



CROWN FINANCIAL MINISTRIES™

November, 2009



Dear Friend,

I was wrong.

I thought I could be the first man ever to successfully serve both God and money. But I found out firsthand, it doesn't work. With God shining the light of His Word into my heart and showing me that Money was actually on the throne of my life, I realized I had a serious problem.

Just getting out of debt wasn't going to be enough. Living on a budget, having a financial plan — these alone weren't going to cut it. I certainly needed all of this, but there was something else I needed more, and first.

I needed to repent ... repent of my double-mindedness. Fully surrender my life to the control of one Master, Jesus Christ. Seek first His kingdom and righteousness.

I needed to learn to live in the reality of Psalm 24:1: "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it."

That was almost a decade ago. God by His mercy began a transformation in me. Getting myself under the Lordship of Jesus made all the difference. And as time went by, I came to understand more of God's Economy ... that is, the divine integration of the mystery of God's lordship, my stewardship, and generosity.

The same transformation that began in me has begun in multitudes of others, through the unique work of Crown Financial Ministries. I think of a realtor in Texas — I'll call her Mandy — who had a serious problem. Every time she showed a house for sale, she came back to her own home wracked by envy and discontentment. She wasn't satisfied with what she had; she wanted what they had.

She was in such bondage that she began pleading with God to lead her into a different line of work. But God had a better idea ... to lead her into a different line of *thinking*. She began to realize that the stuff she was coveting wasn't really important. Finally, the light came on for Mandy.

"A gourmet kitchen or high ceilings," she says today, "don't help my goal

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of leaving a legacy of the richness of Christ for my children....

"I sense God wants to work a spirit of humility and contentment in me with my current home, and I'm happy to oblige.

"Besides, if we were to buy a new home, someone will come up with something new that my home does not have, and then I will quickly return to my old state of discontentment.

"Therefore, it's much wiser to change my attitude than my circumstance!"

Mandy has been transformed ... set free. She is living more and more in the freedom of God's Economy, not the bondage of Man's Economy.

But tragically, millions are still stuck. They're stuck in Man's Economy. Stuck like I was. Stuck like Mandy was. They're crushed by despair against the backdrop of the daily news. World economic conditions are scary — unemployment is still at devastating levels — people are simply giving up hope for the future. They've made Money their master, and their master has abandoned them.

But God's Economy offers a dramatically different vision! To make Jesus the Master is transformative. I've enclosed for you a valuable resource, "6 Steps Toward Living Under Lordship," that will help you head in that direction. Maybe God will lead you to share it with someone else as well.

Meanwhile, I invite you today to help us share this powerful, practical, proven biblical message ... the hope of transformation ... with people far beyond your personal circle of influence.

By God's grace, a friend of Crown Financial Ministries has provided a \$500,000 "Transformation Challenge" grant. This means any gift you give by December 31 (up to \$500,000) will effectively be doubled in impact and will go to work immediately, helping to create and broadcast our radio programs (for your benefit and for many others), to share our high-impact *God Provides™ Film Learning Experience*, to produce vitally important live events across the country, to generate urgently needed resources, and advance all the proven-effective channels of our ministry.

Bottom line, and most important of all, lives will change. People ensnared in Man's Economy, enslaved to the "master" of Money, will surrender their hearts and

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lives to the King. People trapped in despair will emerge into hope. People far from God will draw close to Him.

On their behalf, I thank you in advance for the generous and life-transforming gift you'll give today. May God bless you as you do.

God is Faithful,



Chuck Bentley, CEO

1 Corinthians 1:9

P.S. Terri is another example of what God can do through your generous support of this unique ministry. Her husband left her, and she turned to us for help. Because of the giving of you and other friends, we gently led her toward the principles of God's Economy, beginning with a recognition that He owns it all in the first place!

God's provision proved to be more than adequate — Terri found herself able to save money in spite of being unemployed! Eventually the Lord led her to a new and better job. Today, she's using our resources to teach others in her church.

Serving as "a good steward of those resources entrusted to me by God," Terri says, "is now a way of life.... Thank you for filling a needed void in a world that looks to wealth and material things to fill that God-shaped hole in all our hearts."

And I, likewise, thank you. Your prayerful giving, by God's grace, makes this "void-filling" ministry happen!

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