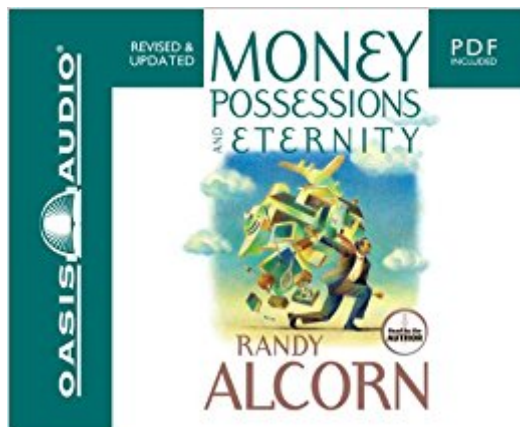


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Money, Possessions And Eternity



Synopsis

Who wants to settle for fleeting treasures on earth... when God offers everlasting treasures in Heaven? It's time to rethink our perspectives on money and possessions. In this thoroughly researched and extensively updated classic, Randy Alcorn shows us how to view them accurately--as God's provision for our good, the good of others, and his glory. Alcorn presents a biblical and comprehensive view of money and possessions, including the following: Why is money so important to God? Is prosperity theology right or wrong? How can we be liberated from materialism? What should we do about debt? How much does God want us to give? How can we best help the poor and reach the lost? What about gambling? investing? insurance? saving? retirement? inheritance? How can we leave our children a true heritage? How can we use money in ways that God rewards?

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Customer Reviews

Who wants to settle for fleeting treasures on earth... When God offers everlasting treasures in heaven? It's time to rethink our perspectives on money and possessions. In this thoroughly researched and extensively updated classic, Randy Alcorn shows us how to view them accurately--as God's provision for our good, the good of others, and his glory. Alcorn presents a biblical and comprehensive view of money and possessions, including: Why is money so important to God? Is prosperity theology right or wrong? How can we be liberated from materialism? What should we do about debt? How much does God want us to give? How can we best help the poor and reach the lost? What about gambling? investing? insurance? saving? retirement? inheritance?

How can we leave our children a true heritage? How can we use money in ways that God rewards? This practical and refreshing theology of money contains topical and Scripture indexes, a study guide, and five helpful appendices.

Randy Alcorn is the founder and director of Eternal Perspective Ministries (EPM). He's the author of over thirty books, including *Heaven*, and *Safely Home*, the 2002 Gold Medallion winner for fiction. Randy and his wife, Nanci, live in Gresham, Oregon. They have two married daughters, Karina and Angela, and several grandchildren.

Alcorn has some good advice about money and possessions and usually cites relevant scripture to support his assertions. In some cases though (especially his conjectures about heaven and eternity) he twists bible verses to give the appearance of scriptural support. For example in chapter 8, Alcorn cites Revelation 6:9-11 and concludes that inhabitants of heaven have knowledge of what is happening on the earth. Nothing in that verse even suggests such knowledge. Additionally, Alcorn uses the words of Jesus (Luke 10:14 and 20:47) speaking about degrees of punishment and judgment to conclude that there are differing degrees of reward in heaven. "If things are this way in hell, they must be the same way in heaven," is his conclusion. His logic just isn't there. Honestly, if Alcorn didn't go on so much about heaven and eternal rewards, this would be a good book about Christian finances and proper use of the gifts that God has loaned to us for a time.

I've only browsed through this but I can't wait to read it cover to cover. Randy Alcorn came highly recommended by a pastor & the reviews sealed the deal for this purchase. I appreciate that it has topical Scriptural indexes, a study guide, & 5 helpful appendices. For me these are the ear marks of a well rounded Christian "self-help" manual. This book is comprised of four parts which covers everything I could possibly want to have indepth information regarding these topics. Part 1: The Challenge Of Money & Possessions Part 2: Seeing Money & Possessions In Eternity's Light Part 3: Giving & Sharing Our Money & Possessions Part 4: Handling Our Money & Possessions This is a revised & updated edition. I look forward to the changes this book will bring about in my life & my adult children's lives. I'm sending each one of them a copy. Garner everthing you can from this book. Enjoy!!!

This is the most exhaustive and complete book that I have ever found on what the Bible says about money. It is not necessarily an easy read at 520 pages long. But, if you want a great understanding

of what the Bible says about money, this book is for you. I agree with most of what Alcorn says, but there are a few points of disagreement that I have with him, mainly in the area of insurance. While it is admirable to want the church to care for those in great need, that is just not the reality of the world we live in. Sin has created an environment where things don't work as God intended, and death is a reality. We have a high responsibility to care for our families, and it seems to me that a prudent amount of insurance is an important part of this provision. I love many of the quotes and stories that Randy shares, and I have quoted him several times in my own book about what the Bible says about money. *Financial Faithfulness: Unlocking Scripture to Avoid the Distraction of Money* Christians struggle mightily to handle money according to the principles laid out in Scripture. Thus, this is an important book to read and then to keep on your shelf as a reference to refer back to.

It is great as a Christian really working towards living by the Bible to find a resource like this one that hits the ball out of the park in its exposition of passages that relate to Christians and wealth. The author is biblically based and clear, draws from many sources to emphasize and reason to his conclusions, and continuously gives real life applications and examples. This book got me thinking and has changed the way I view possessions and the Kingdom of God. It has made me really want to implement biblical principles in managing my possessions in regards to lifestyle, tithing, giving, and investing in eternity. It is a longer work, but one can read or study only sections to draw out biblical principles and be motivated to abide by them. I voice what other reviewers have said in that this is a must read book for Christians on this topic. And I encourage any Christian who even has the slightest curiosity on this topic to read individual chapters in this book for life and faith changing instruction on money, possessions, and eternity.

The first edition of this book was written in 1988, this one in 2003. The wisdom of maturity and perseverance is evident in Alcorn's writing. Part 1 gives an insightful investigation into the natures of asceticism, materialism and the health and wealth gospel. It is always helpful to step back and take a more objective look at the cultural environment we're steeped in. Part 2 challenges the Christian to foster an eternal perspective, and thus to regard heavenly reward as our true wealth. Of course this has application in every facet of the 'pilgrim life' but it is well applied here. Part 3 focuses on giving and sharing. Ephesians 4:28 rings true, that we are to work in order to have something to share. Part 4 gets down to the nitty gritty of how to faithfully handle our finances, including pertinent sections on debt, gambling and insuring. This ends with a great section on how to teach good stewardship to

our children. The included study guide makes this a useful resource for small groups.

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