

unCERTAINty – Surviving this Economic Storm
Faith-O-Nomics
March 28 & 29, 2009

☞ ☞ Why did Jesus spend so much time teaching about money??

Jesus understood that our hearts are captured by money!

- What's heaven like? A found treasure worth lots of money (*Matthew 13*)
- What's forgiveness like? A big money debt that's forgiven (*Matthew 18*)
- What's faithfulness? Your employer leaves you lots of money (*Matthew 24*)
- What's Satan like? A thief who breaks in at night to steal your money (*Luke 10*)
- What's spiritual conversion? When you lose lots of money and then find it (*Luke 15*)

Money is God's biggest rival for my heart!

- When I feel vulnerable...money promises security, God promises peace
- When I feel insignificant...money promises prominence & importance, God promises value & worth
- When I'm dissatisfied with life...money promises gratification & excitement, God promises purpose & contentment
- When I'm worried about my kids...money promises success, God promises never to forsake them or me, to complete his work in them and me
- When I'm tired...money promises rest & relaxation, God promises to do life with me & to give me rest along the way
- Which do I *really* believe??

Jesus said, "No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

Matthew chapter 6 verse 24 (737)

- Why do so many of us get so uncomfortable talking about money in church??
- Because money is battling God for control of my heart...and only one wins
- I cannot be moving towards full-devotion in Christ until I acknowledge & deal with this battle inside of ME!
- God doesn't need my money. He wants my heart.

(over)

God uses money to change the condition of my heart

Jesus said, “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”

Matthew chapter 6 verses 19 - 21 (737)

- Jesus has amazing insight...my heart follows my treasure (\$\$)
- My heart becomes like that on which I spend my money!
- Jesus tells us to put our \$\$ in the right place & our hearts will follow...leading to rest & joy & peace
- Most of us think if we get rest & joy & peace by spending our \$\$ on more stuff

More – What do the following verses say about my heart AND my money?

- Deuteronomy 14:23
- Psalm 24:1
- Psalm 37:21
- Proverbs 22:7
- Ecclesiastes 4:4
- Ecclesiastes 5:10
- Luke 12:30-31
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-8
- Galatians 5:22 & 23
- Galatians 6:4
- Philippians 1:6
- Philippians 4:11-12

Next week we conclude “unCERTAINty” with the topic “True Contentment”

Remember to invite lots of friends to our Easter weekend services. On Easter weekend, our Saturday evening service is at 6 pm and we’ll have three Easter Sunday services at 9 am, 10:30 am & 12 noon

In preparing this talk, Rob used information from the following...

- *A talk entitled, “Integrating the Bible, Your Wallet, and Your Life,” given by John Ortberg at Willow Creek Community Church*
- *The book, Money, Possessions & Eternity, by Randy Alcorn*