

**True Riches - Part 3**  
**"From Anxiety to Trust..."**  
**November 21st, 2021**

**Intro:**

- It's great to be back!!! - Wonderful Trip!
  - Thank you Pastor Luis!
  
- Draw Attention to the Book again... Keep reading it!
  - Kirk Cousins wrote the forward!!! - So... I happen to know him!!!
  - I met Kirk when he was weeks away from signing his historic "Fully Guaranteed" \$150M deal!
    - I reached out & well, take a look at this!

**SHOW VIDEO**

- Throughout the weeks of this series we're talking about the 4 overarching themes of what it means to live "Truly Rich!"
  - Our jump verse today is...

I Timothy 6:17 "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

v. 18-19 "Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life."

- When we understand the truth about Riches, we understand what it means to Truly Live!!!
  - Pride to Gratitude - It all belongs to Him!
  - Coveting to Contentment - Living on a Budget?
  - Anxiety to Trust...

**PRAY**

- In our Relationship with God, there are ALWAYS 3 Enemies that war against us:

1) Our Flesh. 2) The World. 3) The Devil.

- When it comes to Trusting God w/ our Finances, these 3 are ESPECIALLY in play!

- **The Enemy of Trust is Anxiety... it attacks on ALL 3 Levels!**

1) Our World: Fear is EVERYWHERE!!! Uncertainty, Economy, Inflation

2) The Enemy: Satan uses fear in our lives get us to believe that we can somehow control the outcome of our life if...

- If we have enough money!

- If we hoard what we have!

- If we live stingy!

- If, If, If!!! - The "What if's" paralyze us don't they?!?

- The enemy wants us to "Put our Hope" in our Money rather than in God.

- We end up living Stingy, Fear-based, Selfish, Look-out-for-me lives!

3) Our flesh: Is at war with Trusting God financially by telling us that *"What's mine is mine & I need to take care of my wants & desires 1st!"*

\* **But God wants us to live differently!**

- He wants us to live Trusting HIM, no matter what happens around us!

I Timothy 6:17 **Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.**

- Church - It's possible to live in such a way that our hope & Trust is not in this world or in our wealth, but is actually IN GOD ALONE!!!

- When we do, no matter what "uncertainty" exists in our world, we can walk through it in Faith, not Fear!

How? By Putting God First... The Tithe. (Tenth)

## 4 Thoughts on the Tithe:

### **1. The Tithe is the Starting Point. (of Trust in our Finances.)**

**A. God wants to be #1 in our life!!!**

Exodus 20:3 “You shall have no other gods before me.”

Deuteronomy 6:14-15 “Do not follow other gods, the gods of the people around you; for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a jealous God...”

**B. It's the Principle of the 1st. - The First has the power to bless the rest.**

Exodus 13:1-2 “The Lord said to Moses, ‘Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether human or animal.’”

**- Consecrate means: Set apart, dedicate.**

v. 12 “You are to give over to the Lord the first offspring of every womb. All the first born males of your livestock belong to the Lord.”

**- The 1st belongs to God!!!**

Proverbs 3:9 “Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops...”

**- I don't want Visa or Bank of America or Ford to be my "First!"**

**- I want God to be my 1st!!!**

**C. We don't give God what is Left Over, we give Him the first!**

**- The Tithe communicates to God, "You're #1 in my life!"**

**- WIFE ILL - "Out of 3 1/2 Billion, You're Top 10!"**

**- "Baby, when I have time & energy left over its all yours!"**

### **2. The Tithe is the Equalizing Point.**

Malachi 3:10 “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will

not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

**A. It's equal for all of us!**

- God, in His Sovereignty, understood that no matter what level of income we find ourselves at, the tithe would equal the playing field!

**B. \$40,000 = \$4,000 or \$400,000 = \$40,000!**

- Both amounts equally Require Faith & "Trust" don't they???

**C. The Tithe really is the Crossover Point where our "Unseen" faith in our heart begins to intersect with our Actual Lives!!!**

- It's easy to talk about "Loving God" & "Serving God" but our Bank Account actually reflects what's most important to us doesn't it???

- You say you love God, but your bank acct tells the real story!

- Visa / Honda /

**D. SARAH & I - I'm so grateful to God that our Bank Acct reflects our heart for God!**

- Since we were Teenagers, we have prioritized the Tithe!

- When we moved here: NLC - \$77,000 - We tithed \$7,700!!!

- Personally: \$29,000 - Tithed \$2,900!!!

### **3. The Tithe is God's Protection Point.**

Malachi 3:8-9 "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me."

- the solution to come out from under the curse...

Malachi 3:10 "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse..."

**A. WALKING UNDER AN AWNING IN THE POURING RAIN ILL.**

- Others are getting drenched, but we are staying dry & just exp'ing a few splatters.

**B. God's not after our Money, he wants our Heart.**

- He knows that Money is one of the closest things to our heart, so if we are trusting Him first in our finances, then every other area of our heart is open too!

- Show me someone who is fully trusting God in their finances & I'll show you someone who is set up for a Great Revival in their heart toward God!!!
- However, show me someone who is unyielded financially, & I'll show you someone who has probably stalled out in their faith & can't seem to break through!

#### **4. The Tithe is the Trusting Point.**

**A. At the end of the day, it takes trust to decide to put God first with the tithe, the 1st 10% of ALL our INCREASE!**

- SALARY / BONUSES / COMMISSIONS / REAL ESTATE SALES
- INTEREST WE LIVE ON FROM RETIREMENT ACCTS.

**B. MIP: ? Will you trust God w/ the 1st 10%?**

- HAND OUT CARDS

1) I commit to begin to Tithe.

2) I commit to Continue to Tithe.

- It's good every so often to Re-Commit!
- Sarah & I love to fill out this card!!!

- Explain 90 Day tithe Challenge.

**PRAY**