



God And Money – Study Guide

■ Main Theme

The topic of God and money has been widely debated, often polarizing the body of Christ. Some view money as inherently evil, while others consider wealth a sign of godliness. Scripture, however, offers clarity: money itself is neutral; it is the **love of money** that can lead to sin. God desires prosperity for His people, not necessarily wealth, but success and fulfillment in life according to His will.

True prosperity involves wisdom, stewardship, and generosity. Wealth may accompany wisdom and diligence, but it is not the ultimate measure of godliness. Jesus teaches that treasures should not be stored merely on earth but invested in eternal purposes through giving. The act of giving cultivates godliness, reflects God's nature, and ensures spiritual rewards.

Wealth should flow rather than stagnate; hoarding reduces our capacity to bless others, while giving amplifies our spiritual and practical impact. Ultimately, believers are called to earn wisely, save prudently, and give generously, aligning their financial habits with Kingdom principles.

■ Key Concepts

1. The Love of Money

- a. Misquoted: "Money is the root of all evil" → Scripture says **love of money is a root of evil** (1 Timothy 6:10)
- b. Manifestations: pride, greed, oppression, emotional pain, excessive work, sensual indulgence, and self-wounding.

2. Being Rich in God's Eyes

- a. Richness is relative; having more than basic necessities qualifies (Matthew 6:19-20).
- b. God's teachings on wealth apply to all, not just the wealthy elite.

3. Storing Treasures in Heaven

- a. Invest resources in eternal purposes through giving (Matthew 6:19-20, 2 Corinthians 9:10).
- b. Areas to give: needs of believers, widows and orphans, ministry workers, and the gospel.

4. Practical Steps for Godly Stewardship

- a. Seek wisdom before giving (James 1:5)
- b. Review expenses and possessions to free up resources
- c. Increase giving as income grows
- d. Evaluate purchases with Kingdom impact questions (John Wesley principle)

5. Giving Reflects God's Nature

- a. God gave His Son; believers reflect Him through generosity (1 Timothy 6:17-18).
- b. Giving ensures wealth flows in a manner that blesses others and stores eternal rewards.

■ Reflection Questions:

- What does prosperity mean according to Scripture, and how is it different from seeking riches?
- Can wisdom truly influence acquisition and use of wealth?
- List five (5) consequences of the love of money.
- How does Scripture define who is rich? How should this perspective influence our financial attitudes?
- What does Jesus mean by storing treasures in Heaven, and how can believers practically do this?
- Explain why giving is considered God-like and how it impacts spiritual growth.
- Identify at least three practical steps to optimize giving without causing personal financial hardship.
- How does hoarding wealth negatively affect spiritual and practical life?
- Reflect on the statement: "Earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can." How does this summarize biblical financial stewardship?
- Compassion changes the way you see people who are hurt or lost?