





A View from the Pew:

4 Stewardship Views Contrasted



On September 18, 2006 Time Magazine cover story was: "Does God Want You Rich?"

The article primarily covered the ministry of Joel Osteen's 25,000 member Lakewood Church in Houston. Here are some of the common "views" Christians hold when it comes to how they view wealth and possessions.

				
	Poverty Theology	Prosperity Theology	Consumer Theology	BALANCED Biblical View
View of prosperity...	Non-materialistic, disdain for possessions	Prosperity is the reward of the righteous	The pursuit of household possessions and family pleasures is acceptable	Possessions are a trust given by God in varying proportions
In a word, possessions are...	Curse	Reward	Right	Responsibility
View about purchases	Lowest quality	Top quality	Quantity	Wisest
"Proof texts"	Sell all and give to the poor. Luke 18:18-22	Ask, seek, knock. Matthew 7:7,8	Take care of your own family's needs. 1 Tim. 5:8 & Hag 1	Parable of the talents. Matthew 25:14-30
Needs are met by...	Thinking you don't have any needs.	Seed faith. Give to get.	Credit & borrowing.	Faithfully using and giving from what you've received
Primary Role	Rejecter	Owner	Accumulator	Steward/Manager
Preoccupation	Daily needs	Money	Comfort and convenience	Wisdom
Attitude	Carefree Proverbs 3:5,6	Driven Proverbs 10:17	Entangled Mark 4:19 & Haggai 1	Faithful Luke 16:10,11