

THE PURPOSE AND SUCCESS FACTORS OF WEALTH

- Dr Stephen Smith

Matthew 6:19-34

The subject is not just money, but wealth!

God operates in _____ and the _____ of God are defined by seasons. Each season announces a _____ and brings a certain _____ from the heart of God to the church on the earth. That emphasis brings with it a certain _____ to become the _____ to articulate the things that God wants to say to the church. When this happens, we refer to that as _____ which is Christ's doctrine.

Apostolic Perspective on Wealth:

This teaching is **NOT about how we are going to come into our personal breakthrough!** But it is _____" _____" where the river of wealth is flowing.

⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds, ⁵ [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasoning's and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ, ⁶being in readiness to punish every disobedience, when your own submission and obedience [as a church] are fully secured and complete.

2 Corinthians 10:4-6

Apostles are sent by God with _____ – implements, spear, instruments and mechanisms. Methodologies of apostles is to address _____ locked up in the mind of God's people.

Paul uses 3 powerful descriptors to highlight what the enemy uses to confront the mind:

- _____,
- _____ (fortresses built by the enemy),
- _____ (perceptions, thoughts unformed that linger in the mind).

A Review of The *Identity, Composition and Function* of Humankind:

- Who is man and why was he created? **Genesis 1:26-28** man was created to represent God in a physical form – the _____ of God.
- Primarily and relationally God and man was created to relate to each another as _____
- Man was created **Spirit, Soul, and Body.**

The order in which these three (*Identity, Composition and Function*) distinctively relate to each other determined the wellbeing and prosperity of man.

The Influence of Mammon Among the Family of God – The Commercialization of Christianity:

- Believers need to be taught how to become _____ channels.
- To accomplish this, we need a _____ of existing unbiblical financial structures.
- Religion devolved into the commercialization of the offerings.
- Preaching has devolved into a skilful culture of deceitfully using Gods Word.

How Do We “Please” God?

- Know who we are – the _____.
- Accurately represent our _____ in this world.
- Our view of creation: everything was created **for us** and **not us for the things** created.
- Keep His Commandments.
- **Shift in Mentality or View** of our existence in the earth – from _____ to _____.
- Adopt the Disposition: **Acts 20:35**, *it is more blessed to give than to receive.*

THE PURPOSE OF WEALTH

Not he who has much is rich, but he who gives much - Erich Fromm.

People first, then money, then things - Suzé Orman.

Covenant!

And beware lest you say in your [mind and] heart, my power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.

But you shall [earnestly] remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18

Vs.

Therefore, if you have not been faithful in the [case of] unrighteous mammon (deceitful riches, money, possessions), who will entrust to you the true riches?

Luke 16:11 (Amplified)

What are the two main causes of stress in most of the working people’s lives? It is a problem with _____ and _____.

There are people who have money and there are people who are rich - Coco Chanel.

A Special “Tunic”

And Israel loved Joseph more than all his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a tunic reaching to the soles of his feet.

Genesis 37:3

From the day of your creation you were sheer perfection...and then imperfection-evil! -was detected in you. In much buying and selling you turned violent, you sinned! I threw you, disgraced, off the mountain of God. I threw you out-you, the anointed angel-cherub. No more strolling among the gems of fire for you!

Ezekiel 28:15-16 (Message)

When Jesus was tempted on the mountain, Jesus didn't oppose Satan regarding the statement that all the kingdoms and glory of the world belongs to him. **Jesus only said:** *...worship the Lord your God and Him alone!*

How could believers, God's sons in this business world, survive this earthly kingdom and be successful? Can this world be redeemed according to God's plan?

I believe there is an _____ who is a mighty source that is waiting to be released to build God's kingdom.

JOSEPH'S SUCCESS

- **Joseph Was Prosperous Because God _____ Him.**

Genesis 45:7: *And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.*

Apostolic marketplace believers must be sure of God's unique calling on them.

- **Joseph Prospered Because _____.**

Jesus says in John 14:6 *Jesus said to him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but by Me.*

It is when we become part of Jesus that real faith, vision and courage are deposited in our spirit.

- **Joseph Prospered Because _____ Was in Him.**

The result of this was favour and wisdom. Good understanding gives favour (**Prov. 13:15**).

Pharaoh said to his servants in Genesis 41:38: *Can we find any man like this, in whom the Spirit of God is?*

- **Joseph Prospered Because He Had _____.**

Joseph answer Pharaoh in Genesis 41:16 *Not I. God shall answer the welfare of Pharaoh.*

Before he became responsible for the prosperity of Egypt, he already proved himself in prison. He also proved himself to be a good learner and a dedicated servant. He was willing to do what needed to be done in excellence.

He who deals with a lazy hand becomes poor; but the hand of the hard worker makes rich.

Proverbs 10:4

It isn't big prosperous corporations or big government departments that will eventually bring about God's purpose, **but people that are called of God!**

Success comes when Marketplace Apostles fulfil their calling as “Josephs” in Egypt” and allow God to do His work.

Believing businessmen are the new apostolic pioneers and ministers of a new paradigm for the church.

Kingdom distribution permits us to express natural, internal traits and strengths constant with who we have become in Christ.

MANAGE YOUR MONEY RESPONSIBLY AND MAKE A DECISION TO BE A DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL

Earn as much as you can, save as much as you can, give as much as you can - John Wesley.

1. Put the Value of _____ in Perspective

- Is my attention occupied by material things?
- Am I jealous of others?
- Do I attach my personal value to possessions?
- Do I believe that money makes me happy?
- Do I continually want more?

If you get your attitude towards money in order, it will help you to get just about every other aspect of your life in order - Billy Graham.

Materialism is an attitude. Materialism isn't about _____ – it is an _____.

2. Recognize Your _____.

- **Learning**

You should not try short cuts toward financial gain; by doing that, you can miss your actual life goal.

- **Earn (income)**

If you are on track with your life goal, if you live out your calling and you do it in excellence, you will most probably have a good income.

- **Giving back**

If you worked hard and planned carefully, you can enter the most rewarding phase of your life and focus on giving back to others.

3. Reduce Your Debt

4. Get Your Financial Formula in Order

The difference between rich and poor people is: *The rich invest their money and spend what is left. The poor spend their money and invest what is left.*