

Money Matters



Money Matters

He who has God and everything has no more than he who has God alone.

-C.S. Lewis

Money is an exact index of a man's true character.

-Richard Halverson

Money Matters

Why is money so important?

What is money?

How does money matter for eternity?

Money Matters

Why is money so important?

* What does the Bible have to say about money?

-15% of Jesus' recorded words were on money!

-He said more about how we are to view and handle money and possessions than about any other single thing.

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Why is money so important?

* Money and Salvation:

1. Zacchaeus – Luke 19: 8-9

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house..."

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Why is money so important?

* Money and Salvation:

2. The Rich Young Ruler – Matt. 19: 21-22

Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

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Why is money so important?

* Money and Salvation:

3. John the Baptist – Luke 3: 10-14

"What should we do then?" the crowd asked. John answered, "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same." Tax collectors also came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?" "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them. Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely-be content with your pay."

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Why is money so important?

* Money and Salvation:

-Jesus calls us to take action that breaks the bondage of money and frees us to live under His lordship.
-There is a powerful relationship between our true spiritual condition and our attitude and actions concerning money.

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Why is money so important?

*The Story money tells:

-The Poor Widow – Mark 12: 41-42

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.

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Why is money so important?

*The Story money tells:

- What kind of example are we?
- God considers it His business, what we do with “our” money.
- Our stewardship of money becomes the story of our lives!

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What is money?

Money is one person's promise of goods or services, granted in return for actual goods or services. In a sense, money is no more than a widely recognized IOU. Realizing it's convenience, people consent to participate in an economic system in which money is the transferable object that makes it all possible. Of course, it's only the widespread participation of others in this same system that gives meaning to money. Without the mutual agreement that money means something, money means nothing. Because money has no inherent value, only ascribed value, money is not wealth. It merely symbolizes wealth.

-Randy Alcorn

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How does money matter for eternity?

- * Money is neutral.
 - Water and fire...
- * Money is also an index of our spiritual life.
 - “Riches...are morally neither good nor bad, but things indifferent which men may use either well or ill.”
 - Puritan William Ames

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How does money matter for eternity?

- * Money with a capital "M" is a jealous god that dethrones all others...
 - Money = terrible master
 - money = good servant
- * There's nothing inherently wrong with money but there's something desperately wrong with devotion to Money.

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How does money matter for eternity?

- * Wrong focus on money - 1 Tim. 6: 9-10
People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. 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.

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How does money matter for eternity?

- "Where riches hold the dominion of the heart, God has lost His authority."
- John Calvin

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How does money matter for eternity?

- * Right focus on money - Luke 16:9
I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

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How does money matter for eternity?

"Take this thing that is commonly used for evil and use it for good. Look at this worn currency; smell in it the foul purposes for which it was used – perhaps to buy drugs or sex or injustice. It may have once been stolen, perhaps even killed for. But now that it's in *your* hands, use it wisely and well; use it for eternal purposes."

-Randy Alcorn

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How does money matter for eternity?

- *How we use money is always of critical importance to our spiritual lives.
- *Money has a lasting impact on this world and the one to come!

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Discussion Questions?

- *How important is money to you? Why?

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Discussion Questions?

- *How does the Biblical perspective of money differ from the world's? How do you see money... more of a tool or as power?

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Discussion Questions?

* What are some things you can do to make sure your money matters for eternity? If you had to give an account tonight of how you've spent the resources God has given you thus far in life would you be worried or happy? Why?