

Investing Your Money

2 Corinthians 8:1-9

1. Is Jesus Lord of our money?

Martin Luther – 3 stages in conversion:-

- a. Heart – deciding to follow Jesus
- b. Mind – getting our thinking right – Rom.12:2
- c. Wallet – spending, saving, giving etc.

God is the best financial adviser – over 2,300 references to money & possessions in the Bible

2. Which is the best bank? – Mt.6:19,20

- a. Bank of Earth – you can lose the investment
- b. Bank of Heaven – 100% safe investment

Where you invest:-

1. Shows your desire – Mt.6:21
2. Can help you see things clearly – Mt.6:22,23
3. Shows who you worship – Mt.6:24

Some Bible truths about money

- a. Money is not bad – 1Thess.4:11,12; Pr.10:4; Eph.4:28
- b. Money can be used well – Lk.16:9; Mt.6:20; 1Tim.6:17-19
- c. Money can be dangerous – Mt.6:24; Lk.12:15-21; 1Tim.6:10; Col.3:5 – it can deceive, destroy & dominate

Trusting Money or God

MONEY

Fear – losing it; future

Desire – get more

Envy – wealthy

Guilt – giving/spending

Controlled by

1. What will give me a good life now?

2. What will secure my future?

GOD

Faith – secure

Desire – honour God

Contentment

Joy-giving/spending

Freedom

3. Making deposits in the Bank of Heaven – Mt.6:19; Phil.4:16,17; 1Tim.6:17-19

We make deposits as we:-

- a. Give, to care for others – Phil.4:16,17; Acts11:27-30; 1Cor.16:1-4
- b. Give to the spread of the Gospel – local church and world mission

Examples of deposits made

- a. God investing in us – 2 Cor. 8:9
- b. Macedonian Christians – 2 Cor.8:1-5
 - 1. God's grace shown – v.1
 - 2. Poor but gave generously – v.2
 - 3. Gave more than anyone expected – v.3
 - 4. Gave joyfully, eagerly, voluntarily – v.2-4
 - 5. Worshipped God in their giving – v.4,5
- c. Poor widow – Lk.21:1-4

4. Responding to God's grace

- a. Have you received God's grace – his investment in you; forgiveness & eternal life?
- b. Does your relationship with money:-
 1. Display the Gospel of grace
 2. Show your trust & worship of God
 3. Display that Jesus is Lord of your life
 4. Express a rich, deep local & world Christian fellowship.