

Breakthrough believers.

Jesus spoke so much about money I will be doing a series soon on Kingdom finance.

Our challenge is that we don't realise that the world of finance is not there for our benefit. Every advertisement and promotion tells us that the banking or rather finance world is there as a service to us but it's not.

Money is being manipulated.

There are powerful groups of people around the world that manipulate money. There has been much written about a one world order with a single monetary system where people are controlled through an electronic chip. I first saw prophetic insight on this from a well known Australian preacher/researcher/prophet, Barry Smith.

Rev 13: .¹⁶ He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, ¹⁷ so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.

This finance system and the social structure (humanism) have so permeated our society that we find ourselves controlled from a very young economic age by a banking (money) system. The word *system* comes from Rome from the word sewer.

There is a "New world Order" that is currently being established, this order is primary about money and control.

What I want to illustrate today is that there is a money order in the world that is bent on impoverishing and controlling your life. The Kingdom of God is an alternate order entirely and works on diametrically opposed principles.

See video clip.

Jesus said we are *not able* to serve two masters;

*Matt 6²⁴ 'None is able to serve two lords, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to the one, and despise the other; ye are **not able to serve God and Mammon.** Youngs Literal Trans.*

Which kingdom do we serve financially?

Money and security.

Money is actually connected to our emotions. When we have money we have a feeling of contentment and well being. When we have had a bad experience shopping helps to restore a feeling of control and the new products help to "comfort" us for a while.

Matt 6¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

What are you basing the security of your life upon?

Peace can only come from a life surrendered to Christ. This is not abdication, that will lead you onto the streets.

Peace comes from a spiritual revelation, "Christ is my provider" – a truth → repentance → faith → life response
*John 16³³ "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world **you will have trouble.** But take heart! **I have overcome the world.**"*

Money and love.

*1 John 3¹⁷ If anyone has **material possessions** and sees his brother in need but has **no pity on him**, how can the love of God be in him? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but **with actions and in truth.***

Money represents a sacrifice of self.

One of the first acts of the early church was to sell land, houses, goods and possessions etc, lay the money at the apostles feet and there was no need among them. (Acts 2:45; Acts 4:32-35)

Do we have to be forced by a crisis to be more generous or do we respond to the love of Christ in us to reach out and love?

I have learnt that it is easier to be spontaneous in this regard and not ask all the philosophical questions before I give. I used to argue myself in circles and usually ended up losing the argument after I have left the scene of the need, too late to do something about it.

Money and faith.

Times like this test our faith. Faith is the ability to believe and trust the Lord in the time of testing, we don't need faith for the good times. No muscle develops when there is no resistance.

*James 1² Consider it **pure joy**, my brothers, **whenever you face trials of many kinds**,³ because you know that **the testing of your faith** develops perseverance.⁴ **Perseverance must finish its work** so that you may be **mature and complete, not lacking anything**.⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.⁶ But when he asks, he must **believe and not doubt**, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.⁷ That man should not think he will **receive anything from the Lord**;⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.*

It's Gods purpose to bless us – no, I don't see that!!
It is His purpose to bless us so that we can be a blessing.

*Deut 8¹⁸ But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who **gives you the ability to produce wealth**, and so **confirms his covenant**, which he swore to your forefathers.....*

*Gen 12² “I will make you into a great nation and **I will bless you**; I will make your name great, and **you will be a blessing**.³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and **all peoples on earth will be blessed through you**.” (Abramic Covenant)*

It is like a father who has two sons. The one son is away at varsity when the father buys 2 cars, one for each son. He says to the son who is at home, “I have given you two cars, one for you and one for your brother. When he comes home give him his car on my behalf please”. The son at home then becomes the custodian of the blessing. The son at home takes the car, sells it and spends the money. What do you think the dad will do with the disobedient son? Certainly not entrust wealth to Him. (Matt 21:33-45)

Everything on this earth is entrusted to us. We have the custodianship of the blessing for others

Some practical steps.

1. Know what you are spending.
2. Draw up a budget.
3. Take stock of you assets and debts
4. Pay off debt as quickly as possible.
5. Let debtors know what is happening with you.
6. Cut where you can.
7. Give what you can.
8. Save what you can.
9. Work where you can, even God worked.