

A GOOD INVESTMENT
ECCLESIASTES 5:10-20
STEPHEN HALEY

1. The Love of Money (V10-17)

- a. Danger of Desires and Affections (10-12)
 - i. Love of Money (10)
 - ii. Gain or Godliness? 1 Tim 6:3-11
 - iii. All kinds of evil 1 Tim 6:9-10
- b. Leads to the Danger of stockpiling/hoarding (13)
- c. Result: Vanity and meaningless (14-17)

2. The Value of Money (V18-20)

- a. Blessing that comes to enjoy with contentment a God-given gift. (Joy as a key mark whether a lot or little. Choose Joy!)
- b. Theologically and practically: How do we think about money rightly?
 - i. Righteous Wealthy, Righteous Poor, Unrighteous Wealthy, Unrighteous Poor
 - ii. Stewardship (Mt. 25:14-30)
 - iii. Contentment (1 Tim. 6:6-11)
 - iv. First Fruits (Tithe) / Generosity (2 Cor. 8-9, Prov 3:9-10)
 - v. Provide for members of own household (1 Tim 5:8)

- c. Christ: The greatest gift and the giver of all good gifts!
- d. For further Study (A small sampling): Deuteronomy 8:17-18. Psalm 24:1, 49:16-17. Proverbs: 17, 3:11, 6:1-11, 22:7-9, 28:18-27. Ecclesiastes. 11:2. Jeremiah. 22. Malachi 3:6-12. Matthew 6:1-4, 19-24. Mark 12:41-44. Luke 12:15, 16:1-13, 19:8-10. John 3:10-15. Acts 2:44-45, 4:33-37. 2 Corinthians 8-9. Hebrews 13:5
- e. Book recommendation: “The Treasure Principle” by Randy Alcorn.

Questions to dwell on:

- a. If you were to come up with a 1-2 sentence summary of how we are to see our finances biblically, what would it be? What key markers did you include? What did you not include?
- b. Here are six treasure principles keys (Randy Alcorn). What are your thoughts on them? What would it look like to live each of these out in your life. Where can this overflow in how you steward all God has given you [not **just** money, but also time, abilities, words, the material gifts he’s given you (i.e. Car, house), your body, etc.]?
 1. God Owns Everything. I’m his money manager. *We are the managers of the assets God has entrusted-not given- to us.*
 2. My heart always goes where I put God’s money. *Watch what happens when you reallocate your money from temporal things to eternal things.*
 3. Heaven, not earth, is my home. *We are citizens of a “better country, a heavenly one”*
 4. I should live not for the dot, but for the line. *From the dot (Our present life on earth) extends a line that goes on forever, which is eternity in heaven.*
 5. Giving is the only antidote to materialism. *Giving is a joyful surrender to a great person and a greater agenda. It dethrones me and exalts Him.*
 6. God prospers me not to raise my standard of living but to raise my standard of giving. *God gives us more money than we need so we can give-generously!*