The Ability to Make Wealth

Part 3

"17 You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." 18 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 ancestors, as it is today." (Deuteronomy 8:17-18.)

The importance of saving in our lives and to be good steward to what God had entrusted to us is required to be able to have and to make wealth so that we can share with others; those who are in need, and to bring the Gospel to other nations.

The Lord had called us to bless us and had called us to be a blessing to other nations. For this reason God had given us the spiritual gifts to spread the gospel, but the material things are important and in fact needed to bring the gospel. Therefore as we commit ourselves to be a good steward of what is entrusted to us then God's blessings will flow through us to other people whom God had put around us, or whom God bring to us, or bring us to them, and that will be ultimately the purpose of God.

In *Matthew 6:34* Jesus said, "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Here Jesus said, 'do not worry about tomorrow,' as long as you are good steward today of what had been entrusted to you. But if you are not good steward of what entrusted to you or you are not good in managing your life well in God's will then you really need to be worry about the future, even tomorrow. Many people who are not good steward of what God had blessed them with, they squander it, they do not save and they do not make wealth, then they really need and they are worried about tomorrow and their future.

Making wealth as we mentioned before is through working hard, being honest in your service, tithing your income and to offer to God what due to him from firstfruits and offering, spending wisely, using free resources, avoid unnecessary expenditure, and saving as much as you can to be used for God's purpose.

Why we need to save?

1- "The wealth of the rich is their fortified city, but poverty is the ruin of the poor." (Proverbs 10:15): So here your unwise spending and your non willingness to save will bring ruin into your lives. Some people they do not have in their mind to save, and they will spend all what they receive, and when they have emergency in their lives they will fall into poverty and they will be in need. When you do not have in your life the vocabulary of saving then you will be the victim of debt. God's word teaches about saving to spare you from being in debt. The wealth of the rich is their

fortified city; richness is a fortified city. As you are serving the Lord with your spiritual gift that is an asset to you, but if you have a material wealth so you can spend and pay for all the expenses of the ministry that you are doing, that will be great. If you add wealth to your spiritual gift then that will be more effective. It is not the money that will bring the gospel but The Holy Spirit uses material things to sustain those whom He uses to bring the gospel. And the Holy Spirit today teaches you to save and be good steward.

- 2- "The wealth of the wise is their crown, but the folly of fools yields folly." (Proverbs 14:24): The wealth of the wise is their crown; there is an asset for you to have wealth and the bible commends that as wisdom and thing pleasant to God. The bible wants us to act wisely in regard to money and need to make wealth out of it for a purpose. Abraham was rich, David was rich, Isaac was rich, Solomon was rich, and these riches were used for the glory of God. David collected large amount of treasures and kept them for his son Solomon to build the temple of God. So the wealth and the ability that God had given us to make wealth will be also used for God's purpose and for His glory-to build His church. But the folly of fools yields folly; those who does not have saving, or the vocabulary of saving and had squander what God had given them they are fool, sinner and wicked, because in their style of life, their reluctant to make wealth, they are opposing and contradicting the purpose of God to be good steward in order for God's plan to come true in their lives.
- 3- "A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous." (Proverbs 13:22): You need to save so that your children will have something for their future. David saved for his son Solomon to build the temple of God. You need to leave an inheritance to your children, the next generation, to bring the gospel, God's plan and purpose to others. As we endeavour to save, our children and disciples will continue the work of God that we started, and they will continue the mission that we continued until the Lord will come and take us. So what we are saving today is for the next generation who will lead the church and who will manage the fields, because they need material things to continue the mission. Therefore we save and we teach them to save.
- 4- "The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor." (Proverbs 22:9): We need to save so we can share with the poor. If we are poor then we cannot share. It is not shameful to be poor, but it is shameful and sinful if you don't know how to come out from poverty, manage your life according to God's will, and learn to save and make wealth.

How we save money or how we keep money? Some people they think that only those who have a big income, big jobs, those who have professions or high salary can save money or

have wealth. That is not correct. You need to know that even those who have low income job, and low profession can still save money. Because the principle of saving is the following:

- A- Hard work.
- B- Honest work.
- C- Tithing correctly, and giving what is due to God.
- D- Wise spending.
- E- Disciplining yourself, using free resources and spending only on the necessary and important things.
- F- Live in holiness.
- G- Save and be persistent to save.

"Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow." (Proverbs 13:11) We learn from this proverb to live in holiness and to gather money, not much by much, but little by little, and little by little will become much.

"Whoever loves pleasure will become poor; whoever loves wine and olive oil will never be rich." (Proverbs 21:17) Few more things here makes you poor, pleasure, sinful life, wasting money, drinking and ingestion wine, enjoying worldliness, eating oily, fatty and expensive food, meat and fat; all those will bring you to poverty. Observe in your life the following: "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." (Romans 14:17) The Kingdom of God is praying and fasting not feasting or parties. Now a day churches becoming restaurants. After every service food, birthday parties, unnecessarily parties, and all these are expenses. For example, if in every week you have a party, then how much money you will be spending on food, dress, preparations and gifts; that all cost money, and if you multiply it for one year then how much? For example if you spend 50 dollars for ten people, for food in a small party in a week then per year will be around 2600 dollar, then per ten years will be 26000 dollars. Simple thing that cause little money, on a long term will cost you much. Instead of saving that amount of money you may end up into debt. Poverty will come into your life because you did not save this amount of money to be used later on for God's glory.

You must know how to discipline yourself. There are many things that you do unnecessarily that will hinder you from saving; doing parties and celebrations, eating in the restaurants, giving gifts, using taxes and expensive transports, not using public transport and buses, eating readymade food and not cooking with your hands, eating expensive food, buying things you do not need, traveling and sightseeing tours and holidaying, fines and penalties; these are all heavy expenses and money consumers and things hinder you from saving. They are the very things that take the saving away. The point here that if it is not in your mind to save and you are not taking it seriously then you will not be able to save. For example, put it in your mind, that 'I do not need to practice giving gift because I do not have money to go in this direction.' Another example, 'I practice not to eat in Restaurant so that my money will not go in this direction, so I can have more money so I can share; I can give bible, I can reach the lost, I can help in certain emergencies those who are in need.'

"One who oppresses the poor to increase his wealth and one who gives gifts to the rich both come to poverty." (Proverbs 22:16) So here poverty comes, First, by oppressing the poor, take advantage of them, not paying to them their wages, squeezing them, are all reason to bring you to poverty. Second, is when you give gift to rich people. You may ask, 'Why I will become poor when I give gift to the rich?' The answer for you is this: 'Why you are giving gift to rich people?' Do you want to win their favour and approval? Do you want to be friend with them or please them so they can do to you what you like? In this way you do not trust God but you trust people. Some people they do not trust God but they trust their rich friends. Some people they use their money to make friends so later on to help them, but that is cheating and non trusting God.' Proverbs 19:4 says, "4 Wealth attracts many friends, but even the closest friend of the poor person deserts them." If you use your money to make friends in order for you to push your agenda, then just be sure that your money will go away. "6 Many curry favor with a ruler, and everyone is the friend of one who gives gifts." (Proverbs 19:6) Those who give gifts the people will be friend with them. Gifts, food, money, flower that you give to rich people to friend them, that will lead you to poverty because you did not save your money but you spend them in wrong purpose and direction.

My Dear and Beloved: You do not need to please people but you need to please God and follow the principle of stewardship, avoid unnecessarily expenses, avoid sin and worldliness, trusting God, discipline yourself in the way that God ordained in His word, and save some money that will help you to bring His word to the other part of the world, as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that you sent to me. Lord forgive me the following sins ________. I commit myself to live in line with the discipline of your word. Lord help me and guide me to start to arrange how to spend my income and live in accordance to your will so I can save and that money will be used for your glory, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.

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