

Your Finances in Changing Times

by Larry Burkett (1975)

Politicians who make decisions on what is popular rather than what is financially sound have virtually bankrupted us. National debt was started in the Great Depression & was fully entrenched in WWII. Credit cards have supplied the means of buying on impulse & living beyond our means. Credit card companies allow people to borrow 250% more than they can repay & thus become slaves. Never get involved in financial decisions that require instant action [think time shares]. Never co-sign. If you don't have peace, don't buy. Avoid indulgence.

Quotes: "Money is a training ground for God to develop our trustworthiness." (LB)

Books: How to Manage Your Money (LB)

Also notes from his seminar:

Live within our means. Create a budget & stick to it. Avoid impulse buying. Save the monthly average of annual expense so they are there when needed [property tax, etc]. Destroy credit cards; write down all debt & how much is spent on interest, then pay off high interest cards first. Use cash envelopes for each category & don't borrow when empty. Write down how money is spent to see spending habits [adjust as needed]. Build an emergency fund until it is half of annual income. **Two income families should live on one income for family budget & use second for savings & big expenses [buying house or car & vacations].** Otherwise it is devastating when one loses a job.

An average budget could look like this: 10% tithe, 15% taxes, 10% save, 30% housing, 5% food, 5% cars, 5% insurance & medical, 5% clothes, 5% recreation, 5% misc, 5% debt.