INTRODUCTION

- * FOCUSING ON THE CHRIST ... The Shadow of Christ ... The Life of Christ ... The Return of Christ ... The Reign of Christ
- * What we say, and how we live, is a reflection of Who, or what, is residing and reigning in our heart!
- * Matthew 6:19-24 ¹⁹ "<u>Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth</u>, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ <u>but lay up for yourselves treasures (thesauros) in heaven</u>, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For <u>where your treasure (thesauros) is.</u> there your heart will be also. ²² The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! ²⁴ No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. <u>You cannot serve God and mammon</u>."
- * Hence, if Christ is reigning in my heart, then I will increasing reflect Biblical principles in my handling of finances!

INSTRUCTION ... Let's continue considering the Biblical principles of finances which should be reflected in our lives

- I. THE PRINCIPLE OF LORDSHIP (cf. Matt 6: 19-24; 19:21-26; Romans 6:16-18; I Corinthians 6: 12; Prov 22:7)
- II. THE PRINCIPLE OF OWNERSHIP (cf. Exodus 19:5; Psalm 24: 1; 50:7,10-12)
- III. THE PRINCIPLE OF DISCIPLESHIP .(cf. Prov 3:5-14; Col 2:6-9; Eph 4:17-21)

IV. THE PRINCIPLES OF STEWARDSHIP

- A. The Administration of Financial Resources (cf. 1 Corinthians 4:2; Luke 16:10-13; 19:12-26)
- B. The Acquisition of Financial Resources ... PRIORITY ... HONESTY ... DILIGENCE ... CONTENTMENT

C. The Appropriation of Financial Resources

- 1. GOD
 - a. We Are To Give Our First-Fruits to the LORD (cf. Genesis 4:3-5; Exodus 34:26; Deuteronomy 26:1-10; Nehemiah 12:43-44)
 - b. We Are To Give Our Tithes to the LORD (cf. Genesis 14: 14-20; 28:20-22; Num 18:25-26; Mal 3: 6-12; Matt 23:23; II Cor 9: 6-8)
 - c. We Are To Give Our Offerings to the LORD (cf. Exo 35:4-9, 21-24, 29; 36:2-7; Lk 21: 1-4; Acts 4: 33-35; II Cor 8: 1-5; Phil 4:10-16)

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* Genesis 47:26; I Samuel 8: 11-18; Luke 20:20-25; Romans 13: 1-7; I Peter 2:13-17; Matthew 17:24-27

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INTROSPECTION

- * HOW WELL ARE YOU REFLECTING CHRIST AND HIS TEACHING IN YOUR LIFE?
- * IN THIS "TAX SEASON" ARE YOU COMMITTED TO REFLECTING
 A BIBLICAL MINDSET IN THE PREPARATION OF YOUR TAXES?
- * POLITICALLY SPEAKING, HOW DOES THIS EFFECT YOUR VIEWS OF "TAXATION"?
- * HOW COMMITTED ARE YOU TO HONORING YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER IN THEIR OLD AGE?
- * IS THERE A NEED FOR REPENTANCE (Changing the way you think)?

^{*} Psalm 127: 1-2; Proverbs 24:3-4; I Timothy 5:3-8; Mark 7:6-13; Proverbs 13:22; 3:35; 21:20