

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good pleasing and perfect will.

- Romans 12:1-2



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I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything...all she had to live on.

- Mark 12:43

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What Jesus teaches us about giving in this context:

- He is very much aware though He be distant
- He observes all who give; rich and poor
- He is aware of the amount that is given
- Though the rich gave much they really gave little; though the poor gave little she really gave much
- *There is more to giving than the amount that is given!*

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Some general observations
from the Bible about
money:

- God owns all money

*The silver is mine and the gold is
mine, declares the LORD
Almighty.
- Haggai 2:8*

*What do you have that you did not
(first) receive? And if you did
receive it, why do you boast as
though you did not?
- 1 Corinthians 4:7*

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Some general observations from the Bible about money:

- God gives us the ability to get money

But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.

- Deuteronomy 8:18

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Some general observations
from the Bible about
money:

- God doesn't condemn money

*...put their hope in God, who richly
provides us with everything for our
enjoyment.*

- 1 Timothy 6:17

*Didn't it belong to you before it was
sold: And after it was sold, wasn't
the money at your disposal?*

- Acts 5:4

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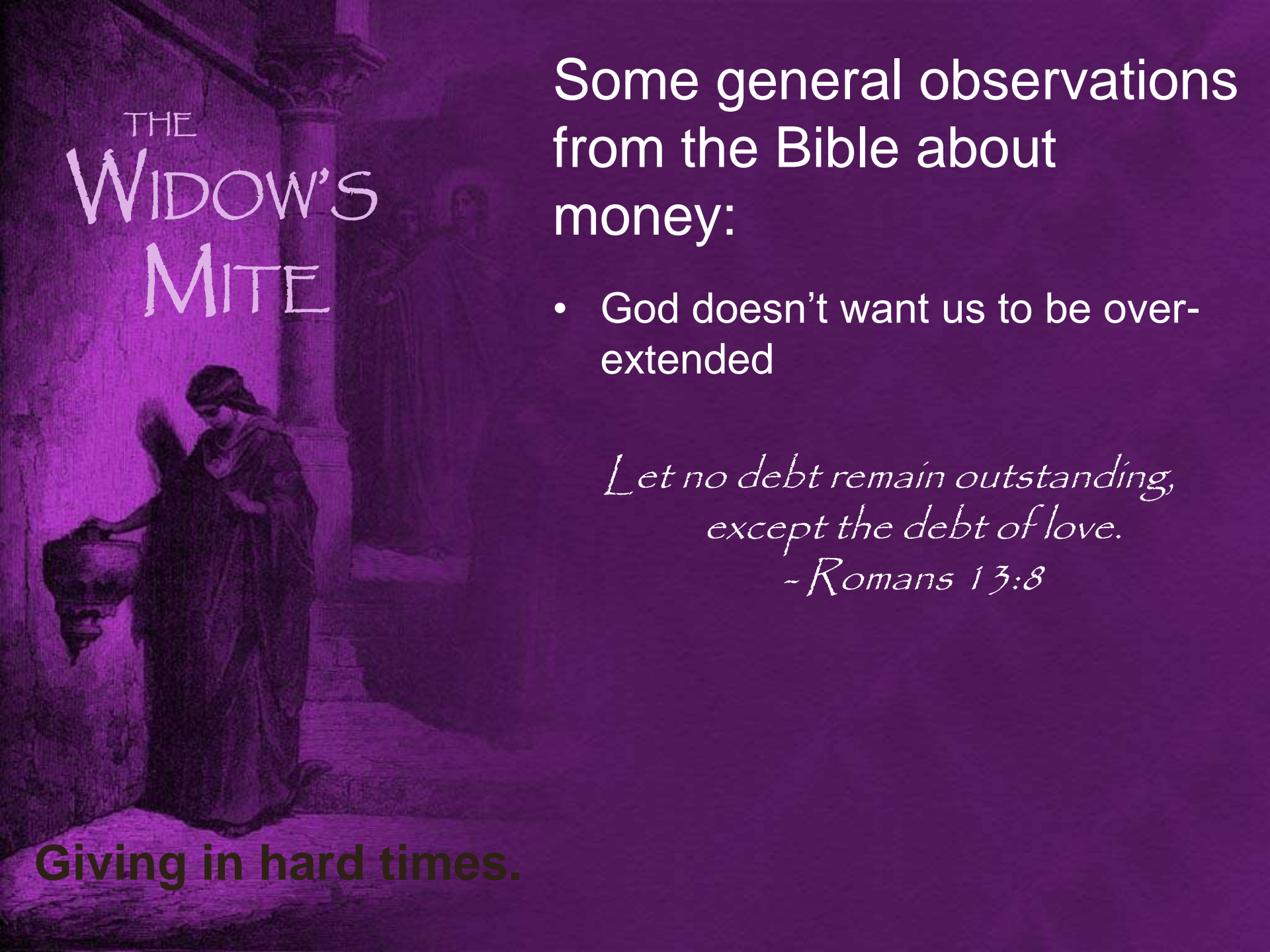
Some general observations
from the Bible about
money:

- God teaches us how to gain money

*For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."
- 2 Thessalonians 3:10*

*There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man swallows it up.
- Proverbs 21:20*

Giving in hard times.



Some general observations
from the Bible about
money:

- God doesn't want us to be over-extended

*Let no debt remain outstanding,
except the debt of love.
-Romans 13:8*

Giving in hard times.

Some general observations from the Bible about money:

- God wants us to be generous with what He has given us

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

- 1 John 3:17-18

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Some questions to ask if we are running short of money:

- Do I really need this / more?
- Is God testing my faith?
- Have I not used properly what I have been given?
- Have I violated God's word when it comes to the money I have been given or the way that I am living?

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A promise to claim,
concerning my needs,
especially in hard times:

*And my God will meet all
your needs according to
his glorious riches in
Christ Jesus.*

- Philippians 4:19

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“They walk in all humility and kindness and falsehood is not found among them and they love one another. They despise not the widow and grieve not the orphan. He that hath distributeth liberally to him that hath not. If they see a stranger they bring him under their roof and rejoice over him as it were their own brother: for they call themselves brethren, not after the flesh, but after the spirit and of God; but when one of their poor passes away from the world and any of them see him then he provides for his burial according to his ability; and if they hear that any of their number is imprisoned or



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“oppressed for the name of their Messiah all of them provide for his needs and if it is possible that he may be delivered, they deliver him. And if there is among them a man that is poor and needy and they have not an abundance of necessaries they fast two or three days that they may supply the needy with their necessary food.”

- *Aristides*

(Second Century Christian Philosopher)

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