



VALUES?

"Financial Values—Handling Money Properly" Proverbs 3:9-15

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A basic principle of life is, "In all your ways acknowledge Him—(that is the Lord)." One of the ways is the way we handle money. We are taught in scripture to "honor the Lord with your wealth." But why should we, and how do we?

I. Why Should We Honor the Lord with Our Money?

"Honor" = "to esteem greatly, to worship."

A. Because of who the Lord is:

1. He is the maker of rich and poor. 22:2
2. He gives the ability to produce wealth. Deuteronomy 8:18
3. He makes your paths straight. 3:6

B. Because of what money is:

"Money" = "medium of exchange, measure of value."

1. Labor produces value in goods or services.
2. Money received is an exchange of value.
3. So our money is an extension of ourselves.
4. But money makes claims to deity.

II. How Should We Honor the Lord with Our Money?

A. In the way we accumulated it.

1. Honorable attitudes towards getting it.
 - a. Discernment in approach. 30:8-9
 - b. Diligence in work. 10:4
 - c. Discipline in administration. 13:11
2. Dishonorable attitudes towards getting it.
 - a. Lack of faith. 18:11
 - b. Lack of compassion. 22:16
 - c. Lack of restraint. 23:4-5
 - d. Lack of principle. 28:20, 22

B. In the way we administer it.

1. Establishing sound principles.
 - a. Don't buy what you can't afford. 23:5
 - b. Don't borrow what you can't repay. 22:7
 - c. Don't guarantee what you don't have. 6:1f
2. Maintaining healthy perspectives.
 - a. Money brings its own problems. 13:8
 - b. Money has its own limits.

"Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath." 11:4
 - c. Money can't buy the main things. 15:16; 22:1
3. Developing appropriate procedures.
 - a. Giving to the Lord.
 - b. Caring for the family.
 - c. Providing for the future 13:22
 - d. Sharing with the needy. 21:26b; 11:24-25

III. What Should We Change to Honor the Lord with Our Money?