

# Week 5: Paul, Money, and Stewardship

## 1. Paul's Attitude Toward Money

### 1) Tentmaking Ministry:

Paul supported himself to avoid burdening churches (Acts 18:3; 1 Thess. 2:9).

### 2) Purpose of Collection:

Paul collected offerings not for himself but for the poor in Jerusalem (1 Cor. 16:1–4; 2 Cor. 8–9).

### 3) Separation of Gospel and Money:

He was careful that money not hinder the gospel (1 Cor. 9:12, 15, 18).

## 2. Biblical Stewardship

### 1) Everything Belongs to God:

All possessions come from God; we are stewards (1 Cor. 4:1–2).

### 2) Faithful Management:

Each person will give an account of what was entrusted to them (Rom. 14:12; Luke 16:10–12).

### 3) Joyful Giving:

Giving should be cheerful and voluntary (2 Cor. 9:6–7).

## 3. Paul's Theology of Giving

### 1) Expression of Grace:

Offering is a response to God's grace and an act of love (2 Cor. 8:1–9).

### 2) Symbol of Unity:

Gentile churches giving to Jewish believers demonstrated unity (Rom. 15:25–27).

### 3) Trust in God's Provision:

Giving in faith, trusting that God will provide (Phil. 4:19).

## 4. Application for Today

1) Recovery of Tentmaking Spirit:

Ministers and missionaries can work when needed.

2) Training as Stewards:

Teach believers to manage resources biblically.

3) Right Use of Offerings:

Church funds must go to true missions, relief, and evangelism.

4) Money as a Tool, Not a Master:

Money is a means for God's kingdom, not the end.

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