

# CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

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BY

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*"Moreover it is required in Stewards  
that a man be found faithful."*

*1 Cor. 4:2*

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has blessed me with long life, many friends, and a devoted family. My son returned from France yesterday. As a token of gratitude to God for His mercies, I pledge myself to see that our church, though small in membership, gives the large amount asked of it. My boys offered their all for their country, and I here and now dedicate my all to the kingdom of God."

No one among us is giving too much; many of us are giving far too little; some are giving nothing. Those who think they are giving to the limit can find ways in which to give more; those who give below their duty must measure up in this supreme hour; those who do nothing should, by every educational and persuasive method, be enlisted in this program. Remember, "The liberal soul shall be made fat," in his own self-respect, in temporal possessions, in the esteem of his brethren, in spiritual blessings, and in the sight of God.

Woe unto him who forgetteth that it is God that "giveth thee power to get wealth" (Deut. 8:15); that a "stranger eateth" of the riches he leaves (Eccles. 6:1); that he is not his own, for he is bought with a price (1 Cor. 6:19). Alas, for him in whose heart the Word of God is choked by the "deceitfulness of riches" (Mark 4:19); who thinketh that a man's life consisteth in "the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15); who "layeth up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God" (Luke 12:21); who errs from the faith and pierces himself through with many sorrows through the love of money (1 Tim. 6:10); who labors and accumulates for self and leaves an inheritance to be squandered by a fool (Eccles. 2:19); who "walketh in a vain shew;\*\*\*\*heapeth up riches and knoweth not who shall gather them" (Ps. 39:6). Blessed is he who layeth up treasures in

heaven "where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt nor thieves break through and steal" (Matt. 6:20); who so uses his wealth on earth that its beneficiaries who have died and preceded him to glory, will welcome him to everlasting habitations (Luke 16:9); who so invests, for kingdom interests, the talents entrusted to him as to hear his Master say at the end of life's brief day, "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" (Matt. 25-22).

There are four boxes in the safety deposit vault of Life.

### Selfishness

I **kept** all my wealth—and I mourn my loss;  
For gold, in a skeleton hand, turns to dross.  
Love, friendship and gratitude might I have  
bought—

But I kept my wealth till it mouldered to naught.

### Pleasure

I **spent** all my gold—I danced and I sang—  
The palace I built with hilarity rang;  
Plays, revels and frolics from even to dawn—  
But I lie here with nothing—I spent it; it's gone!

### Avarice

I **loaned** my good money—at grasping per cent—  
'Twas I who got all that you kept and you spent;  
While I counted my Millions, Death plundered me  
bare—

And this grave that I sleep in belongs to my heir.

### Charity

It was little I had, but I gave all my store  
To those who had less, or who needed it more;  
And I came with Death laughing, for here at the  
grave

In riches unmeasured I found what I gave!



## SELECT QUOTATION

“Money is stored power. It is a reservoir of our vital energy which we set at work doing anything we please. We may go into all the world and preach the Gospel while we remain in the place where we are and still carry on the everyday work which God has given us to do. We can, by our money, talk in hundreds of languages or dialects and tell the story of Jesus Christ, for by our gifts we stand with our missionaries as they preach each day in all places. We can, by our money, heal the sick, give sight to the blind, care for the fatherless, teach the untaught and feed the hungry. When we fully realize that our money is ourselves and that where our money is, there we are, then our giving becomes an ‘open sesame’ to a glorious ministry. And though our hands have never been trained in the art of surgery, by our money we ourselves in a very real sense operate in all of the mission hospitals and dispensaries in the foreign and home fields. We can, by our money, become the school teachers of myriads of children in all lands who are seeking to learn in order that they may read the Bible and know what God is saying to them, in the thousands of schools on the foreign fields, in the day schools for the negroes in the South, and in the mission Sunday Schools organized by the Sunday School missionaries as they go hither and yon to find the lambs of the flock who are without the care of the Good Shepherd. No matter if we ourselves are untaught, our money creates us teachers of men.”

Guy L. Morrill in “You and Yours”.