

## What is Money?

1) Money: Merriam-Webster, something generally accepted as a medium of exchange, a measure of value, or a means of payment:

a) officially coined or stamped metal currency

2) History: Throughout history various commodities have been used as money, including seashells, beads, and cattle; but since the 17th century the most common forms have been metal coins, paper notes, and bookkeeping entries.

3) Where did earning money come from?

Genesis 3:19a NKJV: In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground

4) What is the difference between money and currency?

- a) Money comes first, then currency
- b) Money is the basis of the exchange

Example: In Genesis 29:16 - 24 (Message Bible) Jacob's ability to run the ranch (money) earned his room and board, and Leah's hand in marriage.

<sup>16-18</sup> Now Laban had two daughters; Leah was the older and Rachel the younger. Leah had nice eyes, but Rachel was stunningly beautiful. And it was Rachel that Jacob loved. So Jacob answered, "I will work for you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel."

<sup>19</sup> "It is far better," said Laban, "that I give her to you than marry her to some outsider. Yes. Stay here with me." <sup>20</sup> So Jacob worked seven years for Rachel. But it only seemed like a few days, he loved her so much.

<sup>21-24</sup> Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife; I've completed what we agreed I'd do. I'm ready to consummate my marriage." Laban invited everyone around and threw a big feast. At evening, though, he got his daughter Leah and brought her to the marriage bed, and Jacob slept with her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah as her maid.)

5) Trust grows our real money because it increases people's willingness to work with us in the future. This creates an exchange in which they share currency with us.

Genesis 29: 25-30 Message:

<sup>25</sup> Morning came: There was Leah in the marriage bed! Jacob confronted Laban, “What have you done to me? Didn’t I work all this time for the hand of Rachel? Why did you cheat me?” <sup>26-27</sup> “We don’t do it that way in our country,” said Laban. “We don’t marry off the younger daughter before the older. Enjoy your week of honeymoon, and then we’ll give you the other one also. But it will cost you another seven years of work.”

<sup>28-30</sup> Jacob agreed. When he’d completed the honeymoon week, Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife. (Laban gave his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as her maid.) Jacob then slept with her. And he loved Rachel more than Leah. He worked for Laban another seven years.

6) Money is used and grows in the natural, the realm of the soul and the Spirit.

a) Money grows in the natural by force or faith.

Gal. 3: 2-3 NKJV: This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? <sup>3</sup> Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?

Romans 10:17 NKJV: So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

b) Money grows in the realm of the soul by desire- Self-centered or Christ-centered

Matt. 6:33 NKJV: But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

c) We are wealthy in the Spirit. In the Spirit the exchange has already happened for a Believer.

As the reality of the wealth in the Spirit grows in our hearts the manifestation of that wealth becomes seen.

Ephesians 1:3 NKJV: Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ.

Proverbs 10:22 NKJV: The blessing of the Lord makes *one* rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.

Hebrews 11:6 NKJV: But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.