Money: Scripturally Obtaining

Intro: All that we do must have the authority of God behind it as Paul stated in Col. 3:17 “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.” When it comes to the making of money, how has God authorized the obtaining of money.

I. LAW OF LABOR

A. God has always authorized man to work.
   1. From the beginning.
      a. Gen. 2:15 “And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.”
      b. Gen. 3:19 “In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.”
   2. In the Law of Moses
      a. Exo. 20:9 “Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:”
      b. Exo. 23:12 “Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest: that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed.”
   3. We are not subject to the Old Testament law.
      a. Eph. 2:14-15 “For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;”
      b. Col. 2:14 “Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;”
      c. Yet, we learn principles from that Old Testament that are just as valid today as then.

B. Under the New Testament
   1. Eph. 4:28 “Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”
   2. 1 The. 4:11 “And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;”
   3. 2 The. 3:10, 12 “For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat....12Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.”

II. LAW OF EXCHANGE

A. The buying and selling of goods.
   1. A person has some commodity or goods to sell or trade.
   2. Another person has a desire for that merchandise and buys it or trades for something the other person wants.
   3. The person selling has the right to make money off his goods.
B. Jam. 4:13 “Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain.”
   1. James uses this illustration because it was a common practice.
   2. James does condemn certain elements.
      a. James condemns making plans without God.
      b. Jam. 4:14-15 “Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. 
         15For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.”
   3. James does not condemn the buying, selling, and getting gain.
      a. He shows this is an authorized way of making money.
      b. They were going to practice the law of exchange.

III. LAW OF LOAN
   A. One has something (goods, money, etc.) which someone else needs.
      1. He agrees to pay a fee for the use of that which he needs.
      2. He does so without buying the good.
   B. It is generally associated with the lending of money and interest being charged and paid.
      1. Deu. 23:19-20 “Thou shalt not lend upon usury to thy brother; usury of money, usury of victuals, usury of any thing that is lent upon usury: 
         20Unto a stranger thou mayest lend upon usury; but unto thy brother thou shalt not lend upon usury: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all that thou settest thine hand to in the land whither thou goest to possess it.”
      2. Mat. 25:27 “Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.”

IV. LAW OF LOVE
   A. A gift given without any expectation of something in return.
   B. Acts 20:35 “I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.”
   C. This would include:
      1. Gifts or Expressions of love
      2. Inheritance

V. VIOLATIONS
   A. Stealing
      1. Exo. 20:15 “Thou shalt not steal.”
      2. Eph. 4:28 “Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”
      3. Stealing would also include not working properly.
B. Gambling
   1. It is a violation of many Bible principles.
   2. Discourages honest work.
   3. Results in slothfulness.
   4. Violates principles of stewardship.
   5. Breeds crime.
   6. Highly addictive.
   7. Destroys homes.
   8. The enemy of mental peace.
   9. Sets a bad example.
  10. Violates the love principle.

Conclusion: Proper work habits need to be instilled in all people at an early age. Remember what Paul said, Rom. 12:11 “Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;”