

The Heavenly Bank

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Have you ever been to Heaven? My wife and I have been privileged to go there many times over the years. I wrote 3-4 pages about some of my experiences there in my book, *The High Calling of God*. I talked about some of the libraries in Heaven, however, I did not mention the Heavenly Bank that I've seen there. Now this may be hard for you to believe but there is the most glorious looking bank in Heaven that you have ever seen. When you see certain things like this in Heaven your initial reaction is normally, "What is that doing here?"

Well I have to tell you that it's a lot different than any bank on earth because when you enter that bank *you* are always the only customer in the bank and you have your own personal "banker" who takes care of you; it's kinda like the very, very personal service that banks in Switzerland give to their most precious and wealthy clients.

The Lord has impressed me to write about this though I've never shared it before either in writing or any messages I've preached. But you need to know how this spiritual bank in Heaven works, especially if you want to make a withdrawal from your account there.

It's been an unfortunate thing – although none would probably admit it today -- that money has always been one of the idols in many churches and ministries. And, as I've said many times before in my writings and preaching, you should study Church history. It's important if you want to know the truth about certain Christian doctrine, e.g., the rapture of the Church, that you find out what the early church elders and fathers thought and wrote about it. There is quite a bit of this history available to us and it's instructive, for example, to know what Polycarp thought about certain things because he was a disciple of the Apostle John and presumably much of what John knew was passed down.

One of the things you will learn if you study Church history is, from the time of the Apostle Paul in the middle of the first century A.D., that the number one sign in the Church of a *false* prophet or teacher was a preoccupation with money. Both Paul and Peter wrote about this in their epistles. I submit the same is still true today.

You need to understand that this is an area where much of the Body of Christ is being manipulated and deceived. Yes it's true that you are supposed to give of finances to further the Kingdom of God upon the earth but if you don't invest God's money (the tithe) where He wants you to then you will not have a deposit in your Heavenly Bank Account.

As I shared in the book, *Hebrews*, when writing about the different types of angels I've seen, there are what I call "scribe" angels that write down every single thing that we do and say. These angels are also responsible for detailing not only your works for the Kingdom, attitude, thoughts, prayers, etc., but also your financial giving.

Now an important item to understand is that *no matter what else you do or don't do for the Kingdom, how holy a life you live and no matter*

how much sin there may be in your life or how intimate you are with God it does not affect your Heavenly bank account! While it's true that you will receive "rewards" in Heaven based on how many people you win to the Lord and other things you do for the Kingdom it does not affect your bank account.

As I shared in *Mysterious Secrets*, spiritual things are like physical things and in the area of banking this is certainly true. Just like in your home country, you don't go to the bank for anything except financial matters – you don't go there if you need food to eat; they don't have any food there – you don't go to the bank if you need healing, deliverance or a miracle do you? No, hopefully you can receive those at your church although this has become increasingly more difficult because of the apostasy of so many churches today.

The same is true for the Heavenly Bank and your account there – your only dealings with the Bank of Heaven is in the area of finances and you should know that the principles are the same as here – you have an account into which you make deposits and withdrawals! If you want to make a large withdrawal then you must have made enough "deposits" to cover the withdrawal otherwise the funds will be denied to you and you may never know *why* in the natural, e.g., your prayer is not answered for these finances unless God tells you.

You might pray and ask God to give you \$50,000 for a down payment on your first house but unless you have the deposits in your Heavenly bank account your *prayer check (cheque)* will not be honored! It will be stamped "insufficient funds" and you may never even know it. I believe that is why the Lord has impressed me to write this article; in case you have some financial needs that you are not seeing the Lord meet and you don't know why.

Now, we must talk about your giving – your deposits to your Heavenly account for you to understand the problem most Christians have with finances. There are many different types of tithes and offerings mentioned in the Scriptures but only *three* are mentioned in the New Testament as applicable to Christians – these are *tithes, offerings and alms*. A tithe by definition is 10% of your gross income; offerings can be any amount above the tithe whereas alms are offerings given specifically to help the poor. However, you cannot give an offering or alms until your tithe is paid.

Now I've known quite a few Christians who say, "The tithe is Old Testament" and based on the fact that less than 4% of Christians tithe today I suppose one would have to assume that most Christians don't think the tithe is New Testament; either that or they are simply in rebellion.

But I believe it's also New Testament because Jesus said to the Pharisees regarding the tithe, "This ye should have done ..." (Mt. 23:23, Lk. 11:42). The main purpose of the tithe in the Old Testament was to support the Levitical priests; under the New Covenant it is to support the Five-fold ministers of God.

If you study the Old Testament you'll find times when Israel and Judah both fell away from the Lord because people stopped tithing and the Levites had to quit their duties to make a living any way they could. Another reason I believe the tithe is New Testament has to do with a vision the Lord gave me in Akure, Nigeria, in December, 1989, when I was asked to preach on tithing at a large conference because the pastor who was to preach that night did not show up.

I was not prepared to speak about tithing but as I stood up and said, “Open your bibles to Malachi ...” a vision broke right in front of me and I saw Satan go before the Throne of God and say, referring to a certain Christian man that I did not recognize, “This person is not a tither so I have a right to attack their finances.” I learned from this that the first place to look if you’re a Christian under financial attack is in this area of tithing and giving.

Jesus spoke quite a bit about money – it was one of the “gods” of the Pharisees and, unfortunately, it’s one of the “gods” of most “ministries” today because they think nothing of lying and manipulating Christians in order to get it. In the ‘90s we actually published our newsletter/teachings and mailed them out to people. In one of them we gave a revelation about the spirit realm being like a court system with the Father being the Judge, Satan being the prosecuting attorney and Jesus and the Holy Spirit being our counselor. A well-known national ministry who received our newsletter took that revelation and used it in their ministry appeal letters for finances saying that if you’d send them X amount of money then this minister would “personally go before the throne of God and intercede for you”, etc., ad nauseum.

My dear brothers and sister, even if I know God better than you it won’t affect your ability to receive in the area of finances. This is a manipulation that’s been fostered on ignorant Church members for years in order to get you to give to their ministry; haven’t you ever noticed that they don’t tell you to give except to their ministry? That is nonsense but it doesn’t obviate the Lord’s wish that you tithe to support the work of the Kingdom.

Listen, you should *only give* out of prayer and listening to God; not because of some emotional, financial manipulation from one of the countless liars, a.k.a. known as “ministry fundraisers” who claims that “a big angel came into my room last night and said everybody who gives \$1,000 to xyz (fill in the blanks yourself) ministry will receive xyz (again, fill in the blanks).” These Balaam-spirited fundraisers get a percentage of the amount of money they raise and they departed from truth and decency decades ago.

I dealt with this blight in *Mysterious Secrets* but it’s even much worse today. Yet, unfortunately, too many Christians continue to support these “ministries” (or they would quit using these tactics; they do it because it “works”) instead of those who are doing something for the Kingdom mostly because they believe the lies and think they will be blessed when, in fact, giving to such ministries or churches *does not make a deposit* into their Heavenly Bank.

Jesus, in teaching His disciples about giving, illustrated a principle of the Heavenly Bank in Mark 12. Jesus wanted His disciples to understand this principle of giving so in the case of this poor widow who was *giving* to the Lord, He called His disciples (Mark 12:43) and said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.” (NKJV)

There are three (God’s perfect number) *key principles* – and you should write these down – that affect your Heavenly bank account and how much you have on deposit: (1) how *much* you give, (2) how much you have left that you could have given, and (3) *who* you give to and *why*.

Now, the tithe belongs to the Lord; therefore, you should invest it where He tells you to if you want to make a deposit to your Heavenly Bank account. Naturally, if you attend a local church that is giving you spiritual nourishment and is advancing the Kingdom of God then you should support your church with finances, time and talent.

God's Bookkeeping

How much money is in your Heavenly Bank Account? Do you know? If not then you need the Eye of the Eagle to find out. The word "bookkeeping" refers to "the activity or profession of recording the money received and spent by a person, business, or organization."

The Lord records every penny that you give to Him and He also records how it is spent and whether or not you spent His money on something for yourself personally; remember in Malachi He indicted Israel for this. As human beings we have a tendency to *rationalize* things. I learned in behavioral science that this is a very destructive behavior because it inhibits learning. In the spirit realm, the devil knows this so he will always try to get you to rationalize away an impression from the Holy Spirit when He moves upon you to give an offering to a missionary or alms to the poor.

However, and this is why in everything we do we should always learn to follow the Holy Spirit, if you give your tithes, offerings and alms in the right spirit and they are good investments that the Holy Spirit is leading you to support then you will receive a deposit in your Heavenly Bank Account equal to 100 times what you gave.

In 1990 the Lord spoke to me about "the biblical concepts of giving" – your giving of tithes, offerings and alms should not be done casually and should never be done out of an emotional appeal or some pledge

that you will receive something from that ministry. No, what the Lord showed me was that *all* your giving should be done from a cheerful, grateful heart (God loves a “cheerful giver”) with pure motives to advance the Kingdom of God. He will bless you for giving the correct way. Your Heavenly Bank Account will continue to grow and thrive; you will have the sufficient funds in your account for the financial needs in your life. Praise the Lord! He is faithful! Remember these words of His:

“Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed Down, shaken together, and running over will be put into Your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, It will be measured back to you.” ■ Luke 6:38 NKJV

