

## WEALTH THROUGH GOD'S EYES

**1 Kings 17:8-16; 1 Corinthians 10:26**

**Luke 11:11-13; Matthew 6:24-33**

**Introduction:** Why do Christians not like for their pastor to speak about giving, about money? Is it that we are tied to what we have too much? Would you give something you needed in order to help someone else? Are you willing to accept the fact that you don't really own anything but God owns everything? If directed by the Lord to give away all your possessions, would you do it? That's what Jesus told a young rich ruler once.

### I. IS IT SAFE TO TRUST GOD FOR OUR NEEDS?

1. Christians have a choice - to trust God or trust one's own self and the world.
  - We cannot serve both, but must depend upon, trust one or the other.
2. God is obligated to care for those who trust Him.
  - Salvation through Jesus, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, gifts to equip one to serve, eternal life.
  - Nature is dependent upon God.
  - We give good things, but how much more can God and will God give to those trusting Him?
3. Was it a cruel thing for Elijah to take the widow's last bit of food? In our eyes and the eyes of the world - YES!
  - Yet what did her faith and trust in God being able to provide bring about? A miracle of endless oil and flour.
  - The widow, in a sense was looking at things through God's eyes.
4. What did Jesus do with the five loaves and three fish? He fed 5,000. Could you have done that?
  - Jesus trusted God to supply what was needed to feed all those people.
5. The widow gave her last bit of money, a "mite" a 1/2 cent. Yet she trusted God to meet her needs.

### II. GOD SEES HIS CHILDREN AS STEWARDS

1. A "steward" is one who cares for the possessions of another. He/she is not the owner, but the caretaker.
2. Can any Christian really deny God's ownership of him/her being?
3. Jesus told the story of a rich man and a beggar named "Lazarus."
  - The rich man was blinded by his wealth and seemed to never see Lazarus who was at his gate daily.
  - Do you remember ever seeing someone in need but didn't help?
4. **1 John 3:16-18** is a reminder that Christians cannot go through life blinded to the needs of others.
  - A proof that God's love is in the Christian is in the way the Christian uses material things.

5. God expects His Children (Christians) to distribute the goods of the world he/she has, among those who do not have, for all things belong to God anyhow.

### **III. WHAT DOES THE CHRISTIAN REALLY HAVE OF HIS/HER OWN?**

1. In Liabilities:

- He/she is a sinner and has a deceitful and wicked heart.
- He/she has broken God's laws repeatedly.
- He/she has no righteousness at all within him/herself.

2. In Assets:

- He/she has Grace, greater than all his/her sins.
- He/she has Mercy, which brings pardon for his/her sins.
- He/she has the Treasure of the indwelling Holy Spirit.
- He/she has Eternal inheritance awaiting him/her.

3. In Entrustment:

- Worldly goods which can be money, a house, a car, etc., whatever the world has.

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. It is natural to be anxious about what we call ours (things.)
2. Where there is no faith, God's power is not seen in one's life.
3. Any who look with man's eyes will never experience God's provision. Christians must see "wealth" the way God sees it.