

## **POVERTY, PROSPERITY OR STEWARDSHIP**

I John 2:15; 3 John 2; Matthew 6:24

### **THE OWNER/SERVANT RELATIONSHIP**

- Choice
- Control
- Confidence:

**Two things reveal who you serve:**      Calendar & Checkbook.

### **WHAT AMERICANS BELIEVE IS SUCCESS.**

- ❖ **Good health**
- ❖ **Enjoyable job**
- ❖ **Happy family**
- ❖ **Good education**
- ❖ **Peace of mind**
- ❖ **Good friends**

### **1. THE POVERTY THEOLOGY**      1 Tim. 6:10; James 2:6 – 7; Phil 4:12 – 13

- ❖ Doing well financially implies dishonesty.      Proverbs 22:2
- ❖ It exaggerates the role of sacrificial work.
- ❖ They are extremely naive.
- ❖ It can become a manipulative life-style.

### **2. THE PROSPERITY THEOLOGY**

- ❖ Prosperity is a sign of God's approval.
- ❖ It produces guilt.
- ❖ It creates wrong motives:

### **Errors to avoid if financially blessed.**

- a. Don't take credit for your prosperity.
- b. Ingratitude.
- c. Guilt.
- d. Dependence on prosperity.

### **3. STEWARDSHIP THEOLOGY**

- ❖ It all belongs to God and I am simply the manager.