December 5, 2026 - Local Church Budget

He became one of the greatest investors in history.

But Sir John Templeton believed the secret to a meaningful life wasn't how much money you made. It was what you did with it.

John grew up in Tennessee during the Great Depression. Money was scarce. His family experienced financial hardship. But John learned the importance of saving, discipline, and generosity.

He eventually became a remarkably successful investor, founding the Templeton Growth Fund in 1954. Yet as his wealth increased, he didn't abandon his commitment to giving.

Instead, he gave away enormous sums to support education, scientific research, and the exploration of life's deepest spiritual questions.

He established the Templeton Prize, recognizing people whose work advanced humanity's understanding of spiritual realities.

And in 1987, he created the John Templeton Foundation, which continues supporting research and charitable initiatives.

But here's the beautiful lesson. John didn't wait until he had everything before practicing generosity. He developed habits of stewardship early in life. And those habits shaped how he handled success.

Do you ever find yourself thinking, “I'll start giving when I have more money”?

Maybe God is inviting you to trust Him with what you have right now. Because faithfulness isn't measured by how much you possess. It's revealed by what you do with what God has placed in your hands.

Today’s offering supports our Local Church Budget. Trust God with what you have and watch what He does next! You may give in person or conveniently online at AdventistGiving.org.

December 12, 2026 - Adventist Community Services (NAD)

She was one of the richest women in America.

But she lived as though she were terrified of becoming poor.

Henrietta “Hetty” Green was a brilliant investor who accumulated an enormous fortune during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

She understood how to make money. But she became notorious for her extreme frugality. Despite her wealth, she wore inexpensive clothing, avoided unnecessary expenses, and lived modestly. Newspapers nicknamed her “the Witch of Wall Street.”

And here's the tragedy. While she accumulated millions, she became increasingly associated with suspicion, isolation, and a relentless concern about protecting her fortune.

When she died in 1916, she left behind an estate worth tens of millions of dollars. But she couldn't take a single dollar with her.

Think about that. She spent her life protecting a fortune that she ultimately had to leave behind.

Do you ever struggle to give because you're afraid there won't be enough left for you?

Jesus warned us: “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” — Luke 12:15

God invites us to discover something money cannot buy. The joy of generosity. Because the greatest tragedy isn't dying without wealth. It's living without discovering what your wealth could have done for others.

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December 19, 2026 - Local Church Budget

He was only 18 years old. But what he did for a complete stranger inspired thousands!

In October 2026, Jordan Hope was driving through Maricopa, Arizona, when he noticed an elderly man struggling to walk.

The man's shoes were falling apart. Jordan could have kept driving. But he later explained that he felt God urging him to help.

So he stopped, and did something extraordinary. He took off his own shoes and gave them to the stranger!

Then he bought the man food and spent time getting to know him. Jordan didn't know someone was recording his kindness.

But the video went viral! Soon, strangers began donating money to help the elderly man. One teenager's act of compassion inspired thousands of dollars in generosity!

Jordan didn't wait until he was wealthy to make a difference.

Do you ever feel like you don't have enough to help someone else? Jesus said: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” — Acts 20:35

God doesn't ask you to give what you don't have. He invites you to share what He's already placed in your hands. And sometimes, one small act of love can change more lives than you ever imagined.

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December 26, 2026 - Combined Youth Ministries

He built a business whose name is recognized around the world.

But his greatest investment wasn't in his company! William Colgate, founder of the business that became Colgate, started with very little.

As a young man, he worked hard to support his struggling family. But he made a remarkable commitment. He would dedicate 10% of his earnings to charitable causes. And he began doing it long before he became wealthy!

As his business grew, something extraordinary happened. Colgate didn't stop at 10%. He increased his giving to 20%, then 30%, and eventually as much as 50% of his earnings!

He supported Christian education, Bible organizations, and charitable work. The more he earned, the more he chose to give away!

Do you ever struggle to return your tithe because you're afraid there won't be enough left?

The Bible says: “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse.” — Malachi 3:10

God doesn't promise that every faithful giver will become rich. But He invites us to trust Him instead of trusting our possessions.

Tithing reminds us that everything belongs to God. Offerings express our gratitude for His goodness.

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