

Text: Philippians 4:19 / 1 Kings 17

OVERVIEW PARAGRAPH

Jesus talked more about money and stewardship than anything else. Now thousands of years later finances are referred to as personal so we keep it private.

Money is a private matter because:

- we are uncertain about our future
- carries strong emotions - greatest joy and greatest fears
- all over the world money is used to label the value, status and success of someone
- sheds light on our value system
- we prefer ownership rather than stewardship when it comes to our finances
- it places limitations and accountability on us - "we only have a certain amount"

Stewardship involves an understanding of God's promises of Supply and Resupply

God's Promise of Supply:

Philippians 4:19 - And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

God who takes care of us

- God promises to take care of you.

Will supply

- Picture of storehouse and you and I are on the distribution list. God delivers to us at the appointed time. This comes because of grace. It is a matter of Divine privilege not an human entitlement.

All your needs

- God promises to get to you all that applies to you. This looks different for everyone. We have to be ok with this. God knows what you and I need because He is actively caring for you.

From (according to)

- The idea of voice of higher rank. This is the voice of authority that determines what we need.

Glorious riches in which have been given to us in Christ Jesus

- *Not earthly riches. If earthly riches tie into glorious riches then we have a generosity narrative. Our lives are to be lived and spent for the glory of God.*

God's Promise of Resupply:

Text: I Kings 17

During the famine Elijah receives bread because of God's supply that would come to him because of the generosity of a widow's giving. The widow was asked to give to Elijah first. God asks us to give first and we will receive.

Luke 6:38 - Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.

The widow gave first to Elijah and when trusting the principle of resupply received food for a long time. The widow, widow's son and Elijah ate for a long time. The resupply gives back to us exceedingly abundantly beyond what you could ever imagine.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your greatest challenge when it comes to financial stewardship?
2. How have you understood the principle of supply and resupply
3. What are some steps that you can take this week to be generosity.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (if applicable)

Malachi 3:10 Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

Proverbs 3:9 Honour the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce.

Isaiah 32:8 Generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity.

Ephesians 3:20. Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.