not save for your security.
- Three stewardship reasons to save.
 1. Prevents us from impulse buying.
 2. Allows us to help other people.
 3. Helps our money to work for us.

- How much money can I make as a Christian?
 1. As long as it doesn't hurt your health.
 2. As long as it doesn't hurt your family.
 3. As long as it doesn't hurt other people.
 4. As long as it doesn't hurt your Spiritual life.

#2. RIGHT ALLOCATION: SPEND MONEY WISELY!

Proverbs 21:5 (NIV) "The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty."

- Our yearning capacity exceeds our earning capacity.
- The key to allocation is a budget. (Planned spending)

Proverbs 27:23 (LB) "Riches can disappear fast...so watch your business interests closely."

CONCLUSION: GIVE MONEY GENEROUSLY!

Proverbs 11: 24-25 (NIV) "It is possible to give away and become richer! It is also possible to hold on too tightly and lose everything. Yes, the generous man shall be rich. By watering others, he waters himself."

Matthew 6:20 (NIV) "Store up for yourselves treasure in heaven."

- Invest in God's Word.
- Invest in people.

Corinthians 16:2(LB) "On every Sunday put aside something from what you have earned during the week and use it for the offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you to earn."