



FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY

Biblical Lessons on Personal Finance

1

For **the love of money is the root of all evil**: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

—1 Timothy 6:10

2

SESSION I

PROSPER AND BE IN HEALTH

A Financial Health Message

3

WHY LISTEN TO ME?

- NOT a professional! (Not giving legal/tax advice, not selling anything.)
- Business major, math teacher.
- Master's degree from SAU, debt-free.
- Paid off house in 2 years.
- In 2015: Spent 24%, Gave 21%, Saved 55%. (And we had a baby!)
- In 2016: Spent 25%, Gave 26%, Saved 49%.
- I Ministry Salary, I Stay-at-Home-Mom
- No secret windfall!



4

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5



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“BEYOND THE TITHE”

6

QUIZ

7

I. I AM FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE AS LONG AS I DON'T SPEND MORE THAN WHAT I EARN EACH MONTH.

8

To **carefully reserve a portion of each week's wages**, and lay by a certain sum every week **which is not to be touched**, should be your rule.

—Letter 41, 1877.7

9

I have known a family receiving **twenty dollars a week** to spend every penny of this amount, while another family of the same size, receiving but **twelve dollars a week**, laid aside **one or two dollars a week**, managing to do this by refraining from purchasing things which seemed to be necessary but which could be dispensed with.

—Adventist Home, 396.3

10

Earnings	Savings	Savings Rate
\$12	\$2	17%
\$24,000	\$4,080	17%
\$48,000	\$8,160	17%
\$80,000	\$13,600	17%

11

I have known a family receiving **\$80,000** to spend every penny of this amount, while another family of the same size, receiving but **\$48,000**, laid aside **\$8,000 a year**, managing to do this by refraining from purchasing **gadgets, cars, clothes, music, entertainment, toys, etc.** which seemed to be necessary but which could be dispensed with.

—Adventist Home, 396.3 (Paraphrased)

12

“Living within my means”

It means not spending more than what I earn now AND saving enough so I won't need to spend more than what I earn in the future either!

13

2. WE CAN NEVER BE TOO LIBERAL IN GIVING TO GOD'S CALL FOR MEANS.

14

You are in danger of being **too liberal** when there is a call for means. **Selfishness** has something to do even with this. **You wish to be thought of as having plenty of means at your command**, and you also wish not to be behind others when there is a demand for means. This failing is not to be condemned, unless you are liberal **before you are just**, and do not quickly settle your just debts.

—Letter 41, 1877.10

15

Giving more to God doesn't absolve us of failings in other areas of our Christian experience.

This is salvation by works.

16

3. HAVING INSURANCE DEMONSTRATES A LACK OF FAITH IN GOD'S PROVIDENCE.

17

We do not find in Mother's writings any condemnation of the practice of insuring our property against fire. Mother has always regarded this as very different from life insurance. **She keeps her own buildings properly insured, and has encouraged some of our brethren having the charge of our institutions, to do the same.**

—W.C. White letter, August 5, 1912

18

I wish you would see that the house at Healdsburg is insured. Talk to Lucinda about it. I feel anxious in regard to it.

–Letter 17, 1880 to W.C. White

Brother Palmer says he has written to you in regard to the insurance. If the house is not insured, it should be at once.

–Letter 40, 1884 to W.C. White

19

4. INVESTING IS ONLY FOR
PEOPLE WHO MAKE LOTS OF
MONEY.

20

You might have had, **even from your limited wages**, means in reserve for any demand. It might have been **invested in a lot of land which would be increasing in value**. But for a young man to live up to the last dollar he earns shows a great lack of calculation and discernment.

—Selected Messages, Vol. 2, 330.3

21

5. GOD HELPS THOSE WHO
HELP THEMSELVES.

22

[After Paul explains that an Angel told him that no one would perish in the storm.]

At these words hope revived. Passengers and crew roused from their apathy, and put forth all possible exertion to save their lives. There was much yet to be done. **Every effort within their power must be put forth to avert destruction; for God helps those only who help themselves.**

—Sketches from the Life of Paul, 267.1

23

Prayer and effort, effort and prayer, will be the business of your life. **You must pray as though the efficiency and praise were all due to God, and labor as though duty were all your own.** If you want power you may have it, as it is awaiting your draft upon it. Only believe in God, take Him at His word, act by faith, and blessings will come.

-Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 4, 538.2

24

You can train yourself to enjoy a healthful diet.
The Lord helps those who seek to help themselves; but when men will not take special pains to **follow out the mind and will of God**, how can he work with them? Let us act our part, working out our salvation with fear and trembling...

—Review and Herald, February 10, 1910, par. 14

25

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest
prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

—3 John 2

26

8 LAWS OF FINANCIAL HEALTH

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. Ownership | 5. Debt |
| 2. Earning | 6. Investing/Saving |
| 3. Giving | 7. Legacy |
| 4. Spending | 8. Trust in God |

27

I. OWNERSHIP

God's the Owner

28

The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness,
the world and those who dwell therein.

– Psalm 24:1

If I were hungry, I would not tell you; for **the
world is Mine**, and all its fullness.

– Psalm 50:12

29

Some think that only a portion of their means is the Lord's. When they have set apart a portion for religious and charitable purposes, they regard the remainder as their own, to be used as they see fit. But in this they mistake. **All we possess is the Lord's**, and we are accountable to Him for the use we make of it.

– Christ's Object Lessons, 351.2

30

GOD OWNS EVERYTHING

- We are simply managers of what He has placed within our care.
- We are accountable to God for how we handle His money.

31

2. EARNING

Must work for food

32

The desire to accumulate wealth is an original affection of our nature, **implanted there by our Heavenly Father** for noble ends.

–Review and Herald, March 1, 1887 Par. 9

Money is to be earned by labor. Every youth should be trained to habits of industry.

–Testimonies for the Church, Vol 6, 452.4

33

And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

– Genesis 2:15

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground;

– Genesis 3:19

34

For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that **if any would not work, neither should he eat.**

– 2 Thessalonians 3:10

35

Money which comes to the young with but **little effort** on their part **will not be valued.** Some have to obtain money by hard work and privation, but **how much safer are those youth who know just where their spending money comes from,** who know what their clothing and food costs, and what it takes to purchase a home!

–Adventist Home, 387.1

36

There is such a thing as giving **unwise help to our children**. Those who **work their way through college** appreciate their advantages more than those who are provided with them at someone else's expense, for they know their cost. We must not carry our children until they become **helpless burdens**.

—Adventist Home, 387.3

37

3. GIVING

Reminder: We aren't the owners

38

They [the Servants of God] should not allow the amount given to God to be **disproportionately small** when **compared** with that appropriated to **their own use.**

–Counsels on Stewardship, 326.2

39

Brethren, awake from your life of selfishness, and act like consistent Christians. The Lord requires you to economize your means and **let every dollar not needed for your comfort flow into the treasury.**

–Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, 156.1

40

4. SPENDING

Do you really need it?

41

My brethren and sisters, you must be willing to be converted yourselves in order to practice the self-denial of Christ. Dress plainly but neatly. **Spend as little as possible upon yourselves.**

—Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 9, 131.1

42

He also calls upon those of mature age to stop when they are examining **a gold watch or chain or some expensive article of furniture** and ask themselves the question: **Would it be right** to expend so large an amount for that which we could do without or when a cheaper article would serve our purpose just as well?

–Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 4, 511.2

43

God does not require that His people should deprive themselves of that which is really necessary for their **health and comfort**, but He does not approve of **wantonness and extravagance and display**.

–Adventist Home, 379.3

44

We cannot make **the heart purer or holier** by clothing the body in sackcloth or **depriving the home** of all that ministers to comfort, taste, or convenience.

—Adventist Home, 379.2

45

5. DEBT

Get Out and Stay Out!

46

The borrower is **servant** to the lender.

—Proverbs 22:7

Be determined never to incur another debt. Deny yourself a thousand things rather than run in debt. This has been the curse of your life, getting into debt. **Avoid it as you would the smallpox.**

—Adventist Home 393.4

47

6. INVESTING/SAVING

Provide for the future

48

Had you and your wife understood it to be **a duty** that God enjoined upon you, to deny your taste and your desires, and **make provision for the future**, instead of living merely for the present, you could now have had a competency, and your family have had the comforts of life.

—Counsels on Stewardship, 250.2

49

Every week you should lay by in some secure place **five or ten dollars** not to be used up unless in case of sickness. **With economy you may place something at interest.** With wise management you can save something after paying your debts. (1884)

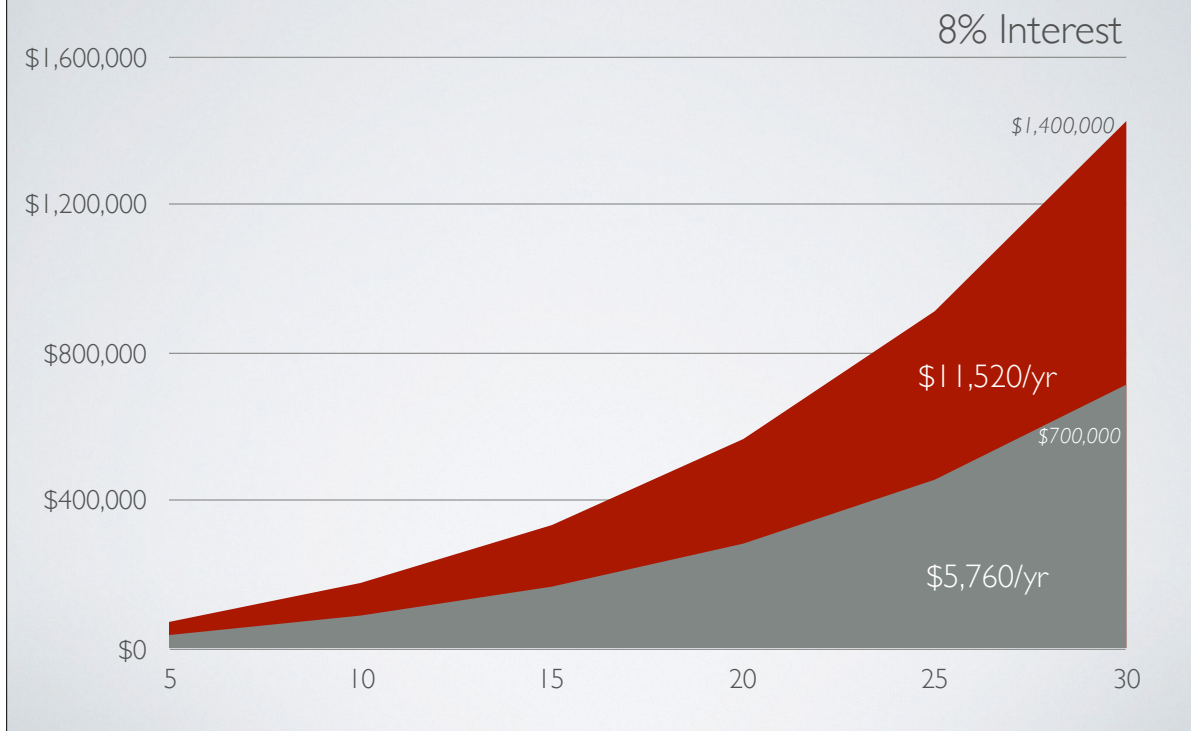
—Adventist Home, 396.2

50

Year	Per Week	Per Month	Per Year
1884	\$5	\$20	\$240
	\$10	\$40	\$480

Year	Per Week	Per Month	Per Year
1884	\$5	\$20	\$240
	\$10	\$40	\$480
2017	\$120	\$480	\$5,760
	\$240	\$960	\$11,520

PLACE SOMETHING AT INTEREST



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7. LEGACY

Making a lasting difference

54

It is utter folly to defer to make a preparation for the future life until nearly the last hour of the present life. It is also **a great mistake to defer to answer the claims of God for liberality to His cause** until the time comes when you are to shift your stewardship upon others.

—Counsels on Stewardship, 325.1

55

The **very best legacy** which parents can leave their children is a **knowledge of useful labor and the example of a life characterized by disinterested benevolence**. By such a life they show the true value of money, that it is only to be appreciated for the good that it will accomplish in relieving their own wants and the necessities of others, and in advancing the cause of God.

—Adventist Home, 390.1

56

8. TRUST IN GOD

He owns everything, remember?

57

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Ownership

Debt

Earning

Investing

Giving

Legacy

Spending

Trust in God

O E G S D I L T

G O L D I E S T

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G O D L I E S T

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USE OUR MONEY IN THE

G O D L I E S T

WAY, NOT TO HAVE THE

G O L D I E S T

GRAVE

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