

BIBLICAL MONEY MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES:

1. God, the owner of everything, is the source
2. Set up a plan = a budget
3. Good financial stewardship includes
 - a) giving
 - b) saving
4. Keep out of debt
5. Do not co-sign for another's loan
6. Avoid impulse or indulgence purchases
7. Work hard
8. Learn to be content
(1 Chr 29:11-12; Pr 21:5a; Lk 6:38; 1 Ti 6:18; Pr 21:20; 22:7; 17:18; 22:26-27; Lk 12:15; Pr 21:5b; 14:23; Phi 4:11; Heb 13:5)

1. Giving in the Old Testament

- Israel was commanded to bring their tithes and offerings to the temple
- including the first and best of their crops and livestock
- these tithes were to support the Levites and the priests who received no portion of land
 - the Levites served in the tabernacle
 - the priests could devote themselves to the law of the LORD
- the Israelites were also to bring free-will offerings as the Lord had blessed them
(De 12:5-6; Num 18:21; 2 Chron 31:4-6; De 16:10-11)

2. Although Jesus, in the gospels, talked more about possessions and money than about any other subject, He never taught tithing nor did He command it
3. Acts, the Epistles and Revelation are silent on tithing (Hebrews 7 mentions it, but only in the context of the OT Levitical priesthood)
4. New Covenant giving has its example in
 - a) God, who gave us His only Son
 - b) Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us
(Jn 3:16; Ro 8:32; 1 Jn 4:9; Gal 1:4, 2:20; Eph 5:2, 25; 1 Tim 2:6; Titus 2:14)
5. It is demonstrated and explained for us in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9
6. Christian giving is
 - the support of the saints
 - a favour, a grace → a privilege
 - a gracious work
 - the proof of the sincerity of our love
 - like Jesus who became poor that we might become rich
 - a ministry of service to the saints

7. Why are we to give?

- it is God's will
- so that there may be equality
 - the abundance of some becomes the supply for the suffering ones' need
- it is for the glory of the Lord Himself
- it will lead to God being praised and thanked
- it will strengthen brotherly love

8. How are we to give?

- joyfully, generously
- being careful to administer the gift so no one will be able to discredit – do the honourable thing in the sight of God and men
- with contagious zeal
- readiness, planning and preparation leads to cheerful giving
- NOT affected by covetousness
- NOT grudgingly or under compulsion
- in secret - NOT to be noticed or honoured by people

(1 Cor 16:1-4; Mt 6:1-4)