

Welcome and thank you for listening. Let's pray.

Jesus, I pray that Your divine anointing will be on every word spoken during this broadcast and that Your divine purposes will be accomplished in every listener's life. I pray that hearts will be changed, minds will be renewed, and hurting people healed because of Your Word. But most of all, bring us unto the knowledge of Jesus as Lord and Savior. In Jesus name.

Last week I started a discussion about debt. I want to continue this discussion about debt. I want to discuss it from a commonsense and logical point of view. I do not think emotions and finances serve each other well.

As an accountant, I like numbers. The numbers either add up or they don't. There are no shades of grey and I did not have to make a subjective or an emotional judgment call about the numbers. Two plus two always equals four and at the end of the day, your books balance or they do not.

I also have managed the finances of my personal household. I had to look at how much income was available to cover my family's needs first and then if there was any excess or discretionary income, I would have to make choices on the wisest way to use that extra money.

When I was in my twenties, my first husband was in a devastating accident. He stopped breathing on the day of the accident, but he was resuscitated. He had a skull fracture and was in a coma. His entire body had been crushed and he was not breathing on his own. He underwent eight hours of surgery. He had both legs crushed and his left arm was broken in two places. He had nerve damage on his left side because a major nerve in his left arm and leg had been severed.

So I was suddenly the only working person in my household. I had three children and a mortgage. My husband was in intensive care for weeks because he was in a coma and then a semi-coma. Finally they moved him to a room and then sent him home in a body cast for several more weeks. When the body cast came off, he had to spend weeks in a rehab facility to learn how to walk again. It basically took about a year for him to recover from most of his injuries, but the trauma caused his kidneys to fail and he ended up on dialysis. Dialysis may extend your life, but it is a very hard existence. My husband was in and out of the hospital for five years and then he passed when I was thirty four.

During my husband's illness and after I was a widow, I had to work two jobs and sometimes tried to work a third job to make ends meet. I know what it is to have to budget my income and make hard financial decisions. My

children heard "NO" you can't have designer tennis shoes and to many other things.

We lived in a climate that summer temperatures got to 105 degrees, but I could not afford air conditioning. Many people in that climate regarded air conditioning a necessity, but if I ran my air conditioning I was not going to be able to pay the bill and then all of our electricity would have been cut off. Instead, I taught my children to be grateful that we had a roof over our heads, food to eat, and to count their blessings.

Even after I remarried, we had to live on a budget. We had five children together. We believed that you only go into debt for appreciable items, like a mortgage for a home. We have borrowed for vehicles, but usually we had saved and had a big down payment and paid it off early. Once the car was paid for we maintained it and drove it for years. Most of our cars we drove over 10 years. We had credit cards, but we did not accumulate debt on them. We paid them off every month. Paying interest on an item that is only going to depreciate is digging a financial hole that will be very painful to escape.

Neither my husband nor I came from wealthy households. We each had to find a way to pay for our own educations. Our parents were not able to help. My husband went into the military and I had excellent grades, so I got scholarships and worked for the rest of my college expenses. I had to drop out of school several times and work and save and then resume my education. It was not easy, but it taught me how to manage my money. My husband and I, never took a student loan. When we finished college, we were both debt free.

I have told you about my personal struggles with balancing my own life and finances, because if I can put myself through college without student loans, if I can work two or three jobs and pay my family's bills all by myself, and if I can live without going into crushing debt for over 60 years, then why can't other families and our nation as a whole.

I think it has a lot to do with our attitudes and everyone wants immediate gratification. People are less and less willing to wait, sacrifice, save, and live on a cash basis. I see it even in my own grandchildren. They think that I am being hurtful when I tell them "NO" we are not going to buy something in a store. They expect me to just whip out the credit card and give it a swipe. I usually give them a dollar limit to shop with. If they can find 20 things for that dollar amount, I have no problem with them getting those things. But if they want to exceed their budget to get all those things, then I give them a lesson in money management. You have to choose the things or the one thing that you want or need most. You must put the rest back and save until

you have the cash to buy it. Now this can lead to an emotional few minutes, but they also learn that the moment will pass and miraculously they survive.

Credit and debt has become too easy in the last few decades. Some people even think that debt is the way to prosperity. Well you may look prosperous on the outside but you are actually selling yourself into bondage that will take years to escape.

Debt is not prosperity, it is slavery. On a personal basis, you no longer get up and go to work, at a job that most of you do not even enjoy, to just put a roof over your head or food on the table, but you are spending years of your life to pay debt and interest that you signed up for voluntarily. You sold yourself into slavery.

On a national level, we are letting our politicians sell not just us, but future generations of our children into slavery, because of debt and interest on that debt.

Would you like to know which countries that our nation and children are in bondage to?

China holds the majority of our foreign debt, followed by Japan, Brazil, Ireland, the United Kingdom, Luxembourg and the Cayman Islands (which are fronts for sovereign wealth funds and hedge funds), Belgium, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, and India.

Debt owned by countries who are fronts for sovereign and hedge funds means that they don't want to reveal WHO we actually have sold our financial souls to. So billions in US debt could be held by enemy regimes that could use it as leverage and political advantage against us someday.

So Americans and especially American Christians, how do you like being in bondage to China, Saudi Arabia, India, or any other groups of peoples. If we ever have to default on our debt, these nations will own our farmlands, national parks, infrastructure, natural resources, and the list goes on. It is time for Americans to wake up and smell the coffee, or should I say the stink of foreign debt at your door step.

What does the Bible say about lending and borrowing and interest charges for lending? Here are some scriptures on the subject.

[Exo 22:25](#) If you **lend** money to *any of* my people *that is* poor, thou shall not be to him as a creditor, neither shall you require interest of him.

[Lev 25:37](#) Thou shall not lend him your money with interest, nor **lend** him your groceries for profit.

Deu 15:6 For the LORD thy God blesses thee, as he promised you: and you shall **lend** unto many nations, but you shall not borrow; and you shall rule over many nations, but they shall not rule over you.

Deu 23:19 Thou shall not **lend** on interest to thy brother; interest on money, on groceries, on anything that is lent for interest.

Deu 23:20 To your brother you shall not **lend** with interest: that the LORD your God may bless you in all that you undertake in the land to which you go to possess it.

Deu 28:12 The LORD shall open unto you his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto your land in his season, and to bless all the work of your hand: and you shall **lend** unto many nations, and thou shall not borrow.

Did you know that America owes about one half trillion in interest alone annually on our debt? If we are never paying down the principle, how can we sustain an interest burden of over a half trillion dollars a year and with every tick of the clock is going up. Not to mention that interest rates have been historically low since the financial meltdown of 2008. What are we going to do when interest rates start to rise significantly? And interest rates will rise.

If you would not handle your personal household budget in this manner, why are you continuing to vote for politicians who are risking our nation's financial future so recklessly.

Notice also that the Bible says the Lord will bless you and open his good treasure and bless all the work of your hands. Whatever happened to doing the right thing and waiting for God to just bless you? Whatever happened to paying your first fruits in tithes and offerings unto the Lord and letting God prosper you without having to go into debt?

We miss God's BEST for us when we try to achieve prosperity with just human effort. We miss God's BEST when we go into debt to give our families more stuff. Stuff is not making the average household any happier. Money problems are a primary source of stress for most marriages and contribute to the high divorce rate. Even in Christian homes. Being in debt steals your joy, your time, your health, and your very life. Just say NO to debt.

I have to end it there, but I will be talking on this subject some more next time.

I want to offer everyone the opportunity to pray and ask Jesus to become their Lord and Savior. This prayer will give you the chance to secure external life and be born again. Jesus is the ONLY WAY to redeem your soul from sin and to secure eternal life. Repeat this prayer with me.

Jesus I confess I am a sinner. I humble myself and repent of my sins. Please forgive me of my sins. I believe You sacrificed your life and rose again from the dead to secure my salvation. Jesus come into my heart and be my

Lord and Savior. Jesus help me live my life for you from this day forth. In Jesus name.

Thank you for listening and God bless you all.