

## Give. **SAVE**. Live. Week 2

Luther's First Article Explanation - "I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life."

Psalm 50:10-11 - "Every beast of the forest is Mine, The cattle on a thousand hills. 'I know every bird of the mountains, and everything that moves in the field is Mine.' If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is Mine, and all it contains"

1) God First [Offerings – Proverbs 3:9 & 1 Cor. 16:2]

2) Family Needs / Not Wants [1 Timothy 5:8]

3) Taxes [Romans 13:7]

4) The Poor [Proverbs 19:17 & Galatians 2:10]

5) Personal Use (Includes Saving) [1 Tim. 6:17]\*

The **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ covers our sins of not using God's finances as he desires (2 Cor. 8:9). "You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich."

### ***\*Proof Passages on Saving***

Proverbs 21:20 – "The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down."

Proverbs 30:25 – "Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer."

Ecclesiastes – “Invest in seven ventures, yes, in eight; you do not know what disaster may come upon the land.”

Genesis 41:34-36 – (Joseph’s storing up the harvest saved the world.)

Matthew 25:14-30 – (Parable of the Talents.)

***\*God’s Purpose for Us in Saving***

Luke 12:18-21 – (Rich in things but poor toward God.)

Proverbs 23:4-5 – “Do not wear yourself out to get rich... Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.”

Matthew 6:33 – “Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

Jesus was a saver for his kingdom’s sake.

Let us save for the purposes of his kingdom too.

**Points to Ponder:**

1. Outside of the Scriptures, encouragement for people to save is simply for the purposes of this world which is purely temporal and often deals with serving self. What blessing do you sense when seeing that the gospel of our salvation addresses the issue of saving?
2. Saving can seem intimidating. The need to live from day-to-day and spend to cover costs can often dominate our entire thinking. What issues do many face which prevent them from saving as God desires? What issues might you be facing? How do we overcome?
3. As with anything, if you really want to succeed at something, it necessitates having a plan and being made accountable to that plan. If you don’t have a plan to save and/or if you aren’t being held accountable, we’d love to help. Our church family has many financial advisers that can assist you from a biblical perspective. Talk to one of our pastors for more info. (Our church is not making anything off any referrals. We simply share this opportunity because of what God’s Word says about good stewardship. God bless!)

***Homework: 1 Timothy 6:17-19 and Hebrews 5:7-10***