



# **MANAGING GOD'S MONEY #4**

**Becoming A Good Manager of God's Resources**

**Sunday Evening March 27, 2016**

I *love* YOU  
MORE THAN  
YESTERDAY

.... YESTERDAY  
YOU GOT ON  
MY NERVES

**JOKE OF THE DAY**

**IF SOMEONE TELLS YOU  
BISCUITS AND GRAVY  
ISN'T A MEAL, STOP  
TALKING TO THEM. YOU  
DON'T NEED THAT KIND OF  
NEGATIVITY IN YOUR LIFE.**



**JOKE OF THE DAY**



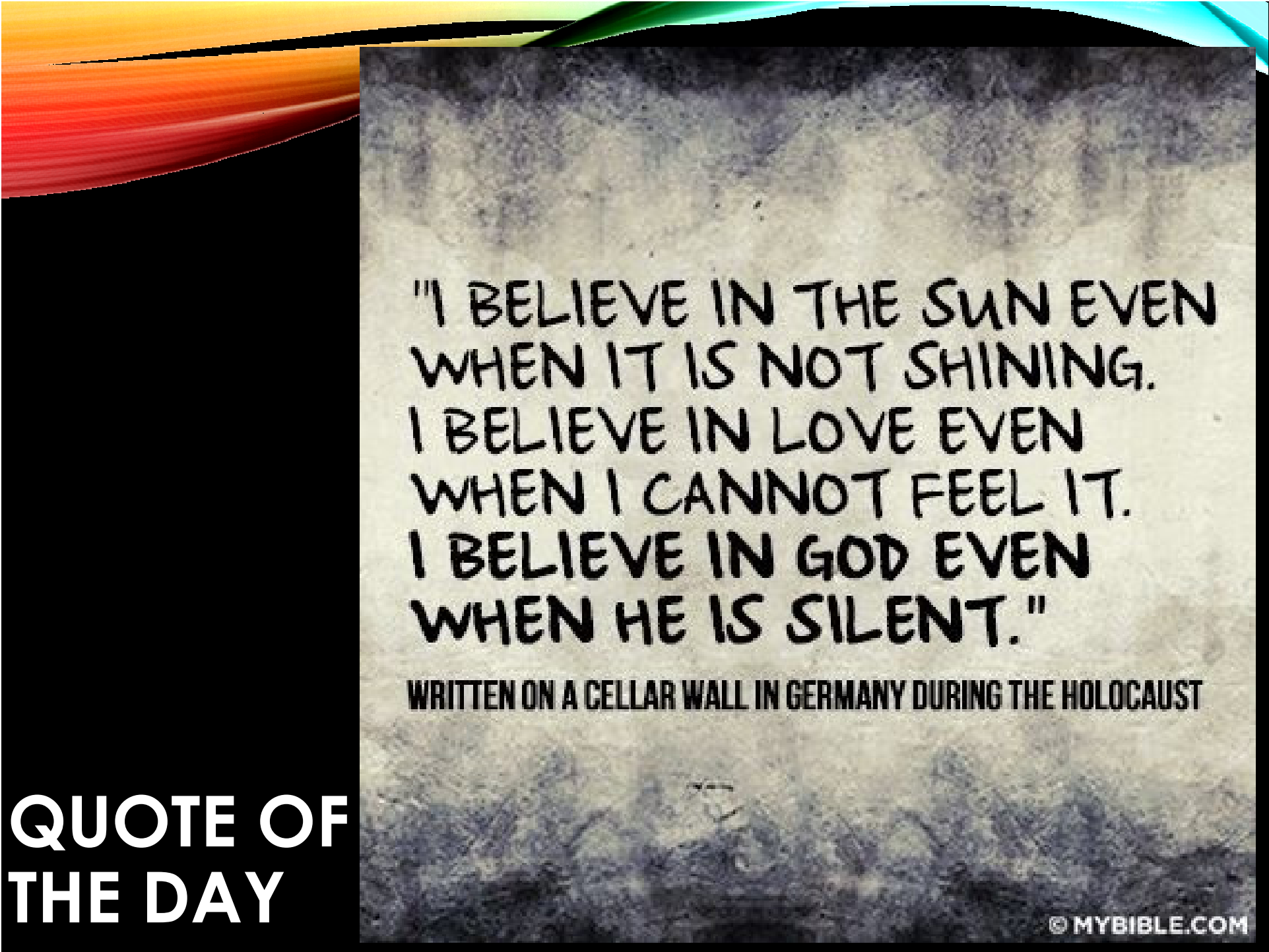


**I hope this lion has a christian heart!**



**Oh, lord. Bless this meal you put on my table.**

**JOKE OF THE DAY**



"I BELIEVE IN THE SUN EVEN  
WHEN IT IS NOT SHINING.  
I BELIEVE IN LOVE EVEN  
WHEN I CANNOT FEEL IT.  
I BELIEVE IN GOD EVEN  
WHEN HE IS SILENT."

WRITTEN ON A CELLAR WALL IN GERMANY DURING THE HOLOCAUST

**QUOTE OF  
THE DAY**



**Satan is not fighting churches; he is joining them.**  
facebook.com/StopPlayingChurch  
**He does more harm by sowing tares than by pulling up wheat. He accomplishes more by imitation than by outright opposition.**

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**



**PRAYER  
IS A  
LIFESTYLE  
NOT  
AN  
EMERGENCY  
EXIT**



**QUOTE OF  
THE DAY**

[PASSIONFORTRUTH.COM](http://PASSIONFORTRUTH.COM)



**Goal for this Session: To understand why we get into debt and establish that without a vibrant personal relationship with Christ money will control us.**

**We abuse credit because of the following among other things:**

**Faith in Christ is lacking** -- Matthew 6:30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

**Obsolescence is planned** – products are upgraded quickly and we buy new ones on credit.

**Greed is innate** -- Luke 12:15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth. – We want more toys and more of everything; we are enticed by advertising and the economic system that encourages us and depends on us to spend!

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**Some folks spend as a form of stress relief. "FOG" leads to borrowing without counting the cost**

James 4:13-15 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: 14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. 15 For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.

**Bankruptcy which is contrary to God's Word—**

Psalm 37:21 The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.

**And to the breakdown of the family –**

1 Timothy 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

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## The Slow Burn Principle:

**We drift into debt slowly and unintentionally: a frog in a beaker with flame lit under it doesn't feel the increasing heat! Here are seven signs of the onset of the Slow Burn Principle. If any one is present, watch out the heat is on:**

- 1. Giving to God's work stopped or reduced for any reason.**
- 2. Income increases, debt increases but savings decreases.**
- 3. Credit card balances not paid in full monthly.**
- 4. Debt consolidation being considered.**
- 5. Insurance policies cashed or borrowed against to pay bills other than to correct an error.**
- 6. Extending credit terms or juggling creditors' bills.**
- 7. Savings used to pay bills.**

### Three-Step Approach to Debt Free Living:

Eternal worth – a personal relationship with Christ is essential to managing our ABC's.

Material Worth – snap shot of “assets less liabilities”, which is a good base to start to build a financial plan. If you are in debt, review assets that could be sold to reduce balances due. Act only following prayer.

Life Goals – provide focus and direction –

Philippians 3:7-10 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. 8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

*When you are debt free, rejoice and beware of temptations to borrow and to gain even more!*

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**Be Honest with Your Own self:**

- 1. Will you trust Jesus to supply your needs? How do you demonstrate this during a “financial crisis”.**
- 2. Will you be alert and responsive to the pitfalls of the “Slow Burn Principle”?**

## Money Management

**“A fool and his money are soon parted.”**

**— English proverb, late 16th century**

**None of us think, live, or spend in quite the same way, so we can't all use the exact same strategy when it comes to digging out of the financial mire. However, everyone reading this book can harness a powerful tool, one flexible enough to work for you, and you alone.**

**A budget can help you control your expenses. After all, it's pretty difficult to cut back on spending if you don't know where your money is going in the first place.**

### **“MAKE — AND FOLLOW — A BUDGET”**

**Dave Ramsey, known for his presentations on budgeting, warns that if you don't tell your money where to go, you'll wonder where it went. Budgets spring from the simple idea that if you track your spending, you'll gain more control over it. Somehow the household budget has blossomed into a financial boogeyman — something older people fear to discuss with their spouses and younger people shun like an outdated smartphone. At its core, a budget does nothing more than record your spending choices, allowing you to refer back to them when the time comes to actually deploy the funds.**

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## Case Study -- Jimmy

- † Jimmy, a 30-year-old warehouse manager who wants to get his finances under control.
- † Jimmy got promoted last year, and he moved into a nicer apartment.
- † He spends more now than he once did, but since he makes more money, he believes that shouldn't matter.
- † He thinks he's spending wisely, but somehow he can't cover all of his bills, and he bails himself out every month with a credit card. Hopefully this budget will show him where his money is going and how he can reduce spending.

Keep in mind that your budget won't match Jimmy's or anyone else's. After you finish presenting your income and outflows, you'll probably see places where you can cut back, weak spots in your financial wall that you missed only because you never looked closely enough.

Try building your own budget in stages just as Jimmy does.

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### Jimmy's Budget Journey:

After using a couple of short hours of time, a little ingenuity, and a lot of wisdom, Jimmy managed to cut his spending down to match his spendable income. Has he finished the job? Absolutely not. Ideally, he should adjust his spending further to allow for a surplus, plus create an emergency fund. But at least he won't have to use his credit card to cover month-to-month expenses.

The key to trimming expenses revolves around accomplishing two objectives.

1. Follow through on the easy stuff. Some parts of your budget will just scream cut me. Make the cuts on paper, then actually reduce your spending. Don't forget the second part of that last sentence — actually reduce your spending — or you've just wasted your time.
2. Consider breaking with tradition or taking risks. Jimmy's decision to lose his cable TV and skip gifts for a year illustrates a willingness to make sacrifices in pursuit of a larger goal.

Just about everyone would probably like to find a definitive list of actions to take. But in real life, personal finance doesn't work that way. Your individual financial constraints require a customized strategy, one only you can ultimately devise.

SEVEN BUDGET CATEGORIES PEOPLE TEND TO FORGET

1. Auto repair
2. Emergency fund
3. Life insurance
4. Medical costs
5. Household
6. School
7. Kids

### Stage 3: Making Time

Once you whip your monthly budget into shape, you will have a much clearer picture of what comes in and what goes out, but finance can become even more personal. *Think of the monthly budget as a well-framed photo, but one taken from a distance.*

Now you must move in for the close-up.

On the surface, your budget may look complete, but it still needs more care.

*A budget is a living document. It ebbs and flows as money moves, and it changes with time. Knowing how much you bring in for the month and where those funds go can make a huge difference.* But

unless you get paid monthly and all of your bills arrive at the same time, you need to take the next step.

Start by listing the date when your bills come due. You need this information to keep track of the dollars as they move in and out of your bank account.

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Jimmy's Budget -- Stage 3						
Income/ Expense Category	Monthly amount	Due Date	Jan. 1		Jan. 15	
Balance				\$ 500.00		\$ 340.00
Take home pay	\$ 4,000.00		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,340.00
Tithe	\$ (500.00)		\$ 250.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 2,090.00
Investments	\$ (500.00)		\$ 250.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,840.00
Available to Spend	\$ 3,000.00		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 1,840.00
<b>Expenses</b>						
<b>Bills</b>						
Rent	\$ 1,000.00	15th	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,840.00
Gas & Electric	\$ 140.00	8th	\$ 140.00	\$ 860.00		\$ 1,840.00
Mobile Phone	\$ 100.00	27th		\$ 860.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,740.00
Water & Sewer	\$ 20.00	1st		\$ 860.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 1,720.00
Auto Insurance	\$ 120.00	19th	\$ 120.00	\$ 740.00		\$ 1,720.00
Video Service	\$ 20.00	3rd		\$ 740.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 1,700.00
Car Payment	\$ 500.00	22nd		\$ 740.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,200.00
Credit Card Payment	\$ 300.00	21st		\$ 740.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 900.00
<b>Living Expenses</b>						
Groceries	\$ 220.00		\$ 110.00	\$ 630.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 790.00
Dining Out	\$ 50.00		\$ 25.00	\$ 605.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 765.00
Gasoline	\$ 400.00		\$ 200.00	\$ 405.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 565.00
Clothing	\$ 30.00		\$ 15.00	\$ 390.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 550.00
Entertainment	\$ 50.00		\$ 25.00	\$ 365.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 525.00
Household	\$ 50.00		\$ 25.00	\$ 340.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 500.00
Gifts			\$ -			
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 3,000.00</b>					

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