

# WRONG ATTITUDE TOWARDS MONEY

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A man's attitude determines how he attends to a matter. Attitude has to do with the way man thinks. Many people have wrong attitude towards money. It is the wrong attitude that produces the wrong character in money matters, and this mars the believer's testimonies. It takes the right attitude to money to please God and man in money matters.

## IMPORTANT TRUTHS

- Money is a medium of exchange.
- Money is a servant and never intended to be a master over anyone.

*Eccl 10:19*

*19 A feast is made for laughter, and wine makes life merry, but money is the answer for everything.*

*NIV*

*Eccl 7:12*

*12 Wisdom is a shelter as money is a shelter, but the advantage of knowledge is this: that wisdom preserves the life of its possessor.*

*NIV*

- Money is a reward for a service rendered.
- Money procures the necessities of life. Money seeks to control the possessor.
- Abundance of money has the ability to produce pride in a man

*Luke 12:15*

*15 Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."*

*NIV*

*Luke 16:10-15*

*10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. 11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? 12 And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own? 13 "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money." 14 The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. 15 He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight.*

*NIV*

*1 Tim 6:6-10*

*6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9*

*People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*

*NIV.*

To appear before God clean and acceptable in money matters, you need to take a good look at your attitude to money and see what needs to be eliminated and what needs to be cultivated. The wrong attitude has to be deleted and the right and positive attitude has to be developed. Apostle Paul taught that wrong attitude towards money has made many to fall away from the faith.

### **GET RID OF THESE IN YOUR LIFE**

The following are wrong attitudes and lifestyles that must be dropped or deleted from one's life. Carefully examine yourself and sincerely call a spade a spade, and do the right thing.

#### **1. Love of money**

The rich and the poor can love money. It is not an exclusive of the rich. When money seems to dominate and control a man, that is evidence that love of money exists. When the pursuit of money takes a man's zeal to serve God, such that he hardly finds time for God, and his conscience does not prick him that he is not doing what he used to do for God, that is a proof of love of money. Love of money exists when a man denies his faith or breaks a known commandment because of monetary gain.

#### **2. Covetousness**

Covetousness is strong desire for what belongs to another. A lack of satisfaction or contentment with what one has to the point of desiring to have what belongs to another.

#### **3. Greed**

Greed is strong desire for more wealth, especially for more than is right or reasonable. Greed is a lack of contentment and it can make a man to do many bad things.

#### **4. Stinginess towards God, men of God, family, friends and the needy.**

A stingy person is one who is unwilling to spend or give, or spends or gives unwillingly.

A stingy person is a Miser. A **Miser** is one who loves wealth for its own sake and spends as little as possible.

#### **5. Acquisitiveness**

Acquisitiveness is the habit of acquiring and gathering wealth and property with unwillingness to spend, or share it.

#### **6. Stealing from God and man**

Refusal to tithe is stealing. And when you steal you bring a curse on your finances.

*Mal 3:8-12*

*8 "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. 9 You are under a curse-the whole nation of you-because you are robbing me. 10*

*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 you will not have room enough for it. 11 I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty. 12 "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty.*

*NIV*

*Zech 5:1-4*

*5:1 I looked again-and there before me was a flying scroll! 2 He asked me, "What do you see?" I answered, "I see a flying scroll, thirty feet long and fifteen feet wide." 3 And he said to me, "This is the curse that is going out over the whole land; for according to what it says on one side, every thief will be banished, and according to what it says on the other, everyone who swears falsely will be banished. 4 The LORD Almighty declares, `I will send it out, and it will enter the house of the thief and the house of him who swears falsely by my name. It will remain in his house and destroy it, both its timbers and its stones.'"*

*NIV*

All kinds of stealing are evil and counter productive.

*Prov 20:17*

*17 Food gained by fraud tastes sweet to a man, but he ends up with a mouth full of gravel.*

*NIV*

## **7. Fraud**

Fraud is cheating or deceitfully taking into your possession what was not given to you. It is cleverly manipulating documents or a person to gain money without being discovered.

*Prov 20:17*

*17 Food gained by fraud tastes sweet to a man, but he ends up with a mouth full of gravel.*

*NIV*

*Prov 21:6*

*6 A fortune made by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor and a deadly snare.*

*NIV*

## **8. Colluding with customers to cheat their companies or bosses**

Recepting the wrong amount for purchases made in order to keep a customer or make extra money is evil. It is called **aiding and abetting**. Helping to over-invoice a product or contract to make something extra is evil in the site of God. Never join somebody to commit a crime. You will share in the punishment at the end of the day.

## **9. Lack of accountability**

Inability to report back to an overseeing authority is lack of accountability. Lack of accountability is inability to give satisfactory report on financial transactions, and refusal to

return the balance of the money given to you to work or execute a project or make some purchases.

Falsifying account records to cover up an expenditure made by you or another is evil.

### **CONCLUSION**

All of these vices that have been discussed should be eliminated from your life to stand before God clean without condemnation. Wrong attitude to money causes these vices to develop in and manifest in a man. If your thoughts and perception of money is right, based on the word of God, I am sure these evils cannot take root in you. See money and money making the way God sees it and none of these evils will be found in you again.

Money (bank notes and coins) is only a means of exchange. The real money is who you are and what you contain. Your potentials, abilities, skills, training and gifts is real money, that when used to render a service, it brings cash into your pocket. Money is not everything in life, but answers to every material thing that man needs in life. Money cannot and will never buy peace with God, eternal life or a place in heaven. So, God must remain your main pursuit and priority – He must be number one and not money or wealth. Never pursue money to the detriment of your relationship with God. Always give God priority.

Money is a servant, but seeks worship from its possessor. Never allow your heart to be taken over by money. Do not make money your God. Love Jesus Christ and make Him number one in your life forever.

Remember, Jesus is coming for a church without spot, wrinkle or blemish. Every evil provokes a judgment. If you want blessings and not curses or obstacles, then run from wrong attitude towards money and its manifestations as discussed.

### **SUCCESS TIT-BITS**

- 1. Begging is not honorable.**
- 2. Tradition is the mother of stagnation.**
- 3. Change does not take time, it takes truth.**
- 4. It is a certified vision that guarantees distinction.**
- 5. Purpose is powerless without planning. Planning empowers purpose, programming (timing) empowers planning and manpower empowers the programme. Man is powered by diligence; diligence is powered by perseverance, while perseverance is powered by gratitude.**
- 6. If you will not be grateful, you will be sorrowful.**
- 7. Think positive, speak positive, and live positive, and you will harvest positive results.**
- 8. The road to success is full of challenges and obstacles which you must overcome to attain success.**

9. **The strength and the power of the devil are based on deception. To give in to deception is to give in to the devil**
10. **No success is unaccompanied with problems. Opportunities usually come as problems.**
11. **Programme yourself not to be discouraged when faced with challenges.**
12. **Laziness will stop the blessings of God in your life. Be diligent.**
13. **Every smiling is preceded by crying.**
14. **Give your job or business all it takes, and you will get all it contains. If you invest in it, you will partake of it.**
15. **Work precedes reward.**
16. **He that has power with God must have power with men.**
17. **The larger your heart for God, the larger your destiny in God.**
18. **Vision is the unfolding of divine plan.**
19. **Kingdom exploits is tied to validity of vision.**

### **RENEWING THE MIND**

1. **Worry drains energy and weaken a man spiritually, mentally and physically.**
2. **Winning starts with beginning.**
3. **Every tough time is a phase which must pass away.**
4. **No problem is a dead - end.**
5. **Failure is a set back and not defeat. You only become defeated when you throw in the towel.**
6. **Every problem takes time to grow. Don't give it time, but deal with it.**
7. **Your potentials are released when you face challenges.**
8. **You never succeed going along, but you succeed going against.**
9. **What seems to be your breaking point is your breakthrough point.**
10. **All mountains are movable only by faith.**

### **WISDOM FOR ASSOCIATION**

1. **You must know yourself, to know who to relate with.**
2. **Keep away from the Jezebels who seek to overshadow you and run your life.**
3. **Samson's undoing was his unholy alliance with Delilah. Do not throw away your inheritance and life in the name of relationship.**
4. **Go where you will be honoured and not where you will be tolerated.**
5. **Where do people place your friends and associates? Where they place them is where they place you. What they call them is what they will call you.**
6. **Do not hesitate to break a relationship that is not supposed to be in the first place, or the negative impart is more than the benefits.**
7. **"I like being alone because I don't want to be hurt" is a statement that reveals immaturity.**
8. **Your associates impart you for good or for bad**
9. **In every relationship, give room for offence. It is human to offend and be offended.**

- 10. Your vision in life determines who your associates will be. Keep that in mind.**
- 11. Your associates to a large extent determine the flow of your life.**