"Two Masters" 1 Chronicles 29:11 – 12 Pastor Mario Canedo

I will be teaching on the Biblical principles of money and what the Bible and our Lord has to say about it.

It really allows us to realize that there are two masters in life.

~ Which one will I serve?

Our Lord had a lot to say about money. And he addressed it for many reasons. But here are the top two reasons, which are the two points of our study.

- 1. How we handle our money influences our Fellowship with the Lord.
- 2. Possessions compete with our Lord for first place.

1 Chronicles 29:11-12

(NLT) ¹¹ Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O LORD, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things.

¹² Wealth and honor come from you alone, for you rule over everything. Power and might are in your hand, and <u>at your discretion</u> people are made great and given strength.

Isaiah 55:8

Stewardship begins and ends with the understanding that God is owner of all things.

Psalms 24:1

1. How we handle our money influences our Fellowship with the Lord.

Luke 16:10-13

Jesus equates how we handle our finances, our money, to the quality of our spiritual life.

This is shown to us in the parable of the talents.

Mathew 25:21

*** As we learn to be faithful with the money, possessions, time, and gifts & talents that our Lord has entrusted us with, we enter into the joy of our master. That is, a more intimate relationship with our Lord.

We can no longer look at it as our money, or our possessions. We already established that it all belongs to Him. In saying so, we are only "Stewards" of what He has entrusted us with.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

So we are servants, and stewards of Christ, and as such he entrusts us with the mysteries of God. But it is a requirement to be found trustworthy.

*** The Biblical Principal here is: "So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?"

Luke 16:1-3

So how are we to look at debt?

Proverbs 22:7 – "The rich rules over the poor, And the borrower becomes the lender's slave."

Deuteronomy 15:4-6 – 4 "However, there will be no poor among you, since the LORD will surely bless you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, 5 if only you listen obediently to the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all this commandment which I am commanding you today. 6 "For the LORD your God will bless you as He has promised you, and you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; and you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you.

Not only is debt slavery, but it is a curse.

Deuteronomy 28:43–45 – ⁴³ "The alien who is among you shall rise above you higher and higher, but you will go down lower and lower. ⁴⁴ He shall lend to you, but you will not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you will be the tail. ⁴⁵ So all these curses shall come on you and pursue you and overtake you until you are destroyed, because you would not obey the LORD your God by keeping His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you."

1 Corinthians 7:23 – You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men.

Luke 12:15 (New Living Translation) – ¹⁵ Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."

We need to learn to be content:

Hebrew 13:5-6

1 Timothy 6:6–8 – ⁶ But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. ⁷ For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. ⁸ If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

*** What great gain is there in being godly, if we are not content?

*** Contentment comes from knowing and loving the Lord. You can be rich or poor, even middle class and be content "In the Lord."

Psalms 37:21 – "The wicked borrows and does not pay back, But the righteous is gracious and gives."

Proverbs 17:18 – "A man <u>lacking in sense pledges</u> <u>And becomes guarantor</u> in the presence of his neighbor."

Proverbs 22: $26-27 - {}^{26}$ "Do not be among those who give pledges, Among those who become guarantors for debts. ²⁷ If you have nothing with which to pay, Why should he take your bed from under you?"

So what are we to do if we are in debt?

Proverbs 6:1-5

Proverbs 3:27-28

Ecclesiastes 5:10 – "He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. This too is vanity."

2. Possessions compete with our Lord for first place.

Luke 16:13 – "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other You cannot serve God and wealth."

We need to look at a couple of Scriptures just to reinforce the principle of "Ownership."

Deuteronomy 10:14 – "Behold, to the LORD your God <u>belong heaven</u> and <u>the highest heavens</u>, <u>the earth</u> and <u>all that is in it</u>."

Psalm 24:1 – "The earth is the LORD'S, and all it contains, The world, and those who dwell in it."

What does the Bible say about managing money?

The answer is found in one word – wisdom.

The Bible's consistent message on managing money is to be wise with what our Lord has entrusted us with.

Application:

- 1. What has the Lord taught you today?
- 2. There are two masters, two economies. But whom are you serving?
- 3. Are there changes you need to make?
- 4. Are there possessions that are competing with the Lord's place in your life?