

Finding Financial Contentment

Part 2 – Biblical Financial Stewardship

I. Ahab: A Lesson in Greed (1 Kings 21)

A. Emotional Issues

- Ahab was evil (16:30) and loved luxury (22:39).
- Ahab was angry about the prophets rebuke (20:35-43).
- Ahab was emotionally frustrated by not being able to buy the vineyard he wanted (21:1-4).
- We overspend, over save, obsess or hoard possessions because of emotional issues.

B. Marital Issues:

- Wife Jezebel was deceitful and evil (21:5-15), but Ahab was held responsible for her actions (21:17-19).
- God holds husbands responsible for leadership in stewardship (1 Timothy 3:12).
- Money reveals much about the state of our marriage. We must first be unified in our view of financial stewardship and contentment.

C. Spiritual Issues

- Greed and discontent lead to destructive chaos (emotional marital, financial), spiritual error and death (1 Timothy 6:9-10).
- Our sinful nature is the cause of our greed (James 4:1-4; 1:13-15). The issue is spiritual, not circumstances.

II. Learning Contentment

- A. Contentment means lowering our lifestyle expectations (1 Timothy 6:8).
- B. Contentment means not living as if the answer is more income (Luke 3:14).
- C. Contentment means that when it seems we don't have enough money, we find peace in our relationship with God (Hebrews 13:5).
- D. Contentment means finding satisfaction through Christ's strength whether we have too little or more than enough (Philippians 4:12-13).