

# FAST Lesson 3C: A Real Man leads with a Servant's Heart – Spending Money

John Kain, 2009

- I. God ultimately owns everything. He created all the resources we work with to build things, and he gives us the capabilities we use to produce things.
- II. People make things or grow things which other people want or need, and we purchase these goods and services with money. This enables us to “own things” – but we can't take any of these things with us when we die. So we own things only in a secondary sense, as a steward (somebody who manages somebody else's property).
- III. If we love money too much (more than God and more than people), then it will ultimately destroy us. If we acquire and use money wisely, it simply becomes a means of being a good steward. In other words, money is OK in God's eyes. The love of money is not OK, and it is foolish to attempt to get money through any unjust ways.
- IV. There are three appropriate purposes for money. The first is to support you and your family through frugal spending as well as wise saving and investing.
- V. The second purpose for money is to help those in need (paying your taxes, giving to the poor, sharing with others).
- VI. The third purpose of money is to invest in God's kingdom (giving to the local church and to other non-profit Christian organizations in ministry throughout the world, and financing your own ministry activities).

“Whoever loves money never has money enough; **whoever loves wealth is never satisfied** with his income. This too is meaningless.” (Ecclesiastes 5: 10)

“Like a partridge that hatches eggs it did not lay is the man who gains riches by unjust means. When his life is half gone, they will desert him, and in the end he will prove to be a fool.” (Jeremiah 17:11)

“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.” (1 Timothy 6:10)

“Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' “In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—the whole nation of you—because you are robbing me. **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. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit,” says the LORD Almighty. “Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the LORD Almighty.” (Malachi 3: 8-12)

**“If one of your countrymen becomes poor and is unable to support himself among you, help him** as you would an alien or a temporary resident, so he can continue to live among you. Do not take interest of any kind from him, but fear your God, so that your countryman may continue to live among you. You must not lend him money at interest or sell him food at a profit. I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan and to be your God.” (Leviticus 25: 35-38)