

# **BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP**

## **WHAT IS GOD TELLING ME?**

*Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us...Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just, And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."*

**- Francis Scott Key**

### **I. Review**

- A. God's Economy
- B. Giving to and Supporting His Ministry

### **II. The purposes and dangers of wealth**

- A. Continuity between the testaments
  - 1. Wealth as an occasion for idolatry → As competing object of devotion
  - 2. As the fruit of injustice → A symptom of economic injustice
  - 3. Blessing on the Faithful → A resource of human need
  - 4. Are Material Possessions a Reward of labor?
    - 1. Material Possessions are a good gift from God meant for His people to enjoy
    - 2. They are simultaneously one of the primary means of turning hearts away from God
    - 3. A necessary sign of the process of being redeemed is a transformation in stewardship
    - 4. Certain extremes of wealth and poverty which are in and of themselves intolerable
    - 5. The Bible's teaching about them is inextricably intertwined with spiritual matters.
- B. 37 Passages on "Riches"

### **III. Wealth and Riches in the Scriptures**

- A. Is Wealth a Result of
  - 1. Industry?
  - 2. Blessing from God?
  - 3. A curse from God?
- B. What I Believe about Wealth
  - 1. Neither Good nor Bad
  - 2. Are they being used properly or improperly?
  - 3. Is intent enough?

### **IV. Neither Poverty nor Riches**

- A. Biblical Theology of Possessions
- B. Land Use, Widows, Orphans

### **V. Concepts, Images, Practices**

- A. After We Recognize Biblical View of Money
  - 1. What is God Telling Me?
  - 2. Should I Budget? How?
- B. A Challenge for Next Week and Beyond