

Principled Part 4: The Money Principle

*"Now this is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. You have **planted much**, but have **harvested little**. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it." This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways." Haggai 1:5-7 NIV*

Jesus talked about **money** twice as much as heaven and hell.

16 of the **38** parables of **Jesus** had to do with **money** and **possessions**.

There are over **500** verses about prayer and faith but over **2000** verses about **money** and **possessions**.

*"For where your **treasure** is, there your **heart** will be also." Matthew 6:21 NIV*

"If a person gets their attitude toward money straight, it will help straighten out almost every other area of their life." ~ Rev. Billy Graham

✓ Having more **money** will make me more **secure**.

*"The wealth of the rich is their fortified city; they **imagine** it a wall too high to scale." Proverbs 18:11 NIV*

*"Keep your lives free from the **love of money** and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "**The Lord is my helper**; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" Hebrews 13:5-6 NIV*

✓ The things I **own** define **who I am**.

*"Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not **measured** by how much you own." Luke 12:15 NLT*

*"Those who love money will never have enough. How absurd to think that wealth brings **true happiness!**" Ecclesiastes 5:10 NLT*

"Happy are they whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned. Happy is the person whom the Lord does not consider guilty." Romans 4:7-8 NCV

✓ My stuff **belongs to me**.

*"Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for **everything** in heaven and earth is yours. **Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom**; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you." 1 Chronicles 29:10-12 NIV*

*"No servant can serve **two masters**; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."
Luke 16:13 NKJV*

The #1 **money principle** in the Bible is **tithing**.

*"A **tenth** of all you produce... is the Lord's, and it is holy." Leviticus 27:30 TLB*

*"I the LORD do not change... Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?' "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "**In tithes and offerings**. You are under a curse— your whole nation— because you are robbing me." Malachi 3:6-9 NIV*

"Isn't tithing an **Old Testament law**?" Tithing communicates that **God is first**.

*"The **purpose of tithing** is to teach you to always **put God in first place** in your life."
Deuteronomy 14:23 LB*

*Jesus said, "What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to **tithe** even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. **You should tithe**, yes, but do not neglect the more important things." Matthew 23:23 NLT*

"I can't **afford** to tithe." **Tithing** is a test of our faith.

*"Bring the **whole tithe** into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." Malachi 3:10 NIV*

"The church doesn't **need my money**." Tithing allows the **church** to do the **work of the Lord**.

*"So two good things will result from this **ministry of giving**—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God. As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the **Good News of Christ**." 2 Corinthians 9:12-13 NLT*