



FROM FAILURE TO SUCCESS IS STEWARDSHIP



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Abstract

The principles of God are not based on or determined by the economy, the amount of money you have or do not have, but by the obedience of His will for your life. Christians must obey the word of God, so His will can resolve the financial odds against you. May the Lord bless you from the reading of His word that you will grow from failure to success because of your stewardship in believing who He is, Christ, the Savior of the world.

Times have changed. The United States of America is not the economic giant it once was. America does not depend on its own resources, but has entered into the globalization economy. Globalization has put our country into foreign policy and now the affairs of our nation's productivity are based on the alliances of other countries. Because of globalization our economy is not controlled within itself or based on the American dollar, but on a worldwide system that our President and government have agreed to with other countries. America is weakened because we do not own many products or produce like we once did. China, Japan, Europe, Russian, Arab nations, Israel, and other countries are a part of the block of American policy for foreign trade. Auto industry--foreign trade, sports-- international alliance, clothes-- foreign trade, food--foreign trade, oil--foreign trade, furniture--foreign trade, and the next thing in place for international trade will be currency. One currency will be acknowledged and recognized globally.

Why are Christians ignorant, failing, and unprepared for the direction our nation has already entered? America is not in control of its economy and resources. The political system of our President, Senate, Congress, the rich CEO's of major corporations, have allowed the economic system to be fueled by other countries. Chrysler Corporation, M&T Bank, Giant Food, Macy's and other corporations that were once American owned, are now owned by foreign countries. Citgo gas stations are owned by Venezuela with American dealerships. Look at most of your gas stations today. Who runs them in our country? Arabs and Pakistanis are in our country selling oil and making profits. America does not just consist of white and black Americans there are different races from all over the world. The country is now more heavily populated by the largest growing cultural group, Hispanics, so much so that to get information on

consumer products we must choose between the English language and Spanish. The question, again, is why are Christians ignorant of the collapsing of America? The reason is that renowned preachers preach a materialistic gospel. They are just like the government and rich CEO's that have sold our country to foreign trade. While these preachers are preaching prosperity, our nation is collapsing and Christians are not prepared by the will of God for an economy changing into the rule of the anti-Christ. The economy is going to get worse. Money is not going to be as prosperous as preachers proclaim. Jobs are going to dry up, corporations are going to fall, unemployment is going to be great because of globalization within our economy. It is already happening. Look at all the people being laid off in the auto industry due to plant closings; factories that made materials and clothes are closed, farmers are not growing crops, and stores going out of business because jobs and products are sent overseas. However, Christians full of the Holy Spirit growing in the knowledge of God will escape Satan's control by understanding the principles of God. This is why you must understand His divine will for your life.

Scriptures are used as principles to guide our lives. A principle is a truth, a rule of action for our conduct. Christians fail in our economy because they do not know the will of God. Ephesians 5:17 says, "therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is." Let us look at some principles as a truth and rule of action for conduct, and as a guide for our senses as a requirement of God. I want to show you how the devil's negative presentations snare Christians when they do not know the will of God to walk in His divine principles.

1 John 2:15-16 is the rule of Satan that controls Christians in his economic plan for the world. There are many Christians who love the world, the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. When this attitude exists in a Christian, God is not in their life fully to guide them. This is where the parable of the sower comes in. Matthew 13:19-22 shows three

Christians that do not walk in the will of God to understand His principles for success. Matthew 13:23 attests to the fact that when a Christian understands the will of God, and believes in His principles, they produce. In Genesis 3, Eve saw that the tree forbidden by God was good for food and was pleasant to the eyes. Satan won through the lust of the flesh, eyes, and pride of life, but not in Matthew 4:8-10. A good steward in Christ will always believe in the principles of God to get out of bondage. Our bondage can be cars, homes, credit cards, clothes, jewelry, and an expensive lifestyle that can be pursued over the will of God if we are caught up in the lust of the flesh, eyes and pride of life. This is what the devil uses in our economy to present failure. If the devil can get a Christian into excessive spending, he has them in his control through the economy.

The lust of the flesh, eyes and pride of life cause us to pay high interest rates, knowing we should be spending time getting our credit scores in order, so that Satan can no longer steal our money from the kingdom of God. High interest rates take away our giving power for Christ. Pride can have us buying the wrong type of car or home. The devil's goal is to have us covet and compete with our neighbor. To live and purchase based on another man's standards is what coveting produces and, personally, is something I never believed or practiced. God has a plan for our life based on His will and not what we see the world or other Christians do.

Luke 12:15 is a principle for our life and a guide for our senses for the requirements of God. "And He said to them, take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses." This is a principle that produces stewardship for Christians to observe and by which they should live. The message preached about material abundance has caused Christians to become big consumers in our economy. African Americans are known to be the biggest consumers in America. Preachers are guilty of

trying to make people something they are not. They focus on teaching people how to become wealthy in order to convince others that they are *blessed* by the outward show of plenty and material riches. Today it is preached by some that money is the power for recognition and acceptance in Christianity amongst some churches. In some pulpits money has taken the place of the Holy Spirit as the power source from God. Christians are not growing to be stewards in a time of a fallen economy that is controlled by Satan. Many Christians have fallen on hard times because they are out of the will of God. It is time for Christians to be strong and believers in the will of God for the spirit. In John 12:31, Jesus makes it clear that Satan is the ruler of the world and judgment is cast upon it. With this knowledge we should understand what Satan controls, and be good stewards not to spend money unwisely based upon the lust of the flesh, eyes and pride of life. Jesus said the world is in judgment, so why should a Christian be caught up in a worldly environment. John 14:30 makes it clear that Satan, as the ruler of the world, is coming to see what he can find in you, to use it against you. He will see if he can find greed, envy, jealousy, covetousness, and pride to take away your stewardship. In most cases, Christians can not give and support the work of the ministry because the enemy uses things he finds in them to disobey God. A rapacious person is focused on the world, and not the will of God.

What hurts most Christians is that they do not study the principles of God's word to succeed in stewardship. To have success over failure, a Christian must be a strong servant of Christ and a steward of God's word. In 1 Corinthians 4:1-2 to be a steward of the mysteries of God, one must be faithful to read the bible and study the scriptures to see what has been revealed. In order for me to prove this point, let us review the statement Jesus made when He said, "the ruler of this world is coming and found nothing in me." Read Matthew 4:8-10 as an example of the stewardship of Jesus Christ with God's word to defeat the devil's temptation, and

perform the will of God for His life. Notice Jesus performed the will of God over temptation. The devil tried to lure Jesus into his worldly system of economics with the lust of the flesh, eyes and pride of life.

Matthew 4:8-9 proves that the devil rules the world and economic system of nations and kingdoms. Globalization is the devil's plan to rule and set up the dictatorship of the anti-Christ for complete control of the world. This is a truth and a fact of bible prophecy. Looking at our economy and where it is headed, the principles of God must be in the minds and hearts of God's people. As stewards, we are to use God's principles for our senses as the requirements of God. Christians must have belief, trust, confidence and reliance in the will of God to not be disturbed by what Satan is doing or offering in our economy.

Matthew 4:10 is a principle all Christians should believe in for a falling economy. What Satan has organized as an economic system for the world does not stop our worship for God and understanding of what He can do for our lives. There are four words a Christian should focus on to move God for their life. Righteousness, humility, faith, and obedience are what God looks for in His people. We just need to understand what these words produce in our lives. Reading and studying about the will of God from the perspective of these four words will bring grace, sufficiency, and abundance to our lives in good times and in bad times.

- RIGHTEOUSNESS* 1. *Matthew 5:10* – You are blessed when persecuted for righteousness.
- HUMILITY* 2. *1 Peter 5:6* – Humility causes God to exalt you.
- FAITH* 3. *Hebrews 11:6* – Without faith it is impossible to please God, and with faith we seek Him to be rewarded.
- OBEDIENCE* 4. *John 14:23* – If we love Jesus, then we will obey Him by keeping His word, so God will love us and we will forever have fellowship with Him.

God's will is to love, honor, obey and serve Him with all your life and your substance. We should be good stewards of God's will according to Matthew 5:25-34, not worrying about life; Malachi 3:10 faithful to bring our tithes to church for financial stability, 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 that Christ may sanctify us so our spirit, soul, and body be blameless before Him; and 1 John 5:14-15 having confidence that Jesus hears what we ask according to His will and know that we have the petitions that we ask of Him. Can you believe in these principles? Matthew 5 tells us clearly what it means to be blessed in God and by God. If you want to be blessed read Matthew 5:2-11 concerning the Lord's plan.

Additional Scripture References

- A. Exodus 19:5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.
- B. Psalms 24:1 The earth is the LORD's and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.
- C. Jeremiah 27:5 'I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are on the ground, by My great power and by My outstretched arm, and have given it to whom it seemed proper to Me.
- D. Haggai 2:8 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the LORD of hosts.
- E. Acts 17:24-28 God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. ²⁵ Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. ²⁶ And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, ²⁷ so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; ²⁸ for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.'
- F. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

References

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