

Use It Carefully

One day a young man met an elderly gentleman in town. To the youth's surprise, the man handed him one MILLION dollars. "Here," he said, "This is for you. But I want you to keep a careful record of how you spend it. And don't waste it."

"Why thank-you, sir," said the young man, wondering if he was dreaming. "But I hate to take it from you."

"I gave it to you," said the older man, and bid him a pleasant day. So they parted, with the elderly man calling, "I'll be back to see how you spend it."

The young man felt VERY rich. To start with he was very careful to use his money wisely. He bought nice, useful things for his family and friends. He gave some money to some poor people he knew. He donated some of the money to places that printed Scripture literature, and some more to foreign missionaries. He took great care to not waste his money, and to write down exactly how he spent it.

But as time went by and he failed to see the elderly gentleman again, he began to buy candy, and posters for his bedroom, and new clothes he didn't need. And what was more, he started forgetting to write down how he spent his money. Oh, he wrote down big expenses, but why bother about a dollar here and a dollar there? He started to think the man might not come back. "He just said he would come back so I'd be careful with my money," he reasoned to himself.

One day the young man bought an expensive new bedroom suite just for the thrill of it. But he didn't write that

down. He wouldn't want the old man to see that... if he came back.

Before the young man knew it, his money was gone. And suddenly one day in town, there before him was the elderly gentleman.

"So how much have you spent? Do you know right off hand?" he asked, smiling.

The young man was NOT smiling. "All of it," he mumbled.

"All of it!?" exclaimed the gentleman in astonishment.

"Uh-huh," the youth said, and tried to walk away.

But the elderly man stopped him. "Where is your list of expenses?" he asked. Ashamed, the young man went to get it. The elderly gentleman look it over, and sadly asked, "Where is the other \$900,000? I don't see it written here." Now the young man realized that even though he hadn't written down the things he was ashamed of, he still must tell about them.

Each of us must give account to Yahweh¹ for how we use our lives, our possessions, our money, and the very breath we breathe. But, Yahweh is not just going to be sad if we waste what He has given us; He is going to take vengeance, righteous vengeance, on the wrong. Deut. 32:5 – **"They have corrupted themselves, their spot is**

not of Yahweh's children; they are a perverse and crooked generation." Rom. 14:11-12 – " 'As I live,' saith Yahweh, 'Every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to the Almighty.' So then, every one of us shall give account of himself to the Almighty." Deut. 32:35 – "To Me belongeth vengeance and recompence, their foot shall slide in due time; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste." Rom. 12:19 – " 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' saith Yahweh."

Eccles. 11:9 – "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth, and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes; but know thou that for all these things the Almighty will bring thee into judgment." Eccles. 12:1 – "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth...." Eccles. 12:14 – "For the Almighty shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret things, whether good, or whether bad." Yahweh wants us to be glad. He wants us to live with a happy heart. But He also wants us to do the things that please Him, for that is the only way to truly be happy. We must seek to please HIM above OURSELVES, for we shall give account to Him whether we want to or not.

Seek therefore to please Him, and to walk in all His ways. Prov. 4:18 – "The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Psa. 16:11 -- "Thou wilt

shew the path of life, in Thy presence is fulness of joy, at Thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore." In this path is true happiness and fulfilment, and also a wonderful peace that you will find nowhere else. I beseech you, then, to pursue the paths of righteousness, and to not put it off for later, "... for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh." (Matt. 25:13) But if you seek Him now, with all your heart, you shall rejoice at His coming, and shall receive a crown of eternal Life.

-Rivqah (R. J. Coover) 12-2004

For a wealth of information on turning off the wide road of the world and walking Yahweh's path of righteousness and peace, go to the Scriptures. From Genesis to Revelations, there is much instruction for us to learn from.

Also pray to Yahweh for His wisdom and help. Matt. 7:7-8 – "Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you. For everyone that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh, findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened."

For additional insight, visit www.JoyInTheWorld.info and www.RoadOfThePilgrims.joyintheworld.info You may contact us online, or you may write to:

*Joy In The World
Post Office Box 7
Shippensburg, PA 17257 USA*
