



**M.U.G./G.U.M.
(MONEY, YOU and GOD/GOD, YOU, and MONEY)**

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THE BIBLE AND MONEY

The Bible understands the corrupting potential and power of money:

Proverbs 11: 28

Proverbs 23: 4-5

Habakkuk 2: 4-5

I Timothy 6: 10

II Timothy 3: 1-2

The Lord Jesus was also aware of money as a snare:

Luke 12: 13-21

Luke 16: 19-31

Luke 18: 18-25 (esp. 24-25)

In the scripture money can also be a sign of God's favor

Proverbs 10: 22

Abraham, Genesis 13: 2-6

Isaac, Genesis 26: 12-14

Jacob, Genesis 32: 3-5

David

Solomon, I Kings 10: 14-25

Job, Job 1: 1-4; 42: 10-12

The Lord also made provision for the financial wellbeing and security of those who follow him (unlike the old lady who prayed that if the Lord kept her pastor humble, the congregation would keep him poor)

Numbers 18: 8-32 (25-29)

Deuteronomy 14: 28-29

Corinthians 9: 13-14

I Timothy 5: 17-18

A generous and fair compensation to those engaged in fulltime ministry or service to the Lord is biblical teaching. The Lord never intended for his servants to live in poverty or at a level beneath the prosperity and wellbeing of the people of God.

A number of the early church members if not rich were certainly well off. Their houses were large enough for believers in certain locales to meet.

Money can be used to bless the ministries of the church, others in need, as well as charitable causes.
Mary Magdalene, Mark 15: 40-41

Nicodemus, John 19: 39

Joseph of Arimathea, John 12: 38, 41

Lydia, Acts 16: 13-16

Early church in Acts 2: 44 and Acts 4: 34-37

There were also believers who were not fiscally prosperous.

Proverbs 19: 17

II Kings 4: 1-7

Mark 12: 41-44

Acts 6: 1

Everyone who serves the Lord and supports ministry will not be financially prosperous. However, God has promised to supply all of their needs (Matthew 6: 25-34; Philippians 4: 19)

What is the Bible Saying?

Money is not necessarily evil in and of itself. Money in and of itself is neither moral nor immoral. It is more amoral. The way we view and use money determines whether or not it becomes a snare or a servant, a strength or a stronghold, a burden or a blessing, a mess or a means, or a help or a hindrance. Like everything else that is out of balance in terms of a proper relationship with God, money can corrupt.

Money corrupts when it gives us a false sense of security.

Money becomes evil when it becomes an idol.

Money becomes evil when it becomes a stronghold. The love of money makes it into a stronghold. The love of money is sinful and demonic.