

# “An Economic Atheist”

Paul’s instructions for rich Christians.

1 Timothy 6:17-18 NLT

Teach those who are **rich** in this world not to be proud and **not to trust in their money**, which is so unreliable. Their **trust should be in God**, who richly gives us **all we need for our enjoyment**. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:19-21 NLT

“Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. **Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.**

An Economic Atheist

Believes in God

Prays to God

Puts their faith in Jesus Christ

Has been baptized into Jesus Christ

May participate in a Sunday School Class, Small Group or Serve the Poor

An Economic Atheist is someone who believes they can live outside the economic fences of God’s favor.

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Presented by Pastor David Bellows

Christ’s Church of Marion County

July 30, 2017

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Leviticus 18:1-5 NLT

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Give the following instructions to the people of Israel. I am the LORD your God. So do not act like the people in Egypt, where you used to live, or like the people of Canaan, where I am taking you. You must not imitate their way of life. You must **obey all my regulations** and be careful to **obey my decrees**, for I am the LORD your God. If you **obey** my decrees and my regulations, you will find **life** through them. I am the LORD.

Fence #1: Live inside **your** budget

Leviticus 19:9-10, 13 NLT

“When you harvest the crops of **your land**, do not harvest the grain along the edges of your fields, and do not pick up what the harvesters drop. It is the same with your grape crop—do not strip every last bunch of grapes from the vines, and do not pick up the grapes that fall to the ground. Leave them for the **poor and the foreigners** living among you. I am the LORD your God. . . . “Do not make your **hired workers** wait until the next day to receive their pay.”

**Enough**                      Not **Enough**

60 years ago

Personal

\$4,800

\$53,600

Increase of 1150%

Federal

\$100 Billion

\$3.3 Trillion

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Increase of 3,300%

10/10/80 Plan

Give/Save/Live

NOT Live/Save/Give

Fence #2: Honor the Economic Cycle

Leviticus 19:23-25 NLT

When you enter the land and **plant** fruit trees, leave the fruit unharvested for the first **three years** and consider it forbidden. Do not eat it. In the fourth year the entire crop must be consecrated to the LORD as a celebration of praise. Finally, in the fifth year you may eat the fruit. If you follow this pattern, your **harvest** will increase. I am the LORD your God.

Sow – Grow – Harvest

Sow = plow and plant

Grow = weed and wait

Harvest = reap and reward

Sow – Grow – Harvest (repeat)

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