



LIBERTY *Matters*

NEWSLETTER OF LIBERTY TRUST

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Dear friends

We are pleased to welcome new members from Tauranga, Wanganui, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Matamata, Mt Roskill, Waitakere City, Putaruru and Waitoa, also two families from Christchurch and Rotorua have started their second memberships.

You should have recently received receipts for your donations for the year ended 31 March 2008. From 1 April 2008 we are regarding all of your contribution as a charitable donation.



7 Bible Principles

Did you know that SEVEN Major Financial Bible Principles are released when people sow into this corner of God's Storehouse.

1. Sowing and Reaping

Let us not become weary doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Gal 6 v 9

Whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly. Whoever sows bountifully will reap bountifully. 2 Cor 9 v 6

2. The Principle of Storehouse

All the believers were one in heart and mind ... [and] shared everything they had. Acts 4 v 32. Also Deut 14:28-29, Prov 21:20, Mal 3:10

3. Stewardship Responsibility

If then you have not proved trustworthy with the wealth of this world, who will trust you with the wealth that is real. Luke 16 v 11

4. Interest-free Lending among God's People

Do not charge your brother interest ... so that the Lord your God may bless you in everything you put your hand to. Deut. 23 v 19 – 20

5. Freedom from Debt

The borrower is servant [slave] to the lender. Prov 22 v 7b

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Gal. 5 v 1

6. Eliminating the Need to Borrow from "The World"

You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. The Lord will make you the head, not the tail. Deut. 28 v 12 – 13

Do not be yoked together with unbelievers, for what does righteousness and wickedness have in common. 2 Cor. 6 v 14

7. God's Community – His Family

Whatever gift you have received, use it in service to one another, like good stewards, dispensing the grace of God. 1 Pet. 4 v 10

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. Gal 6 v 10

He who fears the Lord
has a secure fortress,
and for his children
it will be a refuge.
Prov 14:26

Sowing and Reaping

There is perhaps no more powerful principle revealed in the Bible than that of Sowing and Reaping. It is a hugely significant principle for life.

In Mark 4 Jesus told his disciples that if they could not understand the parable of "The Sower" they would not be able to understand any of the parables (Mark 4:13).

Every dollar that is "sown" into Liberty Trust is seed—very good seed. That dollar circulates in and out, to release one family after another from the bondage of interest and the debt that attracts it. After 100 years it's still happily doing the same job, releasing God's people time and time again.

That is great seed and great seed sowing.

Well done Liberty Trust contributors. Success in life is wise application of God's Principles—that's what you are doing!

Let's today be glad that we are able to SOW A SEED!

"Don't be under any illusion: A man's harvest in life will depend entirely on what he sows" (Gal 6:7 Phillips)

Bruce

Bruce McDonald is Senior Pastor at Auckland Christian Fellowship.

The Flood & the Storehouse

Some of you may wonder why we have a boat and rainbow as our logo. Liberty Trust is certainly not a fishing or house-boat enterprise! Others may recognise our boat with a rainbow logo as representing Noah's ark and you would be right.



The flood of Noah's day was a traumatic, defining event that changed forever the history of man and the face of the earth. The early books of Job and Psalms contain many vivid references to the event (eg Job 22:15-17, 38:8-11, Ps 104:5-9). Many cultures around the world still foster stories about how their ancestors were saved from the raging waters on this boat.

The flood brought the first judgement (1 Peter 2:5) and symbolised the first baptism (1 Peter 3:20) and introduced the first storehouse - the ark.

The ark was gigantic—it was three stories high, waterproofed, and filled with rooms. Its overall dimensions were at least 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. Its length to width ratio of six to one provided excellent stability on the high seas. The overall size of the ark makes it the largest seagoing vessel known before the 20th century, and its proportions were amazingly similar to the large ocean liners of today.

Additionally God told Noah: *"You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and them to eat"* (Gen 6 v 21). Gathering and storing the quantity of food necessary to feed the birds and animals for over a year (Gen 7 v 11 & 8 v 14) would have also required a massive effort but Noah did everything just as God commanded him (Gen 6 v 22).

Finally God sent two or more of each kind of animals and birds to Noah for protection in the ark. Noah's job was to build and supply the storehouse, God's role was to fill it. The creatures came to Noah and he stored them in the rooms on the ark to keep them safe (Gen 6 v 19, 20).

After the flood God gave the rainbow as a sign of the covenant He made to all His rescued creation. This was God's most basic and universal covenant with his creatures and required nothing in return except to trust and see His promises come to pass. God sovereignly promised in this covenant to Noah, to Noah's descendants (us!) and to all living things, that never again would the waters become a flood to destroy all life. After storms and showers the rainbow can remind each of us of God's ongoing mercy, protection and faithfulness—He never fails to keep His promises.

The flood was one of the most significant events in the Bible and world history and is especially relevant for the last days. In Matthew 24:38 Jesus says, *"As it was in the days of Noah so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man"*.

2 Peter 3:3-7 reveals a chilling prophecy of the last days when *"scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, 'Where is this 'coming' he promised? ... Everything goes on as it has since the beginning.' But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed."*

Just as *"God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built"* (1 Peter 3:20) so God is today waiting patiently before releasing the final judgement. As *"God did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people but God protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness and seven others"* so we can be sure of judgement on evil people and preservation of the godly.

The reality of the flood reminds us of God's patience, judgement and mercy and above all that His promises never fail.

The purpose of Liberty Trust is to provide a safe storehouse where God's people can pool their resources and set each other free — free from bondage to the world, free from debt, and at liberty to follow God's ways, to build God's Kingdom and to pass a legacy on to future generations.

