

## Debt Principle - God Blesses Obedience

God promised his people, that *if they fully obeyed him*, then He would bless them so that they would be lenders and not borrowers.

*"If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today...The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none."* [Deuteronomy 28:1, 12]

On the other hand, if God's people did not obey Him, then they would be borrowers.

However, *if you do not obey the LORD your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today*, all these curses will come upon you and overtake you....the alien who lives among you will rise above you higher and higher, but you will sink lower and lower. *He will lend to you, but you will not lend to him.*" (Deuteronomy 28:1, 12, & 43, 44 emphasis added).

Unfortunately today, most Christians violate God's financial principles and as a result, accumulate debt. Sometimes it is an ungodly attitude such as envy, lack of contentment, greed or selfishness that causes them to spend more than the income that God has entrusted to them. Or, they "live paycheque to paycheque" [Proverbs 21:20] with no budget [Luke 14:28-30], and make financial decisions based upon their "gut feel" or personal desires, without asking for God's wisdom [James 1:5] and God's specific direction [Psalms 32:8].

Please remember, God has promised to meet our needs [Matthew 6:28-33], but not necessarily our wants and desires. If you want to be obedient to God, there is no substitute for being content with God's provision. "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." (Heb 13:5)

All of us, like the apostle Paul, must learn to be content with God's provision and the only way to accomplish this, is to have a close personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

"I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength." (Phil 4:11-13)

In summary, God always blesses obedience when we utilize the money that He has entrusted to us [Matthew 25:14-30] according to His principles and His Will. To ensure that you are using God's money God's way, it is absolutely necessary that you regularly spend quality time studying what God's Word says on finances. With 2350 references in the Bible to money and material things, there is "lots to learn".

In this regard, I would encourage you to obtain some of the excellent materials from Crown Financial Ministries Canada - [crowncanada.ca](http://crowncanada.ca). In addition, if you would like a copy of my workbook called "Debt Reduction God's Way", then send an e-mail to me [[Thomas@copland-CA.com](mailto:Thomas@copland-CA.com)] and I will e-mail it to you at no charge.