

Avoiding The Seductive Trap Of Debt

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BIBLICAL CHARACTERS AND THEIR MISUSE OF FINANCES:

- **ACHAN** "They weren't using these at work so I brought them home" (Joshua 7)
- **GEHAZI** "I had a profitable connection because of who I worked for" (2 Kings 5)
- **AHAB** "I let my wife know what I wanted and she made sure I got it" (1 Kings 21)
- **ZACCHAEUS** "At work, I tended to squeeze money out of people" (Luke 19:1-10)
- **GIDEON** "I used my popularity to get a large amount of money" (Judges 8:24-9:6)
- **JACOB** "I figured out a way to take advantage of my boss" (Genesis 30:25-43)
- **JUDAS** "I had inside information and sold it for a profit" (Matthew 26:14-16)
- **SOLOMON** "I used marriage to increase my wealth" (1 Kings 10 & 11)
- **BALAAM** "I made a large profit due to my religious abilities" (Numbers 22-24)

THE RESULTS IN THEIR LIVES...

- **ACHAN....** He and his family were stoned to death.
- **GEHAZI....** He became a leper
- **AHAB....** He and his family were destroyed by violent deaths.
- **ZACCHAEUS....** He had to return four times the amount he'd stolen.
- **GIDEON....** Most all of his sons were killed with violent deaths.
- **JACOB....** He later lived to see his family followed his example.
- **JUDAS....** He committed suicide.
- **SOLOMON....** He rejected God and his sons didn't inherit his wealth.
- **BALAAM....** He was killed by his own people for soothsaying.

TERMINOLOGY

DEBT: The condition of being in bondage to another person. It is to be obligated to pay back what is owed. It is allowing another person to have a claim against you.

BANKRUPTCY: The condition of having loans come due which cannot be paid in acceptable currency.

DEPRECIATING ITEMS: Items that have a value that decreases the longer that they are used or owned.

APPRECIATING ITEMS: Items that have a value that increases the longer that they are used or owned.

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