



The Journey

Lesson #7


Money Part #1

Jim Hoffman



Money


We live in a time like none I've seen in my lifetime – a time when the danger of financial catastrophe is not only probable, but likely. What will happen to a people who have lived in luxury when it is all stripped away?





Money

“Our use of money and possessions is a decisive statement of our eternal values. Never have so many Christians believed the lie that their money and possessions are theirs to do with as they please.” Randy Alcorn





Money

“He who has God and everything has no more than he who has God alone.”

C. S. Lewis

“Jesus Christ said more about money than about any other single thing because, when it comes to a man’s real nature, money is of first importance. Money is an exact index to a man’s true character.”


Richard Halverson





Matt 19:23-26

23 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "I tell you the truth, it is very hard for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. 24 I'll say it again—it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!" 25 The disciples were astounded. "Then who in the world can be saved?" they asked. 26 Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible."





Matt 19:23-26

- ❑ It seems to me we have underestimated the impediment money is to salvation.
- ❑ It is not possible for a camel to go through the eye of a needle.
- ❑ The young man in the story was an obedient tithing Jew who probably also gave alms to the poor, but money was his god.





Does Money Affect Us?

- ❑ How we view and handle money says a lot about our spiritual condition:
 - ❑ Zacchaues
 - ❑ The widow and her mites.
 - ❑ The Rich Young Ruler
 - ❑ The Rich Fool and his barns





Does Money Affect Us?

- How affected are we by money?
- Who in the church serves on our boards and leadership positions? (usually the rich or usually the poor?)
- How often do we see a leader in one of our churches shabbily dressed and driving a junker?





Does Money Affect Us?


- What kind of danger are we in given that we live in the most affluent society the world has ever seen?
- The 'poor' in America are in the top 15% of the richest people in the world.
- It is not a question of whether we are affected by money, it is merely a question of to what degree.





Does Money Affect Us?

□ Mark 12:41 Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. 42 Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins. 43 Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. 44 For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on."





Does Money Affect Us?

- ❑ Jesus sat near enough to the collection box to see who was giving what.
- ❑ It seems like he thought it was his business to know who was giving what.
- ❑ What we give matters and what we keep matters even more.





Perspective


“We must realize that many of the things our society considers to be at the heart of financial planning (such things as insurance, the stock market, and retirement, for instance) never existed before the modern era and still don’t exist in much of the world. That doesn’t mean they’re wrong—only that they are secondary.” Randy Alcorn





Perspective

“A friend who edited a Christian magazine in Kenya for years told me that most financial material coming from the United States, Christian as well as secular, is irrelevant to most Africans, because so much of our American economic structure is exclusive to our isolated segment of twenty-first century Western civilization. We can talk all day about what we consider the great financial issues of our time without ever touching upon the timeless financial principles that the Bible considers important.” Randy Alcorn





Questions

