

Money offers you *the throne.*

> *"…yet not my will, but yours be done. — Luke 22:42 (NIV)*

Money does something quiet to a leader: it widens the options. With enough of it you can choose where to live, whom to hire and what to walk away from. That freedom is the temptation. Money lets us do whatever we want, the nearest thing to a throne most of us will ever sit on.

Money is not the problem.

Scripture does not condemn having it. Paul warns against loving it (1 Timothy 6:10), and Jesus said we cannot serve both God and money (Matthew 6:24). The issue is what money makes possible: more of our own will, done our own way.

Jesus calls us to the opposite: "deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). His cross was wood. Ours is doing God's will at our own expense, as he prayed in Gethsemane: "yet not my will, but yours be done" (Luke 22:42).

No backup plan.

The rich young ruler asked what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus told him to sell everything, give to the poor and follow him (Mark 10:21). That instruction left no fallback, only surrender and reliance. The man's face fell, and he went away sad, because he had great wealth (Mark 10:22).

Research points the same way: across more than 130 countries, people who spent money on others reported greater well-being than those who spent it on themselves.

So ask yourself: if my account went to zero tomorrow, by choice or by chance, what would my first response be? Confidence in Christ, or fear of the uncertainty?

Money is a tool. Make sure it serves His will, not yours.

At Boaz Strategic, we help leaders hold wealth with open hands.

Aknin et al., J. Pers. Soc. Psychol. 104(4), 2013; Matthew 6:24, 16:24; Mark 10; Luke 22:42 (NIV)

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