

# JESUS: MILLIONAIRE



**WILLIAM McMURDO, EMRYS**

# You need never be poor again!

In this fascinating book you will discover:

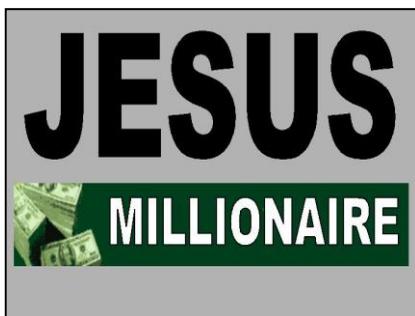
- Religion's idea of Jesus as a poor, homeless tramp is utter fiction
- Jesus was what we would call today a tycoon
- The Bible never says Jesus was a carpenter
- What "carpenter" really means
- Why it was impossible for Jesus to be poor
- The real Jesus
- Where Jesus travelled in His early years – and why
- Jesus is bigger than the religion that claims to follow Him
- Why Jesus had a king's fortune
- Jesus was richer than Solomon
- Why Jesus' financial status matters
- Why it matters to YOU

This awesome, mind-blowing, life-transforming book looks at the real Jesus, not the wandering hobo of religious propaganda. You will be set free from mental prisons forged by religiosity and impotent orthodoxy as you discover who Jesus really was and is.

Because Jesus was infinitely wealthy, you can be too!



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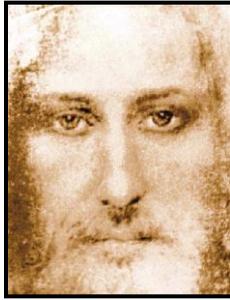


**To Derek Brown, who ministered grace to me when I needed it most. And made sure others did the same.**

Scriptures are from Received Text translations. The abbreviations are as follows:-

KJV	King James Version
NKJV	New King James Version
LITV	Literal Translation Version
VW	Voice In The Wilderness
WEB	World English Bible

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Living Fountain, PO Box 14993, Glasgow G71 6WE**



The many millions who have read Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* are incontestable evidence that people the world over are very interested in Jesus Christ, despite the lie put about, mostly by Christians, that people have no interest in Him.

What these people instinctively feel is that there is more to Jesus than the hodgepodge of Sunday School stories and religious caricatures that feeble-minded Orthodoxy has been passing off as "truth" for centuries. Jesus is bigger than the religious system which bears His Name yet often sullies His reputation. People are fascinated by this Man Jesus and Dan Brown, either wittingly or accidentally has tapped into this deep yearning of people to know the real Jesus.

Sadly, Dan Brown's attempt to get to the real Person of the Son of God has led millions down the old blind alley of Gnosticism. Yet the astonishing success of *The Da Vinci Code* powerfully demonstrates that people intuitively feel that there was a human reality to Jesus, that He was a real Man who lived a real life and did real things.

This book shows that they are right. Jesus enjoyed life to the full and was successful in business and finances. He demonstrated once and for all that the spiritual life is not at all incompatible with the everyday necessity of making a buck; in fact, real wealth and authentic success can only be obtained and enjoyed by those who are truly spiritual.

## **Chapter One**

### **WHY IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR JESUS TO BE POOR**

There is a common perception that Jesus was a poor man while on earth. This idea has no basis in the Bible and is, in fact, a slur on God's character. "Does it matter?" some might say. This book will show that it does indeed matter. To have a wrong concept of God is to worship a false god. The simple truth is, if Jesus was poor while on earth, then God's Word is not to be trusted. If God's Word is not to be trusted, then our faith is in vain.

This book will show that Jesus was not poor as He walked the earth; in fact, He was extremely wealthy and operated as an international businessman prior to His Palestine ministry. You will read the account of how Jesus received so much wealth on one occasion that it almost sparked off a war between two superpowers. You will find out how Jesus was never perceived as a threat by the Romans. You will discover the reason why Jesus could never be poor.

There is an overwhelmingly incontestable reason why Jesus could never be poor. It has its roots back in Genesis, in the story of the man called Abraham.

**And Jehovah had said to Abram, Go out from your land and from your kindred, and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you.**

**And I will make of you a great nation. And I will bless you and make your name great; and you will be a blessing.**

**And I will bless those who bless you, and curse the one despising you. And in you all families of the earth shall be blessed.**

**GENESIS 12:1-3 LITV**

This is the basis of the Abrahamic Covenant. Since Adam's fall in the Garden of Eden, God had been looking for a man to covenant with. He chose Abraham, or Abram as he was first known. Abraham is God's only covenant partner; he is the only man God does business with in the earth today. Anybody who comes into relationship with God through Jesus Christ must come into the Abrahamic Covenant.

**Know therefore that those who are of faith, the same are children of Abraham. The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the Good News beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you all the nations will be blessed."**

**So then, those who are of faith are blessed with the faithful Abraham.**

**GALATIANS 3:7-9 WEB**

The believer in Christ is blessed with faithful Abraham. This is covenant language. God promised to bless Abraham. This blessing is to come upon the nations in Christ. Therefore Jesus Christ is the One who brings the blessing of Abraham to us. Note God's promise to Abram in Genesis 12:2 – "I will bless you and make your name great." We would translate this today as "I will make you rich and famous." In biblical

times, the word “bless” meant to empower someone to succeed and prosper. It wasn’t a pat on the head or a nice sentiment; it meant to enrich and empower. God was promising to make Abraham a rich, successful and famous man. Religious people like to spiritualise these things and, of course there was a spiritual aspect to the blessing, but it had a material dimension too, which is amply demonstrated a little further on in Genesis chapter 13:-

**And Abram went up out of Egypt into the Negeb, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot being with him.**

**And Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver and in gold.**

**GENESIS 13:1,2 LITV**

This is a short time later in Abram’s life and the promise of God has come to pass. Because of his covenant relationship to Jehovah, Abram is very rich in cattle, silver and gold. The cattle on a thousand hills belong to Jehovah (Psalm 50:10) and the gold and silver belong to Him (Haggai 2:8). So, as a covenant partner, Abraham had a right to enjoy these possessions. In a blood covenant, each party shares the other’s possessions. Note that Abraham’s right to God’s wealth comes as a result of his covenant relationship. If God had withheld these things from Abraham, He would have been a covenant breaker. Such a thing is unthinkable (see Psalm 89:34).

This covenant with Abraham is the guiding principle behind God’s dealings with man. It overarches what we know as the Old and New Covenants. The Old Covenant was made with Israel at Mount Sinai (see Exodus 19 and 24). The New Covenant is made in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (see Luke 22:19,20).

The Old Covenant is an amplification of the Abrahamic Covenant. Abraham’s blessing passed on to all his descendants through Isaac and Jacob. There were aspects of it which were unconditional but the Old Covenant at Sinai, made with Israelite descendants of Abraham, is a code of practice which these Israelites were expected to comply with. In short, it was simply the standard God expected these people to live up to. To be covenant partners with Jehovah meant sloppiness was out! You had to be the real deal, not just get by on Father Abraham’s walk with God.

To walk in the covenant meant you would experience great blessing but to break it meant you would be cursed. This was only right – to break your covenant oath made you a wretch. Deuteronomy chapter 28 lists both the blessings of covenant-keepers and the curses of covenant-breakers. The righteous, those who honoured their side of the covenant, experienced blessing. The wicked, those who goofed off, could not expect to be blessed. Here is a list of blessings expected by those who kept covenant with Jehovah:-

**And it shall be if listening you will listen to the voice of Jehovah your God, taking heed to do all His commandments which I command you this day, Jehovah your God shall give you to be on high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come on you and overtake you if you will listen to the voice of Jehovah your God. You shall be blessed in the city, and you shall be blessed in the field.**

**The fruit of your body shall be blessed, and the fruit of your ground, and the fruit of your livestock, the offspring of your oxen, and the young ones of your flock.**

**Your basket and your kneadingtrough shall be blessed.**

**You shall be blessed when you come in, and you shall be blessed when you go out.**

**Jehovah shall cause your enemies that rise up against you to be stricken before your face. They shall come out against you one way, and flee before you seven ways.**

**Jehovah shall command the blessing on you in your storehouses and all that you set your hand to. And He shall bless you in the land which Jehovah your God is giving to you.**

**Jehovah shall establish you a holy people to Himself, as He has sworn to you, if you shall keep the commands of Jehovah your God and welcome His ways.**

**And all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of Jehovah, and they shall fear you.**

**And Jehovah shall prosper you in goods, and in the fruit of your body, and in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your ground in the land which Jehovah swore to your fathers to give it to you.**

**Jehovah shall open to you His good treasure, the heavens to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. And you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.**

**And Jehovah shall make you the head, and not the tail. And you shall be only above, and you shall not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of Jehovah your God, which I am commanding you today, to be careful to do them.**

**And you shall not turn away from all the Words which I am commanding you today, right or left, to go after other gods, to serve them.**

**DEUTERONOMY 28:1-14 LITV**

These are definite promises of economic power and dominion, material prosperity and success. There can be no doubt that those who obey the covenant requirements would experience Divine empowerment to prosper. Wealth accumulation and increase were part of Abraham's blessing, as we can see:-

**But you shall remember Jehovah your God, for it is He who gives to you power to get wealth; that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.**

**DEUTERONOMY 8:18 LITV**

The power to accumulate wealth was given to establish i.e. confirm the covenant with the fathers. This is referring to the covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Economic success is integral to this covenant and those who walk in the covenant will be blessed with it.

The point is this: who walked in the Old Covenant more than Jesus? Who was a more perfect demonstration of walking in obedience to the covenant than He was? If prosperity was promised to those who obeyed, how could it be denied Him who obeyed the most? Surely for God to have cursed Jesus with poverty – and the remainder of Deuteronomy chapter 28 from verse 15 onwards proves poverty is a curse – then He would have violated His own Word?

Jesus never once disobeyed the covenant. He came as a descendant of Abraham (Hebrews 2:16) and thus qualified to be blessed. He walked the earth as a man, subject to the Old Covenant. No human being in the history of planet earth ever met the requirements more perfectly than Jesus did to be blessed under the Sinaitic Covenant. If He was not so blessed, then God is a violator of His own Word.

**Blessed is the man who has not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, and has not stood in the way of sinners, and has not sat in the seat of scorners. But his delight is only in the Law of Jehovah, and he meditates in His Law day and night.**

**PSALM 1:1,2 LITV**

Who could this apply to more than Jesus? Who was this more of an apt description of than Him? Look at the consequences of such devotion:

**And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivulets of waters, which will give its fruit in its seasons, and its leaf will not wither, and all which he does will prosper.**

**PSALM 1:3 LITV**

What does it say? “ALL WHICH HE DOES SHALL PROSPER.” The man who shuns the way of sinners and delights in Jehovah’s Law will prosper in everything. Of all the human beings that ever existed under the Old Covenant, whom could this apply to more than Jesus? For God to have the Pattern Son walk the earth and display perfect humanity, fulfilling every requirement legally and morally, then to make Him live as a pauper, is both ridiculous and insulting to His Holy Name.

Psalm 112 verse 1 says that the man who fears YHWH and delights in His commandments is blessed. Again, no-one has ever demonstrated this more than the Lord Jesus. Yet in verse 3 of Psalm 112 we are told that a consequence of such devotion is that wealth and riches will be in that man’s house! Economic and financial blessings abound to the righteous. Who was more righteous under the Old Covenant than Jesus?

It was utterly impossible for Jesus to have been poor. This is the clear testimony of God’s Word. Nobody who revered YHWH could ever be in want (Psalm 34:9,10). And no-one had more reverence for YHWH than the Beloved Son. For Jesus to have been poor, the covenant God made with Abraham would have to have been abrogated. Since that could not happen, the blessings that flowed to the righteous must have flowed to Jesus. It would have been unjust of God if He had found the best possible recipient of those blessings and then kept Him poor.

Jesus was not poor. In fact, He was superabundantly wealthy from a very early age, as we shall see.

## **Chapter Two**

### **TYCOON JESUS**

**Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?**

**So Jesus said to him, Why do you call Me good? No one is good except One: God.**

**You know the commandments: Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and your mother.**

**And he said, All these things I have kept from my youth.**

**So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, You still lack one thing. Sell everything that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven; and come, follow Me.**

**But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.**

**And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, How hard it is for those who have riches to enter into the kingdom of God.**

**For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.**

**And those who heard it said, Who then is able to be saved?**

**And He said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.**

**Then Peter said, See, we have left all and followed You.**

**So He said to them, Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife or children, on account of the kingdom of God, who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life.**

**LUKE 18:18-30 VW**

I was contemplating this passage once when the Spirit of God spoke to me very clearly and said: "Jesus could not and would not have asked this man to do something He Himself had not done." This electrified me because I realised what the Holy Spirit was saying – something I had discerned in my spirit for quite some time: Jesus was a very rich and powerful tycoon prior to His Palestinian ministry.

Firstly, Jesus was rich from a very early age. We know that his mother and stepfather were of the Royal House of David. This made them aristocrats. It has been pointed out that the offering made by Joseph and Mary at the birth of Jesus was the "poor man's offering" of two turtledoves or pigeons (see Luke 2:24; Leviticus 12:1-8). However, this may simply have been a matter of logistics or availability. Even if Joseph wasn't well off at this point, that all changed very quickly, as we shall see.

There is a great deal of information in the book *The Holy Land Of Scotland* written by Barry Dunford concerning Jesus' ancestors. There is some old and very convincing evidence that Jesus' grandparents on his mother's side lived in Perthshire in Scotland and were Celto-Hebraic royalty. At some stage they moved back to Palestine years before Jesus' birth. This means that Mary would have been very wealthy, being an aristocrat of high breeding. Also, the term "carpenter" applied to

Joseph (and also to Jesus) can be misleading. When we hear “carpenter” we think that Joseph must have been a joiner of sorts, like an odd-job man or handyman. If he was alive today we would expect to see Joseph driving around in a white van! But that’s not what is meant by the term “carpenter”. The Greek word translated “carpenter” is *tekton*. It means craftsman or artificer, not necessarily with wood; it can also apply to workers with stone and metal. A related word – *technites* - is used of God in Hebrews 11:10, referring to Him as a builder or master builder. It is entirely feasible to translate *tekton* as master builder or even architect. Geza Vermes even postulates that *tekton* can mean scholar.

If we give the term “builder” to Joseph and Jesus as the best translation of *tekton*, we are then faced with the question: what kind? By this I mean was the firm of Joseph & Sons a two man and a donkey operation or a big “Barratt Homes” type of builder? Jesus may well have trained as a builder but we must be aware that the Bible never calls Him a builder or carpenter; it says that people called him by this term (see Mark 6:1-3). This must be understood by comparison with the parallel account in Matthew where Jesus was termed “the carpenter’s son” (Matthew 13:55). Even today we often class children by the recognised profession of their family, even if they pursue their own career paths.

My point is that we have been conditioned by religiosity to assume that Jesus lived with his odd-job stepfather in a state of near poverty and took over this precarious business where He barely scraped out a living mending broken chair-legs and planing doors. This is not what the Bible says. If Jesus was a builder like his stepfather, who’s to say He wasn’t an extremely wealthy one, employing hundreds in a virtual conglomerate? Because Jesus was sinless, living under the Abrahamic and Sinaitic Covenants, it would be a violation of God’s Word for the Father not to heap limitless blessings on Jesus in the realms of business and finance.

Whatever He did.

However, before we look at Jesus’ career, let’s look at something which has become a “Sunday school” story so heavily obscured by religion that its awesome meaning has been almost lost to us. It is the account of the wise men:

**Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to do homage to Him. When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said to him, In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the leaders of Judah; for out of you shall come One leading Who will shepherd My people Israel. Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, asked of them exactly what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, Go and search carefully for the**

**young Child, and when you find Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and do homage to Him also.**

**When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.**

**When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.**

**And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and did homage to Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**

**MATTHEW 2:1-11 VW**

You will note that nowhere does the Bible record the “Three Wise Men” children’s story. This came about because there were three gifts mentioned: gold, frankincense and myrrh. The reality is that no-one knows how many Magi came to give homage to the infant Jesus. It should also be noted that Jesus was no longer a little baby at this point but was a toddler. This was why the Idumean King Herod ordered that all male children up to the age of two years should be slain.

The Magi came from the region of Parthia, to the east of Palestine. Steven M. Collins has produced some excellent work on the Parthian empire. Rome and Parthia were rival “superpowers” at this point in history. Rome ruled the Mediterranean area while Parthia dominated Asian territory from what is modern-day Syria all the way to India. Palestine, while within the Roman empire, was close to the Parthian border (the Euphrates River).

Prior to the birth of Christ, Rome and Parthia had fought various wars but were holding a truce at the time of the Saviour’s Advent. In 40 BC Parthia had actually swept Rome out of Palestine and installed a Jewish vassal king named Antigonus, who ruled for about three years. Antigonus was popular with those Judahites who despised the Idumean Herodian dynasty. Herod fled when Antigonus became ruler of Palestine but was reinstated in 37BC by Mark Antony, who had Antigonus beheaded. Mark Antony then attempted an invasion of Parthia itself but was comprehensively routed by the excellent Parthian military.

By the time Jesus was born, many Judahites in Palestine remembered the brief period of Parthian rule with fond memories. Detente between Parthia and Rome existed between 36BC and 58AD, a period which covered both the entire earthly walk of Christ and a significant part of early church history. It became a principle of Roman foreign policy, laid down by Augustus and followed by all the early Caesars including Tiberius, that Rome’s eastern boundaries were firmly set and that no expansion would be attempted which would incite the feared Parthians into a very costly war.

The Parthians, as Steven Collins’ magnificent research has proven, were, in fact, descendants of Israelites from the captivities of both the Northern Kingdom of Ephraim-Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah. The Magi were one of two power blocs in Parthia. They were influential people, including priests descended from Levi, of non-royal lineage. The Magi served the other power bloc in Parthia – the Arsacids, who were royalty and aristocracy. The Arsacids could trace their descent

from both Phares and David. Collins puts forward a very credible hypothesis that there may have been twelve Magi visiting the infant Jesus, each one representing the twelve tribes of Israel. It is entirely possible that Israelite tribal identity may still have been recognised and emphasised within Parthia.

Also, Collins points out that the party of Magi may have been escorted by hundreds of troops and also incorporated a large entourage of animal-handlers, cooks and servants. Indeed, Josephus records that wealthy Jews would travel with treasures from the Parthian region with tens of thousands of soldiers as guards! It would not be too much to presume that a visiting party of dignitaries, representing the royal faction in Parthia, would travel with a massive, heavily-armed escort. Several factors support this.

Firstly, Matthew 2:3 tells us that all Jerusalem was troubled by the visit of the Magi. If the travelling party was small, why would Jerusalem be troubled by their visit? Clearly the caravan was large enough to cause some to think that it may have been an invading force! Also, the Magi were quite open about the reason for their visit, declaring they were come to pay homage to One born King of the Jews. Given that this was Herod's job, he was remarkably calm about it! Again, this points to the travelling band as being a fairly large and intimidating horde, one which Herod would not wish to antagonise.

Collins puts forward the argument that the summit meeting between Rome and Parthia which took place in 1AD was a response by Rome to this visit of the Magi, as was the bolstering of Roman military presence in the region soon after. The massive caravan would no doubt have contained a train of pack-animals laden with treasure for the newborn King. Collins quite rightly asserts that the gifts the Magi brought with them would have been a huge fortune fit for a King, not a few trinkets of gold and a dab of myrrh and frankincense.

There is a distinct possibility that Jesus may have been regarded by the Parthians as the legitimate heir to their Arsacid dynasty, who were Davidic royalty.

Regardless of the fiscal situation of Jesus' parents, this means that from a very early age, Jesus was funded. The size of the tribute brought by the Magi would have made Jesus extremely wealthy from his infancy. Jesus was the Richie Rich of his day! One reason why people find it so hard to accept that Jesus was wealthy in His time on earth, particularly from such a young age, is that the concept of earned wealth is so hardwired into our Western culture. This means that we have a deeply entrenched belief that wealth must be earned. We don't understand the biblical concept of inherited wealth. Inherited wealth is wealth that you receive, not because of what you have done or achieved, but because of who you are!

Jesus was funded at the level of a king because that was who He was! As a descendant of Abraham, He was entitled to wealth just because of His ancestry. Moreover, He is THE Seed of Abraham (Galatians 3:16) and as such is entitled by that very fact alone. Remember that Abraham was told by God that He would make him rich and famous (Genesis 12:1-3) and a short while later we see that Abraham was enormously wealthy (Genesis 13:1,2). What did Abraham do to get so rich? He believed God's promise!! Abraham was made rich because God was his Covenant Partner. Wealth is the result of such a pact (Deuteronomy 8:18).

In addition to Jesus' Abrahamic ancestry on his mother's side, His Father is Almighty God! It is ludicrous to think that God would have His beloved Son poor and thus break His own Word. The plain truth is that Jesus was financed at a young age, having already been born into a royal house.

Then there is the question of Joseph of Arimathea.

There is a very strong historical tradition that Joseph of Arimathea was Mary's brother or uncle, making Jesus his nephew. This Joseph is a very interesting character. He was well-known to the Romans as the *Nobilis Decurio*, the Minister of Mines for the Roman government. Joseph was one of the wealthiest people in the Roman Empire and arguably the world. He had extensive business interests including tin mining in Cornwall and Somerset which was exported to Rome. Joseph owned a palatial mansion in Jerusalem and had a villa just outside the city, as well as his large estate north of Jerusalem in Arimathea. Joseph's status as Decurio made him a provincial Senator and was an office coveted more than the Senate in Rome.

Joseph of Arimathea is also known as Joseph de Marmore. Marmore means "Great Lord". This signifies Joseph's rank as a prince of the House of David. Since it can be clearly inferred from Scripture that Mary's husband Joseph must have died while Jesus was aged between twelve and thirty, it is entirely logical that "Uncle Joseph" would have taken over the role as head of the family and thus been entrusted with raising the young Jesus to manhood. Therefore Jesus would have been apprenticed to a man who in modern parlance would easily be classed as a billionaire!

There are two possibilities regarding the wealth of Joseph of Arimathea. Firstly, he may have been wealthy in his own right. It is not stretching the bounds of imagination to suppose that Jesus invested His own considerable fortune, which He had received as an infant from the Magi, with His uncle's business. The second possibility is that the wealth that Joseph operated in was really just in stewardship of Jesus' assets. The likelihood is that Joseph was personally rich but it is highly probable that he was also the custodian of Jesus' own impressive fortune.

Jesus was the apprentice of the Bill Gates of his day. Joseph had a reputation for impeccable business dealings and integrity. The Romans trusted him implicitly and his status reflected this. It is extremely probable that Jesus' involvement in his uncle's business and its subsequent importance meant that Jesus was a Roman citizen. This would have given him access and mobility throughout the Roman Empire, an important thing for a wealthy trader.

Joseph's business was mining. He owned and managed extensive mining interests in the Roman Empire, particularly in Britain. There are legends going back centuries which record Joseph and his great-nephew visiting their tin mines in the southern parts of England, including Cornwall and Somerset. In addition to this, there is a vast body of tradition, legend and ancient record which has Jesus travelling throughout the British Isles and even further afield to the Americas and India. Steven Collins documents the extensive Christ-legends which point to a very real possibility that Jesus visited South America. There are accounts of miracles performed by the Lord wherever He travelled. John's recording of Jesus beginning His miracle ministry in John 2:11 does not essentially preclude the miraculous happening in Jesus' life prior

to the wedding in Cana. John may simply have noted the first miracle of Jesus' ministry in the last phase of his career, back in Palestine.

There is also compelling evidence that Jesus was closely related through family marriages to the Royal families of Britain. This means that Paul's letter to the Roman church was actually addressed to people who knew the Lord Jesus as a family member! The more we find out about the real Jesus, the less He looks like the wandering hobo of religious fiction. Jesus was a king on earth just as He was and is in heaven. The fact that He chose not to live outwardly as a king does not mean He was not entitled to. And, just as importantly, that He was not recognised as being entitled to. Everywhere He went people implored Him to set up His Kingdom. That wasn't just because of the anointing on His Life; people who knew Him knew He was royalty.

Jesus made a fascinating statement in Matthew 12:42 which alluded to His royal credentials when He said "Behold, a greater than Solomon is here," referring to Himself. Yes, this was in reference to the Queen of Sheba seeking out Solomon for his wisdom but it is clear that Jesus was pointing out His pre-eminence. Jesus certainly exceeded Solomon in wisdom but there is a very distinct likelihood that Jesus was wealthier than Solomon in manifest riches. Much of Solomon's wealth came in tribute brought from abroad. It is highly probable that Solomon received precious metals from the same mines that centuries later Jesus and His great-uncle Joseph owned and managed. Now, it is one thing to receive great gifts from a mine; it is another thing entirely to own it! To consider how abundant these mines were, it is vital to understand that people today are still mining precious metals from the very mines Jesus and His uncle operated!

In addition to the famous mining operations in places like Cornwall and the Mendip Hills of Somerset, there is also some evidence that the Jesus & Joseph of Arimathea firm had mining interests further north in other areas of Britain. Who knows the depths of mineral resources in these mines? When Jesus said "A greater than Solomon is here" was He saying that He had eclipsed the richest man in Old Testament history in material riches? Remember that Jesus was known as the Son of David. It does not stretch credulity too far to say that this title may have had at least some reference to Jesus emulating Solomon in superabundant riches.

There is also the possibility that Jesus travelled to Asia. It is very possible that, prior to His ministry in Palestine which resulted in His death and resurrection, He made a point of travelling to areas where the wandering sheep of the scattered Israel tribes had migrated to. If this is so, there is one thing that can safely be concluded and it is that Jesus must have been a very wealthy man to have funded such expeditions.

That He did indeed travel between His twelfth and thirtieth year cannot really be argued with. One proof of this is the occasion where Jesus paid the double drachma strangers' tax in Capernaum (see Matthew 17:24-27). Although some claim this was the Temple Tax, the very context shows that it was a tax levied on strangers. This is borne out by the fact that Jesus paid His tax and Peter's (with the help of a miracle!) using a Greek *stater*, whereas the Jewish Temple Tax was a half-shekel per person. There are various clues within the Gospels that point to people knowing Jesus' family but He Himself being a stranger to them (see Matthew 13:54-58; Mark 6:1-5).

Another clue pointing to Jesus' business career is His selection of business professionals as His disciples rather than people from a traditionally religious background. Note that Jesus could say to a hard-nosed businessman like Peter and a tax collector like Matthew: "Follow me" and they left all to do just that. This teaches us two things. Firstly, people in business are not normally impressed by poverty or peddlers of poverty. So Jesus clearly wasn't poor or looking like it. Secondly, whatever deal Jesus had going, it looked a whole lot more lucrative than what they had going for them! Or do we really believe that the disciples all followed Jesus for spiritual reasons?

When this Man walked in, everybody wanted what He had! And if you think that this was just peace of mind and other spiritual attributes, you are kidding yourself on. This Man looked like a King and lived like a King. He had it together in every way. This is what attracted people to Him.

There is one overwhelming argument that Jesus was a successful businessman. You will find it in Luke's Gospel:-

**Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately.**

**Therefore He said: A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return.**

**So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, Do business till I come.**

**But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, We do not desire to have this man reign over us.**

**And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.**

**Then came the first, saying, Master, your mina has earned ten minas.**

**And he said to him, Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.**

**And the second came, saying, Master, your mina has earned five minas.**

**Likewise he said to him, You also be over five cities.**

**Then another came, saying, Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief.**

**For I feared you, because you are a harsh man. You take up what you did not lay down, and reap what you did not sow.**

**And he said to him, Out of your own mouth I will judge you, you wicked servant. You knew that I was a harsh man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow.**

**Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?**

**And he said to those who stood by, Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.**

**But they said to him, Master, he has ten minas.**

**For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me.**  
**LUKE 19:11-27 VW**

Jesus clearly commands us here to do business i.e. trade for a profit until He comes. Note that He rewards those who do just that and severely punishes those who don't. A simple question can be asked here: Would Jesus command us to do business and promise to reward our success in business if He was a poor Man on earth? If you need to find a convoluted way of maintaining the "Poor Jesus" junk here, you are in bigger trouble than you think. "Poor Jesus" is oxymoronic. And to believe such nonsense is simply moronic.

## **Chapter Three**

### **JESUS: MINISTRY WITHOUT TELETHONS**

I believe that Jesus walked away from His massive fortune to enter into His ministry in Palestine. This qualified Him to make the same demand upon the rich young ruler. It is also my personal belief that He first of all made provision for His mother. Although it is not the scope of this book, I believe there is strong evidence to suggest that even this portion put aside to take care of His mother and family was a substantial fortune which people are still seeking today. There is also the very credible possibility that Jesus apportioned some of His wealth towards the costs of ministry for He and His followers.

There can be no question that Jesus was adequately funded throughout the time of His ministry in Palestine.

**So they departed to a deserted place in the boat by themselves. But the multitudes saw them departing, and many knew Him and ran there on foot from all the cities. They arrived before them and came together to Him. And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things. And when the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, This is a deserted place, and already the hour is late. Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat. But He answered and said to them, You give them something to eat. And they said to Him, Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat? But He said to them, How many loaves do you have? Go and see. And when they found out they said, Five, and two fish. Then He commanded them to make them all sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties. And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to Heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among them all. So everyone ate and was filled. And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish. And those who had eaten the loaves were about five thousand men.**  
**MARK 6:32 – MARK 6:44 VW**

Other than the Resurrection, the feeding of the 5,000 is the only event in the life of Jesus that is recorded in all four Gospels. Such repetition clearly has a purpose. One of the great things about the story is that it shows us the limited use of money. But it

also shows us something else: Jesus and His disciples weren't wandering around trying to mooch dinner off of people; they were more likely to take you to dinner!

Just as here in Mark's report, the account in John's Gospel mentions the disciples speaking about spending two hundred denarii on food to feed the multitude. The version in Mark gives rise to the possibility that this was the disciples' estimate of what it would take to feed the people, although in John's Gospel Philip in effect says that two hundred denarii is not enough to give them other than a small amount each, if even that. From these two passages we can deduce one very clear thing: *Jesus and the disciples had funds of at least two hundred denarii from which they could have fed all or most of the people.*

This means that in today's equivalent money, the Jesus Evangelistic Association had anywhere from £12,000 to £15,000 on hand in the treasurer's bag that day. We must remember that Jesus had the care of at least twelve full-time staff on His hands. He had to provide food, shelter and remuneration for these men. He also sent out seventy disciples so these extra staff were at least part-time workers in His ministry. As we saw earlier, Jesus had no problem convincing men who were used to making money in business to follow Him. It would be ludicrous to suppose that these men embraced a life of poverty to follow Jesus.

Instead of spending money on dinner, Jesus chose to multiply the little food they managed to find. Not only were the people blessed with a miracle meal, Jesus saved an expense to the ministry! The lesson of the miracle is that God doesn't need money to meet our needs. But, as we have seen, the money was there to pay for dinner anyway! What we have to appreciate is that money wasn't the issue; finding a caterer to feed five thousand men plus women and children immediately was the problem.

Jesus functioned in a consciousness of abundance. He knew that manifesting the supply of God was His job while He was here on earth. It's no different for you and I. While we are here, our job is to be conscious of the unlimited, infinite supply of God that exists in the glory realm and to channel that supply into appropriate form here on earth. Appropriate form for the crowd that day was dinner. Money itself could not really meet the immediate need. But money was there in significant amounts, anyway!

Jesus' ministry was funded.

**And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him,**

**And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils,**

**And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.**

**LUKE 8:1-3 KJV**

Notice here that Jesus had ministry partners and many of them! They gave to His ministry from their substance or wealth. This is how things are meant to be. Those who preach the Gospel are to live from the Gospel. Jesus patterned it. The people

around Jesus were capable of expensive purchases (John 12:3-6). It is evident that Jesus mixed in wealthy circles, although He would give to the poor (John 12:5; John 13:29).

People who like to claim that Jesus was poor often point to a passage in Luke chapter 9 to “prove” that Jesus did not own a house:

**As they went on the way, a certain man said to him, “I want to follow you wherever you go, Lord.”**

**Jesus said to him, “The foxes have holes, and the birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”**

**LUKE 9:57,58 WEB**

This is supposed to be Jesus claiming He is homeless. However, a look at the verses here and the passage they come from in context shows us that Jesus is simply speaking of the demanding rigours of a busy itinerant ministry. He is saying that following Him is to give up leisure time! There is a possibility that Jesus had His own house in Capernaum, although some scholars believe He lived with Peter and his family.

During Jesus’ very busy ministry in the last three and a half years of His Life, I am sure that owning a property and maintaining it would be something He would happily forego. This does not make Jesus poor, it indicates He was focussed on what was important. Jesus did not return to Palestine to set up home there; He returned to die there.

What we have seen so far is that Jesus was funded throughout His time on earth - as a child, in His business career and in His Palestinian ministry. What is important about this is that it is a given in His life; the Father just looks after Him. There is no anxiety about supply in any way. Jesus knew the supply was there and He knew how to manifest it. What’s more, He clearly shared this information with us.

## **Chapter Four**

### **THE DIVINE EXCHANGE**

The Bible does indeed record that Jesus became poor.

**For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.  
2 CORINTHIANS 8:9 KJV**

There can be no dispute that Jesus became poor on earth. The question is *when*? Some commentators say that Jesus became poor just by becoming a man. However, this denigrates both man as created in God's likeness and the Godhead itself, since Jesus is still and forever Man. There is a Man in the Godhead so the Son of God did no violence to His Divinity by becoming flesh. Some believe that Jesus lived a poor life but we have seen this could not have been so. Others think that this verse in 2 Corinthians relates to His humble birth in a stable. However, that was not due to Joseph's inability to pay for lodgings but merely because there was no room at the inn, all the rooms were booked.

It is true that Joseph and Mary paid what is regarded as the poor man's offering when they presented Jesus in the temple at Jerusalem (Luke 2:24,). However, their offering of the two turtledoves and two pigeons instead of a lamb may have had a logistical reason rather than an economic one. Joseph and Mary were both of aristocratic birth, being of the House of David. It is unlikely that they were poor people for various reasons. However, even if they were not wealthy personally when Jesus was born, we have already seen that the ambassadors from Parthia brought massive wealth to the infant Jesus.

It is vital to understand when Jesus became poor. It is pivotal to our faith. Jesus was not poor in His earth walk, as we have seen. Yet He did become poor. When did this happen?

The answer is at the cross. Many scholars agree that we Christians often portray an extremely sanitized picture of crucifixion. A lot of pictures of Jesus hanging on the cross depict Him wearing a loincloth. The reality is that crucifixion victims were stripped naked. This was because the sentence of crucifixion was carried out, not just as a warning to troublemakers of the horrible pain they would suffer when crucified, but as a symbol of Rome's economic power. Crucifixion was regarded as a sign to people of Rome's ability to utterly impoverish all its enemies.

You can't get poorer than having even the clothes you wear stripped from you and be left impaled on a tree as your life's blood flows down your naked body. Jesus experienced this absolute destitution so that we could receive His unlimited superabundance. God owns the whole universe and has infinite capacity to create. This was transferred to us when the Lord Jesus hung on the cruel tree. To the Romans, crucifixion was an economic judgment arguably more than a physical punishment. It was bankruptcy to the *nth* degree, leaving its victims with nothing, not even their own lifeblood.

Notice that this was a matter of *grace*. As a believer you are supposed to know this grace. You were made rich because of God's unmerited favour toward you. The Greek word for "know" used here is *ginosko*, a word which means to have intimate knowledge of something or someone. We must *know* the favour of God in making us rich, not by casual awareness, mental assent or intellectual understanding. The knowledge of God's making us rich has to be deeper; it has to have its roots in our spirit man. Put simply, it must be *revelation knowledge* to us. The word *ginosko*, which is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word *yada*, can mean to have a sexual relationship with someone, as we see in the old-fashioned phrase of knowing someone carnally. In that sense, you become one with the person you know. In a like manner, God expects us to be one with the truth of His Word.

It is absolutely vital to know that you were made rich at the cross of Jesus Christ. This is because you must see your being wealthy as a historical fact. This prevents us trying to *become* rich. There is no *becoming* in the Christian life. You are born again perfect in Christ. This takes away all the striving and works-based ideology that plagues so many believers. Religion is man trying to earn God's approval. That is why religion keeps people poor – religion teaches that God is pleased when we renounce worldly possessions, when we shun wealth. However, if you fully embrace the atonement of Christ, you must then accept that He has made us rich. You can't get away from it, you were born into it, just as children born to wealthy parents can't help but be rich.

Being rich as a Christian is not based on what you do but on who you are! If you know this intimately, you will not fall prey to religious ideas about wealth. You will understand that God made you rich for a purpose. HIS purpose. Paul warned in 1 Timothy 6:10 about the dangers of wanting to be rich. This means those looking to *become* rich. These people clearly don't know the favour they have in Christ, that they are already rich! It's like Adam and Eve in the garden when the serpent tried to sell them on the concept of *becoming* more. What they should have said was "No thanks, mister devil, we don't need to become like God, we're already there! We don't lack, praise His Name!" Sin means to fall short. The truth is that Adam and Eve didn't fall short until they believed the lie that they did.

If you know the favour of God – that you are already rich – then you won't accept the junk that comes from some so-called prosperity preachers when they urge you to give an over-the-top offering to become rich. Sadly, the great truth of seed-faith has been reduced to a hollow shell of what God intended it to be and has become a vehicle for hard-up preachers and television ministries to get your cash. I heard one guy say to a television audience that if they would give a specific amount right then, he would pray the anointing of Abraham upon them. I thought to myself, "Dear Lord, Jesus already beat you to it! Christ became a curse to get the blessing of Abraham upon the nations. And for FREE, hallelujah!!"

You have to have intimate knowledge with God's favour so that you don't fall prey to the nonsense out there, child of God. If you don't have what God gave Abraham, you need to get saved! All that Abraham walked in is already in your hardware. Every blessing is yours in Christ (Ephesians 1:3). Your job is to manifest it. You are here to manifest what belongs to you already. Don't accept the lie that says you lack. You

may not be manifesting what is yours but the great lie is that you lack. And the big sin that leads people into covetousness and the love of money is to believe the lie of lack.

**And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.**  
**2 CORINTHIANS 9:8 NKJV**

God is able to make all favour abound toward you. If He is able, this means He is willing. If you think otherwise, you have to ask if He is capable of teasing you by telling you He is able but might not be willing. If this is the kind of God you serve, you need prayer, my friend! Of course He is willing! The reason it mentions that He is able here is to show you two things: Firstly, His willingness is a given. Secondly, it's not just about His willingness. YOU have to do something in order for the favour to abound toward you. You have to live in His favour. You have to surround yourself and saturate yourself with favour. You have to make a point about being intimate with this favour.

This favour is not widely known. That is the reason this book was written; it is essential to get this message out. You see, this is not a book about prosperity; I am not teaching or preaching prosperity. I am teaching and preaching SUPERABUNDANCE. Books by prosperity preachers will tell you that you can be rich IF you give. It is time to move away from such baby steps. Your wealth is not dependent on your giving; it is based on who you are. It is based on the atoning work of Christ.

Revelation 1:6 tells us that Jesus has made us kings and priests to God. Kings and priests have something in common. In the Bible, neither position is earned. You are either born into royalty or you are born into the Levitical priesthood. All the privileges of both kingship and priesthood are given on the basis of who you are. They are based on identity. Another commonality is that both kings and priests received wealth and income based on their identity. They were paid for *being who they were*, not for what they did.

I am not rich because I tithe or give over-the-top offerings. I am rich because I know who I am and I am in an intimate relationship with the favour of God. My job is not to get wealth; my job is to know who I am and what belongs to me. That is why it is important to know Jesus was wealthy in His earth-walk. Jesus knew who He was. What He did flowed from this. And this is why God caused Jesus to have wealth on the scale of royalty from His infancy. Jesus was made fabulously wealthy before He was ever required to prove He was deserving of the wealth. This point simply cannot be over-emphasised. Jesus knew the unlimited favour of the Father because He experienced it before He even showed up for business!

You see, all this business of God "proving you" with your tithes and give-till-it-hurts offerings is not favour! It is you earning God's approval. That is religion. We are in the favour side of life, friends, not the religion side. In the favour side, you get what you don't deserve – houses you didn't build, wells of cold, fresh water you didn't dig and money you didn't sweat a bead for. As kings and priests, we come FROM a position

of favour and privilege. You can't buy your way into God's favour; it's not for sale! People who spend their lives trying to earn God's favour don't like it when people like me turn up and take all the goodies they are trying to earn!

Now it should be pointed out that, although God wants us to know the grace that makes us rich, He doesn't expect this to encourage laziness, idleness or inordinate pleasure-seeking on our behalf. God expects us to trade, as the parable of the minas teaches us. In short, God expects us to multiply what we have. This doesn't mean just by doing business on earth; it also means by banking in heaven. We bank in heaven by speaking God's Word on supply. This fills our spirit man with the SUBSTANCE of supply. Your spirit is designed by God to be a money bag producing copious amounts of supply in the natural (see my book *GET RICH NOW!!* for a fuller explanation).

The important thing is that you are to come *from* a place of favour; you are not seeking to get there. This is what is wrong with much of the so-called prosperity teaching going the rounds. It makes wealth something to be attained, to be worked towards. Now that is not favour. Either the favour of God has made you rich or it hasn't. The Bible says it has. What are you going to believe, child of God? Your bank statement or the Word of God? Once you realize that you are already wealthy according to His riches in the glory *even if you were never to manifest any of it*, you will begin to see it manifest.

Your job is not to get wealthy, beloved. You already are. Your job is to learn to manifest this wealth. You got it at the cross – actually, it was all pre-provided before the foundation of the world (see Ephesians 1:3,4) but the deal was sealed at the cross. It was there that Jesus took your poverty upon Him and exchanged it for His wealth. Once this becomes real to you, you will hate poverty as much as you hate sin, death and sickness.

## **Chapter Five**

### **DOING THE BUSINESS**

Let's look at another business parable by Jesus, similar to the Parable of the Minas:

**For the kingdom of Heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.**

**And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on the journey.**

**Then he who had received the five talents went and did business with them, and made another five talents.**

**And likewise he who had received two, also gained two more.**

**But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money.**

**After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.**

**So he who had received five talents came and brought another five talents, saying, Lord, you delivered to me five talents; behold, I have gained another five talents besides them.**

**His lord said to him, Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will appoint you administrator over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.**

**He also who had received two talents came and said, Lord, you delivered to me two talents; behold, I have gained another two talents besides them.**

**His lord said to him, Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will appoint you administrator over many things.**

**Enter into the joy of your lord.**

**Then he who had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter.**

**And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Behold, there you have what is yours.**

**But his lord answered and said to him, You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter.**

**So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.**

**Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.**

**For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.**

**And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

**MATTHEW 25:14-30 VW**

There are some things that need to be said concerning this passage. Firstly, it is about *servants*. Every believer is a servant of God in that we are all accountable to Him. However, there are those who know that, although we serve God and are accountable to Him, we can also live as *sons*. Sons don't serve like servants because they are part of the family business. They are insiders. They don't serve for wages; they have a stake in the business. Also, they have the name of the business owner. And they are heirs; their wealth is based on their identity, not their service.

Sadly, although sonship is available to the overcomer (Revelation 21:7), there are those believers who want to remain servants. They don't want to overcome religiosity and feelings of unworthiness to enter into their inheritance as sons so they go about their business of being fervent servants. Notice that every servant receives something. Each servant receives a specific amount and it is based on their ability. The minimum amount received is a talent. The equivalent of a talent in modern money is approximately £420,000 - £500,000!! There are 60 minas in a talent so a mina is worth about £7,000 - £8,500 in today's coinage.

These servants received large sums of money prior to any performance. They were given substantial sums to start with. Brothers and sisters, it's time you faced the biblical truth – God does not expect you to be playing with pennies!

Every servant is expected to increase what they have been given by doing business. There's no escaping it – financial increase is expected of every believer! And believers who don't engage in business are called wicked and slothful! Do we really believe that the Lord Jesus, who gave us this parable, served His Father by being poor when His teaching was that pleasing God is increasing the money He gives us? If God gets joy from our increase do you really believe that Jesus brought joy to His Father by doing the exact opposite, especially when you know that Jesus only taught what He heard the Father speaking (John 8:28) and did what pleased Him (John 8:29)? This parable alone is proof that Jesus was a rich businessman. The servant is not greater than his master so how could Jesus command us to be successful in business if He wasn't?

Note that it is wicked, lazy servants who want to tell the Lord that business isn't for them, that increase is not their responsibility. These are the folks who speak against Christians being rich, who insist on following a poor Jesus. They accuse preachers who preach prosperity of being greedy and heretical. Jesus doesn't mince words with these people; He says that their portion is outer darkness. They are worthless servants. This is because they would not know the favour that belongs to them – they chose to be unworthy in their religious pride. As a result they became what they claimed to be all along – people of no worth.

To him who has, more will be given. AND HE WILL HAVE ABUNDANCE!! This means that you have to be a receiver. You have to be willing and ready to have everything God has for you. If you *receive* the favour of God that has made you rich, God can abound that favour to you and manifest in the natural what belongs to you. That's why you have to be rich *within* in order to be rich without. You have to be abundant *within* with the favour of God. Wealth is attracted to those who are wealthy inside. We could say it like this:

*To him who has knowledge of the favour of God that has made him rich, who knows he is more than just a servant but is a son and heir, who understands he is here to manifest what already belongs to him, more will be given and he will live in superabundant wealth.*

It simply cannot be avoided that Jesus expects His followers to be proficient in business and finances. He expects us to multiply or at least add to what we receive. There has been a big emphasis in the Body of Christ in recent years on what is called marketplace ministry. This is where Christians impact the world by “bursting out” of a church setting and practising radical Christianity in the spheres of commerce, education, government etc.

Proponents of marketplace ministry believe societal transformation will be its result. In essence they believe that successful Christian businessmen and women can change the planet for the better. What is essential to this model is the success in business of these believers. People don’t want to follow losers, after all. Jesus knew this. His severe standards in rewarding success and punishing failure are indicative of the importance of the mission.

It has to be asked: is this the reason why Christianity is often apparently so ineffective, because Christians have not embraced Jesus’ command to “Do business till I come”? Is this why so many ministries are reduced to pitiful human fundraising practices – because ministers want to escape the command and be “full-time” in the spiritual ministry? Again, I must emphasise that these servants in the Parables of the Minas and Talents were given substantial stakes to invest in business ventures. Is the reason that many ministries have to resort to extortion tactics (“Give now or your miracle moment may pass you by”) because they have not been taught that the Master wants to give them stake money *in order to fund everything they do in ministry from the profits of their investment?!*

Not doing business with the objective of making a profit is clear disobedience to the express command of Jesus. Now, you may have an argument that these parables are only about “spiritual” matters and are not to be taken literally. If so, I have two things to say to you. Firstly, you can explain your argument on the day of accounting and secondly, if you believe it’s just a spiritual metaphor, you won’t be expecting any stake money. Actually, I have one more thing to say to you: Do you think your viewpoint may have anything to do with your constant struggles with money?

It has to be faced that the Master left us with the clear instruction to trade and do business at a profit. As we shall see, this wasn’t just so we could all have mansions and Rolls Royces.

## **Chapter Six**

### **FIRST, THE DOMINION**

The most important question that can be asked in any situation is: “Who rules?” Who has the ultimate authority in heaven and on planet earth? This is why the Gospel is that Jesus is Lord and that our God reigns (see Romans 10:9 and compare Romans 10:15 with Isaiah 52:7). The Gospel is not “Jesus loves you and wants to save you.” The Gospel is that He is Lord. This means He *can* save you as He is the ultimate Boss. Intent is not ability. You need both. Jesus is both willing and able to save. If He was only willing but unable, your faith would be meaningless.

Jesus knew that this is the central issue in life. It is the central issue of all creation. God is in control. As the old saying goes, “God is in His heaven, all’s right with the world.” As Christians, we can all resonate with that. It undergirds our very existence. However, it is much more than a comforting thought.

It is the very secret of manifesting supply.

**No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.**

**Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?**

**Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?**

**Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?**

**And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:**

**And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.**

**Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?**

**Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?**

**(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.**

**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

**Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.**

**MATTHEW 6:24-34 KJV**

Notice that Jesus divides humanity into two camps: those who serve God and those who serve mammon. There are no other camps. There is no neutral zone. There is no Switzerland in the spirit realm. If you are on this planet, you are either serving God or mammon.

Jesus said that we must seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness in order to have the things we need in life added to us. Most people interpret this as “Put God first in your life and try to live right.” Millions of Christians practise this, trying hard to put God first and live right. This includes, for many, tithing faithfully and giving offerings. And these Christians never seem to experience any progress in their finances. Why is this?

The answer is very simple: Jesus didn’t say put God first and try to live a righteous life. He said to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. What this means is to prioritise the dominion of God. You have to start from a position that God rules, that He is King and Ruler of all. You have to know Who He is and who you are in relation to Him. That’s the righteousness part. YOU are the righteousness of God, friend (see 2 Corinthians 5:21). This means that you have the *right* to supply. The righteousness of God has the right to all He has and all He is. It means no lack and no limits!

You have to begin from a place where you know that He rules over all creation and that He is the Possessor of heaven and earth. Then you have to know the favour He has toward you, that He has given you the right to walk in limitless supply. This is all you need to know, But you must spend the rest of your life becoming more and more intimate with this truth.

*If you don’t know He has ultimate and immediate authority and that you have the right to experience manifest supply, you won’t experience it to the full extent He wants you to.*

It isn’t good advice from Jesus to seek first the dominion of God; it is essential to our walking in manifest supply. You must know Him with whom we have to do. It’s not just about you getting your needs met in a world polluted by mammon’s influence; it is being God’s instrument of dismantling the entire mammon system and replacing it with God’s Kingdom. We are not here to co-exist with a mammon economy; we are here to replace it. This is why you have to know that Jesus is Lord, that He sits at God’s right hand. Over and over again the writers of the New Testament emphasised that Jesus had gone to sit at God’s right hand.

The reason for this was very simple. It was to announce to principalities and powers that there is now a Man in the Godhead. This Man is the federal head of a new race of men. He is King and His Kingdom economy must supersede that of mammon.

The day of mammon is over.

You are here to manifest heaven’s economy. You are here to bring forth unlimited supply. You are here to make the poor rich and to plunder the wealth of the wicked. You are here to be a blessing to every family and nation on earth. You are here to show the world what a man or woman blessed by God looks like. You are the light of the world. To you all the wealth of the nations must come.

## Chapter Seven

### JESUS NOW

I believe it is of vital importance to know that Jesus wasn't poor in His earth walk. There are a number of reasons for this, one of which is that there is an agenda, I believe, to completely obscure who Jesus really was as a Man. This book is not the place to elaborate on this agenda. Suffice to say that this book is written to correct a wrong assumption about Jesus made and propagated by religious people but also to explore how fascinating He really was. Let's be honest: Jesus the international businessman is way more interesting than Jesus the humble carpenter. Please remember that religion will always try to make Jesus boring. The truth is that He was never boring in any way whatsoever.

For all that it is important to know Jesus as He really was in His earth walk, there is something far more important, not only in terms of our relationship with the Lord but in terms of our walking in superabundant supply.

That is to know Jesus as He is today.

You see, we are not dealing with the Jesus who walks beside the shores of Galilee. We are not fellowshiping with the Man who knows what it is to be tempted and pressured and to be hungry. It's good to know about this Jesus but it is not the Jesus we relate to today.

**Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.**  
**2 CORINTHIANS 5:16 KJV**

It's not faith to try to relate to Jesus as He lived in His earth walk (see Romans 10:6,7). That's because He didn't come down to our level to say here. He came down to our level to lift us up to *His* level. You and I are not meant to live a life focussed on the terrestrial; we are supposed to be fixated on the heavenly. Not only that, we are meant to live *from* heaven, not just *toward* heaven. Only that which is from above has any value. That which is from beneath has no worth.

The believer is to live the ascended life. That includes fellowshiping with the Lord on high. We must ascend to where He is; He is not coming to walk the dusty roads with you. Jesus won't come and live with you in your earth life. He has done the earth life thing once and for all. The business of heaven is transporting heaven to earth; not perpetuating earth nor transporting it to heaven. The days of earth are over. By that I mean the life *below*. Jesus came to give us abundant Life. That Life can only come from above.

You are seated with Him in heavenly places, beloved. He has raised you up. From now on, we live as heavenly people. In heaven there is no lack, no sickness, no misery, no failure, no poverty, no sin. You are here to manifest heaven's reality. Heaven is the eternal realm. Earth is the temporal realm, the realm that is subject to change. You are here to impose heaven's reality upon earth. The reality of heaven is that Jesus is Lord over all creation, over every realm spiritual and natural. The

proclamation of this Lordship has been entrusted to us. Not only is He Lord, we are His co-inheritors. You see, we are on the glory side of the cross! We are one spirit with the Lord, the Man who conquered death, hell and the grave. We know His favour that all He was and is and all He possessed became ours when He hung on the tree. We know *this* Jesus, the One who is limitless in strength and resources, who sits as King upon the Throne of the Universe. We know that all things are ours.

It's important to know the Jesus who walked the earth two thousand years ago. But you need to know Jesus as He is today, the Lord of glory, the King of kings. He has all authority in heaven and earth. He rules over all and He owns it all, hallelujah! That is why the greatest wealth transfer is imminent, brothers and sisters – the wealth of the nations is coming home where it belongs, to the temple of God. That's you and me! The mammon economy of Babylon is about to fall.

You need to get with the program of God. It's not about you just getting by. Neither is it about you being selfish and hoarding wealth for its own sake. It's about you taking your place as a steward. It's about you obeying the command to do business till He comes. The Puritans understood this. They eschewed the love of money but had no problems racking up fortunes for God's glory. They lived very frugally, maybe more than they had to, but they knew how to accumulate wealth! The secret was they had no guilt about making money because they knew it was good stewardship.

The concept of stewardship is rooted in the sovereignty of God. Because He is Lord, we must serve Him. This means we recognise that He is the ultimate Possessor of all and that we share in this because of His grace. This takes the love of money right out of the equation. This is why it is so essential to seek first the Kingdom of God i.e. to always be in conscious awareness that He is Lord.

*The revelation of the absolute sovereignty and ownership of Almighty God is essential to walking in manifest superabundance. You must see Him as He is in the glory realm to experience supply in this realm.*

To see God in His glory is necessary. It actually removes all frames of reference.

**And I saw a Great White Throne, and the One sitting on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled; and a place was not found for them.**

**REVELATION 20:11 LITV**

When John saw the One sitting upon the Throne it removed all frames of reference. Heaven and earth just fled away. What does this mean? It means that there is nothing more real than God's face. Everything else just becomes irrelevant in the face of that reality. There is nothing to compare with it just as there is nothing in heaven or earth that can describe it. There is only the face of God; everything else John knew vanished as he gazed upon that face.

There are two things you need to understand in relation to this verse. Firstly, the face of God looking upon you was a Hebraic concept that signified you were blessed and highly-favoured of God. God's countenance shining upon you meant you would be blessed and prosperous in your way. The Israel Blessing, to be pronounced by the Aaronic Priesthood, reflected this:-

**Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying,  
Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, This is how you shall bless the  
children of Israel. You shall tell them,  
Yahweh bless you, and keep you.  
Yahweh make his face to shine on you, and be gracious to you.  
Yahweh lift up his face toward you, and give you peace.  
So they shall put my name on the children of Israel; and I will bless them.  
NUMBERS 6:22-27 WEB**

To the ancient Israelites, the face of God was essential to one's prosperity. This is because the reality of who He is is vital to our manifesting what belongs to us. Note that YHWH equivocated His face shining upon someone with His Name coming upon them. This is because His Name means HE IS. His Name *is* reality! Nothing is more real than HE IS. Do you see what this means, child of God?

REALITY IS UNLIMITED, INFINITE SUPPLY.

The illusion is lack, shortage, poverty. In the reality of God, there is only SUPERABUNDANCE. What do you believe – the illusion of religiosity or the reality of YHWH's word?

I said there were two things we need to understand about Revelation 20:11 and the reality of God's face. We have just seen the first one, that God's face shows us who HE IS and that this is our Infinite Source of supply. His very nature is SUPERABUNDANCE. When you speak His Name, you speak reality upon yourself because His face – the very definition of reality – is toward you.

The second thing we must understand is that Jesus came to show us this face of God. He *is* God's face toward us. Whoever has seen Jesus has seen the Father. To know Jesus is to know the Father. This is why Jesus could never have been poor – He came to show us the Father. If Jesus was poor, that means the Father was poor. We know it to be otherwise.

Know Him, dear one. Know His favour. Know that because of who HE IS, He cannot but make you rich. This is the reality you will see in His face. This is the reality they saw in the face of the young Man two thousand years ago.

**And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.**

**JOHN 21:25 VW**

## **RESOURCES**

<b>The "Lost" Ten Tribes of Israel...Found!</b>	<b>Steven M. Collins</b>
<b>The Holy Land Of Scotland</b>	<b>Barry Dunford</b>
<b>Vision Of Albion: The Key To The Holy Grail</b>	<b>Barry Dunford</b>
<b>The Missing Years Of Jesus</b>	<b>Dennis Price</b>
<b>Did Jesus Come To Britain?</b>	<b>Glyn S. Lewis</b>
<b>Did Our Lord Visit Britain, As They Say In Cornwall and Somerset?</b>	<b>C.C. Dobson</b>
<b>Drama Of The Lost Disciples</b>	<b>George Jowett</b>
<b>How The Gospel Came To Britain</b>	<b>Brian Williams</b>
<b>I, Joseph Of Arimathea</b>	<b>Frank C. Tribbe</b>
<b>Anointed For Business</b>	<b>Ed Silvoso</b>

**JESUS: MILLIONAIRE is intended to be an ongoing project.  
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William McMurdo ministers to people all over the world on walking in superabundant supply. His books include *GET RICH NOW!!* and *THE BOOK OF WEALTH*. He is anointed to minister freedom from debt, poverty and oppression, releasing people into their God-ordained destiny of superabundant living, financial plenty and business success.