

**God's Principles and Priorities on
Time, Talent and Treasure**
Part 1. Financial stewardship, money, giving and blessing
(A Biblical perspective taken from The Blessed Life by Robert Morris)

VI. The Heart of the Matter

It's Not just a Money thing (Luke 6:27-38)

- Whose stuff is it anyway? (Luke 6:27-31)
- To whom are we suppose to give and with what expectation? (Luke 6:32-36)
- What else can we give, besides money? (Luke 6:37)
 - Mercy, forgiveness, _____, _____, _____
- Finally...what is the result [reward]? (Luke 6:38)

Motive – the heart of the matter

- “Why” is more important than “what” (Proverbs 16:2)
- Not only why you *give* but why you *ask* (James 4:3)
- When it comes to giving, what kinds of “hearts” are there?
 - Selfish ♠, grieving ♣, generous ♦, grateful ♥

The four ‘hearts’ illustrated (Deuteronomy 15:7-15)

♠ The Selfish Heart (Deuteronomy 15:9)

- We are all born selfish [takers] (Psalm 119:34-37)
- The default human reaction is to hoard
- Selfishness tries to manipulate and make deals with God
- Selfishness convinces us we don't [won't] have enough
- The spirit of selfishness attacks us *before* we give

♣ The Grieving Heart (Deuteronomy 15:10)

- The spirit of grief attacks us *after* we give
- Shoppers experience “buyer's remorse” *after* a big purchase
- We can experience grief (remorse) if we have given because we felt pressured to or because we felt guilty or *under compulsion* (2 Corinthians 9:7)
- We need to remember – *Whose* was it in the first place and *Who* told us to give it

♦ The Generous Heart (Deuteronomy 15:14)

- The generosity paradox (Proverbs 11:24-26)
- Generosity here on earth yields treasures in heaven (1 Timothy 6:17-19)
- God will bless generosity (2 Corinthians 9:10-11, Luke 6:38, 2 Corinthians 9:6)

♥ The Grateful Heart (Deuteronomy 15:15)

- Everything we do should be done with a grateful heart (Colossians 3:16-17)
- What are we grateful for? What has God done for you that you are thankful for?
 - Salvation (Psalm 70:4), health, blessings (Psalm 128)
 - _____, _____, _____

*We were born takers – “born again” givers; we were born selfish – “born again” generous
It takes a “heart” transplant*