



*"...but first gave their own
selves to the Lord."*

2 Corinthians 8:5

How To Get More Money From God

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Rev. Antonio F. Ormeo, former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Manila, gave me permission on April 30, 1988 to do what I wanted to with his book HOW TO GET MORE MONEY FROM GOD. He said I could reprint it or change it as God directed me. I have chosen to use the same title and many of his illustrations and graphs in this edition.

My wife, Carol has spent many hours of proof reading and assisted me throughout the preparations of this book. I am grateful to her for helping me make this book a reality.

FORWARD

The Bible has a lot to say about money and the stewardship of money. Money is something that we cannot do without in order to make things move in the right directions. It takes money to get the things we need to survive from day to day. Food, clothing, housing, schooling, medical assistance, and on and on requires money.

After entering the ministry in the summer of 1966 I became aware of the lack of money both in our homes and in our churches. I was always a little backwards about taking offerings or letting the financial needs of the church be known to my people. To preach or teach on the subject meant hard looks from my congregation, criticism and maybe even losing a member or two. One church member and his family even got up in the middle of my sermon and walked out the door and never returned because the topic was on money. Things like

this have kept many a pastor from teaching his people regarding this matter of money.

There have been two significant men who have made a great impact on my life and ministry. The first was Dr. Dolphus Price who is well know as an evangelist out of the Highland Park Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The other is Dr. J.B. Buffington who pastored the Calvary Baptist Church for many years in Lakeland, Florida. Their messages stirred my soul and the souls of my people and got our hearts and minds in the right direction regarding money. I am indebted to these two men of God. They have been a great blessing to me over the years.

A book, GOD'S MIRACULOUS PLAN OF ECONOMY, written by Jack R. Taylor, was sent to me some time ago by a pastor friend. I am sure you will benefit by reading and even preaching through Taylor's book.

It is senseless and unnecessary to have a church that is lacking financially. We must put the "buck" where it belongs, that is, on the Pastor. Dr. Lee Roberson, pastor emeritus of Highland Park Baptist Church, says "Everything rises or falls on leadership."

Let's face it, Pastors and Missionaries, the reason our people and churches are short of money is because we have not taught them about Bible Stewardship. Perhaps the reason we have not taught our people about money is because we are ignorant of this subject ourselves.

I know the many arguments that come to your mind as you read this forward. I have said

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the same thing myself many times. I know what I am talking about and I know that you can experience the blessings of getting more money from God.

My wife, two sons and I arrived in the Philippines July 1, 1980. Before coming here I had pastored four churches in the Southern part of the United States. Upon arrival in the Philippines I saw the extreme poverty and quickly acquired the mentality that these people were too poor to build churches and do the work of God without money from abroad. I noticed that almost all the churches were built and maintained by the American dollar.

I expressed my views in the presence of Dr. J.B. Buffington while he was visiting the Philippines in the early 80's. What he said to me and other like-minded missionaries while here transformed my ministry. Because of that encounter we now have 16 churches, 8 Bible Institutes and one national mission board all supported by Filipino pesos. Each of our Pastors has taught this material to their Sunday School. The Pastors have made copies of each chapter and given each person a copy to follow and take home with them to read and study. These Pastors have not made this a light thing but a serious matter with their people.

We have seen the windows of heaven open, as Malachi 3:8-10 promises. The devourer has been rebuked, Malachi 3:11, and our "poor Filipinos" are experiencing the blessings of God. My faith has been enlarged because of this experience.

It was Henry Ford who said, "Think you can or think you can't, either way you are

right." Dr. Lee Roberson, pastor emeritus of Highland Park Baptist Church, says, "Everything rises or falls on leadership."

I suggest you let this book get hold of you. Once it has taken hold of you, make announcements at every service four weeks before you begin to teach it in your Sunday School. Tell your people what you are going to teach them. Be open about it.

When you start, have copies ready to give to each person on the chapter you are going to teach. Let them follow you in their material as you go through the lesson. Tell your people to take the lesson home and read it again and again until it gets hold of them.

Teach every lesson in the order it is written and do not skip anything and make sure you finish what you start. You might get some dirty looks but keep on with it. The rewards will be wonderful for you and your people. Your people will love you for the truth. They will become richer financially than before. Pastor, you may even get a raise in salary and there will be enough money to paint your church inside and out. What do you have to lose?

May God bless you as you do His work,

Melvyn L. Brown

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