



**“My Life – God’s Canvas”**  
**January 29, 2006**  
**My Wealth Belongs to God 2**  
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Honor the LORD from your wealth, and from the first of all your produce; So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine. Proverbs 3:9,10

### **Three Christ Exalting Attitudes to Diminish the Lure of Money**

#### **1. Contentment**

For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. And if we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. 1 Timothy 6:7-8

Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,” so that we confidently say, “THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT SHALL MAN DO TO ME?” Hebrews 13:5-6

#### **2. Gratitude**

Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. Hebrews 13:15

See Romans 1:18-21

#### **3. Generosity**

A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed. Proverbs 11:25.

A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor. Proverbs 22:9

Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed. 1 Timothy 6:17-19

## Two Christ Exalting Habits to Lay Up Treasures in Heaven

### 1. Tithing

“Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, ‘How have we robbed Thee?’ In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you! Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this,” says the LORD of hosts, “if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows. Then I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it may not destroy the fruits of the ground; nor will your vine in the field cast its grapes,” says the LORD of hosts. Malachi 3:8-11

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others. Matthew 23:23

### 2. Voluntary, sacrificial giving

So I thought it necessary to urge the brethren that they would go on ahead to you and arrange beforehand your previously promised bountiful gift, that the same might be ready as a bountiful gift, and not affected by covetousness. Now this I say, he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully. Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed. 2 Corinthians 9:5-8

### For your LIFEGROUP

1. Read Philippians 4:11-13. What is Paul saying here? What do you learn about contentment? Tell a time when you had very little. Is it easier to live with little, or with much?
2. Snapshots of joyous giving. Exodus 36:2-7; 1 Chronicles 29:1-20; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5
3. Read Malachi 3:10; 2 Cor. 9:8; Philippians 4:19. What promises are connected to generous giving?
4. What is the message of 2 Corinthians 9:6?