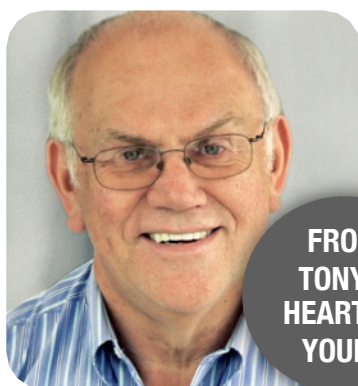


AC TALK

WHERE THE
APOSTOLIC COUNCIL
SHARE THEIR HEARTS

OCT
2011



FROM
TONY'S
HEART TO
YOURS

KINGDOM FINANCES

With world economies shaking and personal financial securities under threat, it is important that we continue to live faithful to biblical financial principles and not respond with fear.

Mike Davies, of Okehampton, England has just written a book that is in the process of being published, called *The Generous Heart*. I had the privilege of writing the forward and want to share some of these thoughts with you.

The New Testament tells us in Luke 16 that God associates our ability to handle money with our ability to handle true spiritual riches. Therefore, understanding God's heart in finances and walking in His principles are foundational as we live in this critical time. Here is a reminder of some foundations.

If you have a heart to see the kingdom of God established on earth, you will realize that for any kingdom to exist it must have strong foundations. Two of these are governmental and economic. In the Kingdom of Heaven God has deemed that His government rule is based on fatherhood as he is Father God. The economy is based on generosity, as it is a quality of fatherhood and one that is expressed through scripture as a part of the character of God; a loving father with **"A Generous Heart."**

Having taught on finances for many years, one thing I have learnt is that to really understand biblical economics, or even to begin to deal in the smaller area of personal finance, one must understand that God is involved in the economic realm and desires to be involved in our monetary life.

Western culture has embraced a dualistic view in understanding God, which has left us with a number of misconceptions, the basic one being that God is

not concerned about money or how we exercise stewardship over it, our prosperity or finances are of the world, money is evil and of no importance, money really isn't God's concern and He is just interested in our spiritual life. **"Wrong!"** The truth is that God is interested in every part of our life, including our handling of finances. 3 John, verse 2 is John's prayer for Gaius. He said, "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." This prayer of John includes spirit, soul and body, the whole man which includes our money.

Money is not a dirty word in the Bible nor is it a subject we should ever be embarrassed talking about. In fact, the Bible teaches much more on the subject of money than most other subjects. The Scripture contains over 700 direct references about money. Numbers, chapter 7 is the longest chapter in the Bible with over 2,000 words, and the whole chapter is on giving. Nearly two-thirds of the parables Jesus taught and one out of every six verses in the gospels concern themselves with the right or wrong use of material possessions. Jesus taught at least three times more on money and material possessions than He did on love or grace.

"The truth is that God is interested in every part of our life including our handling of finances"

God desired us to be blessed from the very beginning. Genesis 1:28 says "Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply". Note that He blessed them unconditionally and instructed them to work from the blessing, not for it. Later, His covenant with Abraham was, "I bless you that you will be a blessing and all the families of the earth will be blessed through you." If we are going to live our lives being a blessing, then we have to be a people that know not only how to give but also how to receive. We must not feel guilty in being blessed, as without receiving we have nothing to give.

As we face continual global uncertain financial times, let us live as a kingdom answer, knowing that God is our source and He never changes and is recession proof!

Tony



TONY & MARILYN FITZGERALD

Tony and Marilyn have planted and pioneered many churches, and continue to influence churches within COTN worldwide. They place strong emphasis on the Father Heart of God, Kingdom and Finances and they have a passion to see the Kingdom of God established.

KINGDOM CLIPS



I appreciated the feedback I received on my Kingdom Clip Article in the last AC Talk on the number 11. Since writing this, the awareness

of 11/11/11 has increased in my heart and been confirmed in multiple

ways to me and others who have communicated with me. I don't know all that this date means but I encourage you to revisit the article and be diligent as the remainder of this year unfolds.

September 11 was a wonderful day of prayer for us as a family around the world, and since this day it has been interesting to hear of terrorist attacks being thwarted and some arrests made. The battle of the kingdoms increases and it certainly is an exciting day to be alive.

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