## BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

Mat 25:14 "For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

19 "After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and **reckoneth** with them. 23 "His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; **thou hast been faithful over a few things**, **I will make thee ruler over many things**: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

2 Thes 3:6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, withdraw that ye yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. 7For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; 8Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: 9Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us. 10For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. 11For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

It's often been said, better to give "a hand up, than a hand out." The Apostle Paul preferred proper order. (v.6) He inferred that ministers should not expect others to constantly meet their needs. (v.8) If the church is not large enough to support a pastor full-time, then that pastor must find part-time work to support his family.

Eccl 10:18 By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through <u>idleness</u> of the hands the house droppeth through.

Psa 41:12 And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before thy face for ever.

Increase comes by living the Christian life with integrity.

Psa 7:8 ...judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity that is in me.

Paying our bills on time brings delight to the Lord.

Pro 3:27 Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. 28Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee.

To withhold wages or money when we have the money in hand is sin. A false set of scales brings unrighteous gains; these gains are acts of unrighteous. (Pro 11:1) The Word of God is clear. Integrity will preserve me. (Psa 25:21)

**Psa 25:21** Let **integrity and uprightness preserve me**; for I wait on thee.

Pro 11:1 A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.

**Psa 26:1** Judge me, O LORD; for **I have walked in mine integrity**: I have trusted also in the LORD; *therefore* **I shall not slide**.

Wise stewards spend wisely. A man who walks in integrity and wisdom will not slide.

**Pro 3:13** Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

Jas 3:17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

**1Cor 3:18** Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. 19For **the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God** 

Col 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

**Honour God with tithing**. The first fruits of increase belong to God.

Mal 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. 9Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. 10Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

**Gen 14:18** And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and **he was the priest of the most high God**. 19And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: 20And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. **And he gave him tithes of all**.

When we trully believe that God is the possessor of heaven and earth, we will not look so much to the arm of flesh to gain natural wealth. God is mindful of our personal needs, however, He also wants us to be obedient in tithes and offerings.

**Pro 11:24** There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and *there is* that withholdeth more than is meet, but *it tendeth* to poverty. 25**The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself** 

**Pro 15:27** He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.

Luk 12:21 "So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

**Luk 21:34** "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Luk 6:38 "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

John 6:26 Jesus answered them and said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled."

27 "Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed."

Anointing can come by association. If we associate ourselves with those who possess natural things, we will learn how to be naturally blessed. However, if we associate ourselves with anointed ministries we will learn to flow in the anointing.