

What Statement Are You Making?

2 Chronicles 1:6-7 (NASB)

6 Solomon went up there before the Lord to the bronze altar which was at the tent of meeting, and offered a thousand burnt offerings on it.

7 In that night God appeared to Solomon and said to him, “Ask what I shall give you.”

Rather we realize it or not, there is something always speaking for us when we're not around. It's our Bank Statement. We're not talking about the bank statement they mail or email us, if we have paperless billing. We are literally talking about the statement our life is making, by what we do with the resources God has placed into our hands.

In order to properly understand and operate the biblical principles discussed in this lesson, we must define a couple of terms:

Bank – the container that houses your resources.

Statement – the ledger that explains your heart's position toward the resources in your bank.

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Matthew 26:6-13 (NASB)

6 Now when Jesus was in Bethany, at the home of Simon the leper,

7 a woman came to Him with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume, and she poured it on His head as He reclined at the table.

8 But the disciples were indignant when they saw this, and said, “Why this waste?”

9 For this perfume might have been sold for a high price and the money given to the poor.”

10 But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you bother the woman? For she has done a good deed to Me.

11 For you always have the poor with you; but you do not always have Me.

12 For when she poured this perfume on My body, she did it to prepare Me for burial.

13 Truly I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be spoken of in memory of her.”

The woman who came to Jesus was a prostitute. She came and poured precious, costly oil on Him. The value of the oil is estimated to be worth her life savings. That oil she used was to cover the stench of her profession. Rather we know it or not, God is conscious of rather our giving is from the heart. **IF IT MEANS SOMETHING TO YOU, IT MEANS SOMETHING TO GOD**

1. My bank statement shows God His _____ in my life.

1 Kings 19:19-21 (NLT)

19 So Elijah went and found Elisha son of Shaphat plowing a field. There were twelve teams of oxen in the field, and Elisha was plowing with the twelfth team. Elijah went over to him and threw his cloak across his shoulders and then walked away.

20 Elisha left the oxen standing there, ran after Elijah, and said to him, “First let me go and kiss my father and mother good-bye, and then I will go with you!”Elijah replied, “Go on back, but think about what I have done to you.”

21 So Elisha returned to his oxen and slaughtered them. He used the wood from the plow to build a fire to roast their flesh. He passed around the meat to the townspeople, and they all ate. Then he went with Elijah as his assistant.

When God places a mantle or a call on our lives, it's up to us to go after it. The problem is, too many people are looking for a **PLAN B**. Just in case this doesn't work I can always do... Elisha eliminated all other options. Not only did he kill the oxen, he used the wood from the plow to cook them and gave the meat to the town's people. God expects us to depend on Him and Him only. **GOD IS AN UNLIMITED GOD. HE NEVER RUNS OUT.**

2. My bank statement displays my _____ of supply.

1 Kings 17:11-16 (NASB)

11 As she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand."

12 But she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have no bread, only a handful of flour in the bowl and a little oil in the jar; and behold, I am gathering a few sticks that I may go in and prepare for me and my son, that we may eat it and die."

13 Then Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go, do as you have said, but make me a little bread cake from it first and bring it out to me, and afterward you may make one for yourself and for your son.

14 For thus says the Lord God of Israel, 'The bowl of flour shall not be exhausted, nor shall the jar of oil be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth.'

15 So she went and did according to the word of Elijah, and she and he and her household ate for many days.

16 The bowl of flour was not exhausted nor did the jar of oil become empty, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke through Elijah.

Spiritual laws do not work on accident. They work on purpose. The man of God was trying to get the widow to operate spiritual law. Elijah was telling the widow in essence, "**Use me to authorize God to bless you.**" Here is a biblical principle that will change your finances forever. Someone near you is the soil qualified to receive your seed. **IF YOU WANT GOD INVOLVED, AUTHORIZE HIM TO GET INVOLVED**

3. My bank statement _____ God to get involved.

Genesis 22:7-8 (NASB)

7 Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” And he said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

8 Abraham said, “God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them walked on together.

Some people are only with you for the stuff. If you no longer have stuff, you no longer have them. It's not hard to prosper in the Kingdom, when God is first. Abraham loved God even more than his own son. It's not hard to love your family and friends, if you love God more. Until Abraham was willing to let go of Isaac, God could not let go of Jesus. **NOTHING LEAVES HEAVEN UNTIL SOMETHING LEAVES EARTH**

4. My bank statement shows God what I _____ most.

Matthew 26:39 (NASB)

39 And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.”

God is such an amazing and just God. He won't ask us to do anything He is unwilling to do. There is an important principle found in this story. Our offerings affect more than just ourselves. The offering God instructed Jesus to give was to have an impact on us all. Jesus said, “I really don't want to give it all, but if you want me to, I will.” Our lives and families will never be the same, when we learn the influence our seeds have on our future.

5. My bank statement _____ all who come after me.

Our bank statement explains our heart's position toward the resources God has given us. Learning to put God first in our finances and everything else in its proper place will ensure stability and increase in our lives.