

Investing in Our Heavenly places

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Jean TSHIBANGU

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INVESTING IN OUR HEAVENLY PLACES

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To my wife and mother of my children, Monique MBIYA.
To my children, the pioneers, and pillars of my ministry.
To my grandchildren, the glory of God.
To my sons and daughters-in-law
To all Church of Christ

Jean TSHIBANGU

My deep gratitude goes in the first place to the Lord, the Almighty God, the One who graciously granted me the breath of life, He who is the Alpha and the Omega.

To all those who helped me to be who I am today. To all, my sincere appreciation.

To the Reverend Ouedraogo Adama, pastor at the Church of New Jerusalem, Luxembourg.

Foreword

I went through bookstores and libraries in searching of documentation related to the subject of my book: 'Investing in our Heavenly Places', I found a disturbing poverty that prompts questions to be asked. Preachers in Churches pay more attention to finances than to treasures. In my point of view, finance does not necessarily mean treasures because they can go beyond finances. Finance can help to get treasures while we can have treasures without involving finances. King Solomon had prosperity, some of which was hidden in the treasures. But he exclaimed one day: " I applied my mind to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under the heavens. What a heavy burden God has laid on mankind! I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind. What is crooked cannot be straightened; what is lacking cannot be counted." (Ecclesiastes 1:13-15). And yet he had incomparable riches, but he did not have the peace and joy of living always happy. There is the preoccupation that drives me to awaken the minds of those who have chosen to live in faith in Jesus Christ on the fact that they must aspire to things from above knowing that they are transients and strangers on earth. Everything on earth and the heaven will disappear (Colossians 1:1-3).

On the earth, businessmen sometimes engage in more perilous activities without knowing their outcome; they go into business with a goal in mind to produce more profits. Sometimes things do not work out as expected. Business starts well and sometime later; it becomes cross and banner. Among those who suffer the blow settle the next day's worries followed by all kinds of risks and ailments: hassle, stress, cardiovascular disease, and much worse suicide. Some more cautious believe they are getting to safety by placing their assets on bank

compotes or certain financial products that do not escape the vagaries of the markets and even bankruptcy. (Luke 12:21).

In the main scriptures Jesus Christ urges and warns the crowd and disciples to secure the treasures in heaven to avoid destruction on earth. Now come a few questions to know: - how to reach the heaven while we are still living on earth and by what means to do so? - what should we invest and why invest?

Hence the relevance of the question of where to invest then? The answer is in the Bible. Christ himself said: Heaven is the best and only place for an eternal and imperishable investment.

From the outset, the answer to these frequently asked questions can be found in the title of this book. In essence, two opposing tendencies emerge and collide on this subject: some make it their workhorse and multiply the interests, while others do not want to hear anything since for them spiritual things have nothing to do with finances.

What to answer to questions like: Can the Church receive material and/or financial contributions from its members? In this book are some clues to enlighten the minds of those who are interested in getting the right answer about how they can invest what they have received from God.

My prayer is that through this book God delivers those who are still bound by Mammon and are not able to invest their lives and treasures in heavenly places.

Introduction

Over twenty years ago, while I was attending the local Churches of my country - I kept asking myself about the issue of finances, given the obstinacy with which the men of God were focusing on it. I always saw with a bad eye any appeal for funds that was made and one-off offerings such as construction collections or various other events that were to be organized within the Church. I barely paid tithing and I was mostly unconvinced until the Holy Spirit clearly instructed me on the matter. The Holy Spirit as a true teacher gently instructed me by showing me the position of God and Jesus Christ on earthly treasures. And in the light of the Holy Scriptures, especially Malachi and Haggai, I understood that I was a thief of long times. Many, for lack of knowledge or by the hardening of the heart, still camp on an equivocal position and define as they understand how, what and where they should give; "My people perish for lack of knowledge," says the Lord.

The Church, as the house of God, is called to be a centre of training where the rules and principles of spiritual life must be learned and taught. This will increase the knowledge to surely ensure the survival of the institution. These are basic and simple principles, but sometimes out of the reach of many.

The Word of God tells us about investments in God's affairs, and some writings including the books of the Acts, Epistles tell us more. The question of "giving" emerges from the very beginning and has evolved with the history of God and His people to finally reach us.

A gentleman named Laurent who was a member of the New Life Church in Christ, has pledged to give his offerings every Sunday, and he is formal about it. On the other hand, he believes that he is exempt from giving other contributions such
