

The

TREASURE

PRINCIPLE

Part 2



“And so, King Agrippa, I obeyed that vision from heaven. I preached first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that all must repent of their sins and turn to God—and prove they have changed by the good things they do.

Acts 26:19-20

Response to being part of the new community

And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. **They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.** They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved. **Acts 2:44-47**

Tithing

“You must set aside a tithe of your crops—**one-tenth** of all the crops you harvest each year. Bring this tithe to the designated place of worship—the place the Lord your God chooses for his name to be honored—and eat it there in his presence. This applies to your tithes of grain, new wine, olive oil, and the firstborn males of your flocks and herds. **Doing this will teach you always to fear the Lord your God.**

Deuteronomy 14:22-23

Motives of the heart

These people always cause trouble. Their minds are corrupt, and they have turned their backs on the truth. **To them, a show of godliness is just a way to become wealthy.** Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.

1 Timothy 6:5-10

Motives of the heart

But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.

1 Timothy 6:5-10

Demonstration of faithfulness

“If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities. And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?”

Luke 16:10-13

Demonstration of faithfulness

And if you are not faithful with other people's things, why should you be trusted with things of your own?
“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 God and be enslaved to money.**”

Luke 16:10-13

Anything and Everything

Don't worry about anything; instead, **pray about everything.** Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-8

Anything and Everything

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

Philippians 4:6-8

Be Content

Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little.

Philippians 4:11-12

Where, and in what, is your trust?

Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and **not to trust in their money**, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others.

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Where, and in what, is your trust?

By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

1 Timothy 6:17-19

What do we have?

Australia ranks:

5th in the world for **average** wealth per adult

3rd in the world for **median** wealth per adult

7th in the world for the **number of millionaires** (in \$US terms), **BUT**

3rd in the world for Debt as a % of income (216%)

79% of our wealth is in property and superannuation

(2025 UBS Global Wealth report)

Putting it into perspective

“And don’t be concerned about what to eat and what to drink. Don’t worry about such things. These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers all over the world, but **your Father already knows your needs**. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need. “So don’t be afraid, little flock. For it gives your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom.

Luke 12:29-34

Putting it into perspective

“Sell your possessions and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven never get old or develop holes. Your treasure will be safe; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it. **Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.**

Luke 12:29-34

My heart always goes
where I put God's money

The

TREASURE PRINCIPLE

Set your sights on heaven

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, **set your sights on the realities of heaven**, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. **Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.**

Colossians 3:1-5

Set your sights on heaven

So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. **Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater,** worshiping the things of this world.

Colossians 3:1-5



**The more we accumulate here, the harder it
is to keep our eyes on the realities of
heaven.**

church
**POTLUCK
MORNING TEA**

— TODAY —

bring a plate, build community

1. In what ways does the pursuit of the 'Australian dream' (house, early retirement, etc) get in the way of keeping our focus on 'the realities of heaven'?
2. Read through Luke 12: 13 – 34, what themes are presented regarding our attitudes to earthly possessions?
3. In what ways can we shift our attitudes regarding wealth to better reflect the teaching of Jesus and the early church? What are some of the practical things we can do?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS