**The Funds Are Available**

(Acts 4:34-37 KJV)

*34Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,35And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.36And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus,37Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.*

L

et's together as a congregation, stop, pause and think for a moment about all the mishaps, backlash and overall attitudes that could be related to money in your life. Think about it carefully—is there anyone in this room that you've never lied for the desires and demand of money? Have you ever tilted the truth on your federal income tax return or your business expense report or in the calloused information you give a customer in order to close a deal and get that profit or hefty commission check?

Have you ever rolled your eyes because you coveted something that somebody else has or had? Have you ever become angry or bitter or hateful with someone else because of money? What about a boss who got amnesia with you after asking for a payroll increase.

Have you ever deliberately spent unnecessary money on possession like inappropriate magazines that you have to cover up with the daily newspaper—or invested top dollars in a movie you shouldn’t have laid your sanctified, Holy Ghost filled pupils on? Have you ever used your money to purchase something you got intoxicated with that put you on cloud nine? Do you ever work at least seven out of seven days a week to make more money—while continuously ignoring God’s indefinite command that you ought to set aside one of those days each week to focus on worshiping Him?

Moreover, have you ever used your money to register your children for so many extracurricular activities that there’s no time left in their schedules to pass on spiritual values of worship to them? And let's be honest, have you ever ignore the Lord’s work or ignored the poor with that portion of your income that God said needs to be set aside for the purpose of blessing the house or God? So, let's be real with one another—whenever there's a need one will make sure that the funds are available to support that personal need. But what profits a man soul? Is it a physical need of spiritual need! And in order to digest the spiritual needs of God's house, there must also exist tithing members.

Preaching on this subject is just about as pleasant as sticking your finger in someone's eye, yet it is the Word of God. We are to declare the whole council of God. The commencement of tithing was not in the law as many say, but in Abraham, (Genesis 14:20) and (Genesis 28:22). Many say, "I don't tithe." But oh yes, you do. You may not tithe to God, but if you are saved you will tithe either to the mechanic, the doctor, the hospital, the government officials or someone, because God will see to it that you do. So you see, in every church the Christians tithe and giving is very important to support the ministry. And guess what—the funds are available! So let's set the scene as to what led up to the people of God supporting the ministry in abundance.

In the beginning of this chapter we noticed the persecution of the early church. The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection of the dead and were opposed to Peter's preaching of infallible truth. And the priests did not want to be indicted for the crucifixion of Christ.

What the temple administrators witness shocked them to wits end! They thought they had eliminated the "Jesus movement" eight weeks earlier when they had crucified Jesus. They had heard about the preaching incident several days earlier and how excited the people had become (Acts 2:5). And now Peter and John were publicly preaching the rumor that God had raised Jesus from the dead. And they were preaching, of all places, **in the temple precincts**. Now that's boldness! And it was time that the temple administrators investigate the matter, and eliminate this movement before it could spread any further.