

# **Your Money or Your Life**

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### I. Introduction.

A. Fill your life with memories.

B. Money is an arena in which God allows us to experience tests. Passed tests allow us to experience real contentment.

C. Money is an expression of life.

D. There are four tests in James on the book of money.

### II. The inclination to wrongly interpret the meaning of wealth is a test. (James 1:9-16)

A. A crown awaits those who have the right perspective on money.

B. There is a wrong temptation to be rich.

C. We are to rejoice for all that God has given us. We must focus our attention on the eternal.

D. What we have will not last long.

E. When you are tempted, do not blame God for it.

### III. The inclination to evaluate others based upon what they have is a blind test. (James 2:1-7)

A. We get wrapped up in externals.

B. God will bring people into your life from another culture.

### IV. The inclination to obtain wealth wrongfully is a divine test. (James 4:1-5; 5:1-6)

A. God may not be answering prayer because one asks with an impure heart.

B. Fraudulent riches will wear out.

C. The solution is humility. (James 4:6-10)

D. Accept one another unconditionally. (Romans 15:7)

### V. The inclination to exclude God from financial planning is a divine test. (James 4:13-16)

A. James does not reprove for having a plan.

B. He reproves for not including God in the plan.

**Application questions:**

1. Is it wrong to be rich? Explain.

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2. How would you respond to someone who claims that unanswered prayer has nothing to do with money?

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3. When have you been uncomfortable around someone from a different economic background or culture? What can you or have you learned from the situation?

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