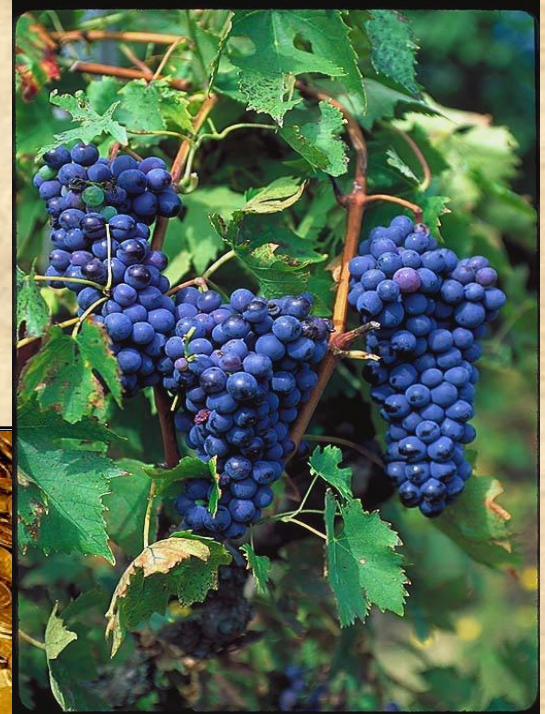


# GET RICH!

## *Lessons for Living in the Spiritual Economy*



**Mark Drabenstott**  
**Menucha 2009**

# Our Economic Imperative

“A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

21 So is he who lays up treasure for himself,  
and is **not rich toward God.**”

*Luke 12:21 RSV*



**GET  
RICH** — Toward **GOD!**

# Spiritual Economics 101



- There is no supply and demand—in fact, no currency.
- It is a “Kingdom Economy” – overseen by an all-powerful, loving ruler.
- There is *always* more to go around.
- Your wants will be filled, *completely filled, all the time!*

# Natural & Spiritual Economics: Different Principles—SAME world.



Does one give way to  
the other?



Or do we get them  
mixed up?

# Are we citizens of the natural or spiritual economies...or both?

*Scarcity Thinking?*



*Abundance Thinking?*



# Investing 101

The past year has given investing a bad name. Nevertheless, saving and investing is still the surest path to wealth.

There are two secrets to success:

1. Time — compounding.

*Take the long view.*

2. Risk — asset allocation.

*More risk, more reward.*



# Lessons of the Talents



1. Our Lord has given us a mission — building *spiritual* wealth.
2. We do not begin this mission empty-handed.
3. You must take risk to gain.
4. Fear is fatal — *don't bury your wealth.*
5. If you would succeed, know the Master.

# Your Spiritual Investing



**Are you taking risk—or burying in the ground?**

*If you have faith...  
you will be living with risk every day,  
NOT in your comfort zone.*



# Spiritual Bankruptcy



"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for **you are like whitewashed tombs**, which outwardly appear beautiful, but **within they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness**. 28 So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity .

*Matt 23:27-28 RSV*

# Avoiding Spiritual Bankruptcy

1. The remedy for spiritual bankruptcy can only come from Jesus.
2. To avoid spiritual bankruptcy, we must have one crucial asset on our spiritual balance sheet—*faith*.
3. We must “buy” gold.
4. We must forgive as we have been forgiven.



# **QUESTION OF THE DAY**

**True or False?**

***I'm giving my treasure away.***

# Lessons for living in the spiritual economy.

- **Get rich — toward God!**  
*Know your economic imperative.*
- **Spiritual economics 101**  
*Beware mixing economic principles!*
- **Invest in the spiritual economy**  
*Master the two secrets to success.*
- **Manage debt God's way**  
*Avoid spiritual bankruptcy.*
- **Use wealth wisely**  
*Give back—before it's too late.*



# Should we be financial investors? Is it wrong to be wealthy?



Do not toil to acquire  
wealth; be wise enough  
to desist.

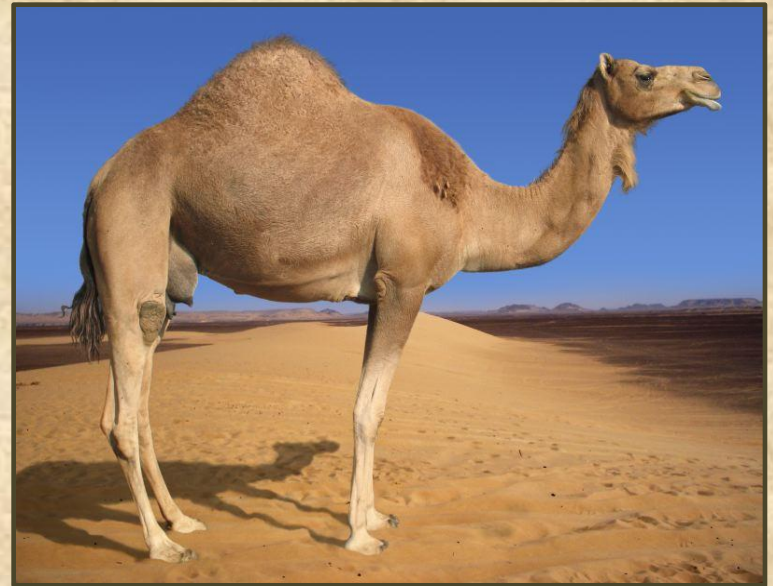
*Prov. 23:4 RSV*

# Should we be financial investors? Is it wrong to be wealthy?

Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

22 When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. 23 And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. 24 Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

*Mt. 19:21-25 RSV*

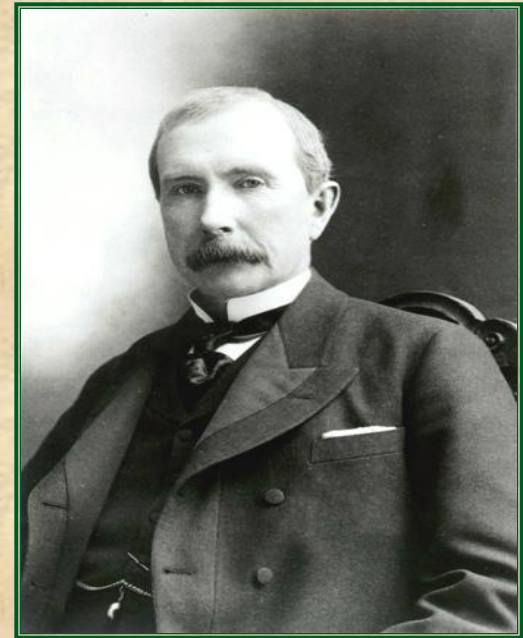


*Does this mean we  
should not invest  
our finances wisely?*

# It Depends Entirely on Your Purpose!

“The person who starts out simply with the idea of getting rich won't succeed; you must have a larger ambition.”

“God gave me my money. I believe the power to make money is a gift from God to be developed and used to the best of our ability for the good of mankind.”



A handwritten signature of John D. Rockefeller in cursive script. The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The name 'John D. Rockefeller' is clearly legible, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

**Rockefeller died in 1935 at the age of 97.  
In 1913, he was worth \$318 billion (in 2007 dollars).**

# The Parable of the Talents

## Matthew 25

- Three servants given 5, 2, & 1 talents

Called his servants and entrusted to them his property ... to each according to his ability...

To whom much is given much is required.

## Luke 19

- Ten servants each given 1 talent

Trade with these till I come.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

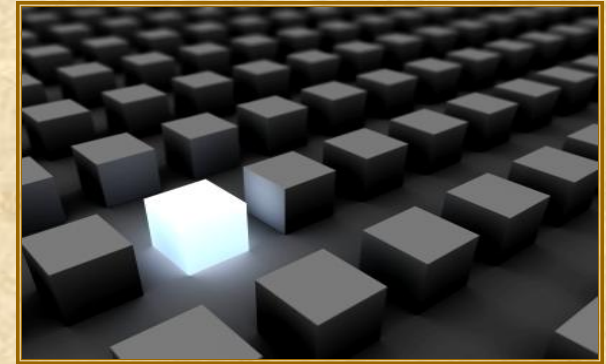


# What has the Lord entrusted to you?

1. Money



2. Skill — talent



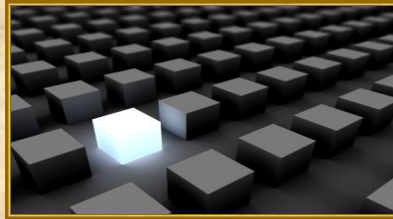
3. Time



**“What have you been doing in your job lately that the Lord can use in the Kingdom?”**

*How do you manage these rare gifts?*

# How are you managing your wealth?



1. How are you investing your resources?

*Are you tapping the power of compounding and are you taking risk?*

2. What are you using your wealth to do?

*Is it aimed at “spiritual trading” — or self-gratification?*

**THERE IS ONE KEY TO ANSWERING BOTH QUESTIONS!**

# Spiritual Accounting: *Do we get it?*

## What are our assets?

There is really only one:

*Your name in the book of life.*

If you add *this* asset ...

**Faith** *then ...*

Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.

## What are our liabilities?

Forgiven...

Passed over...

Sent away...

Covered over.

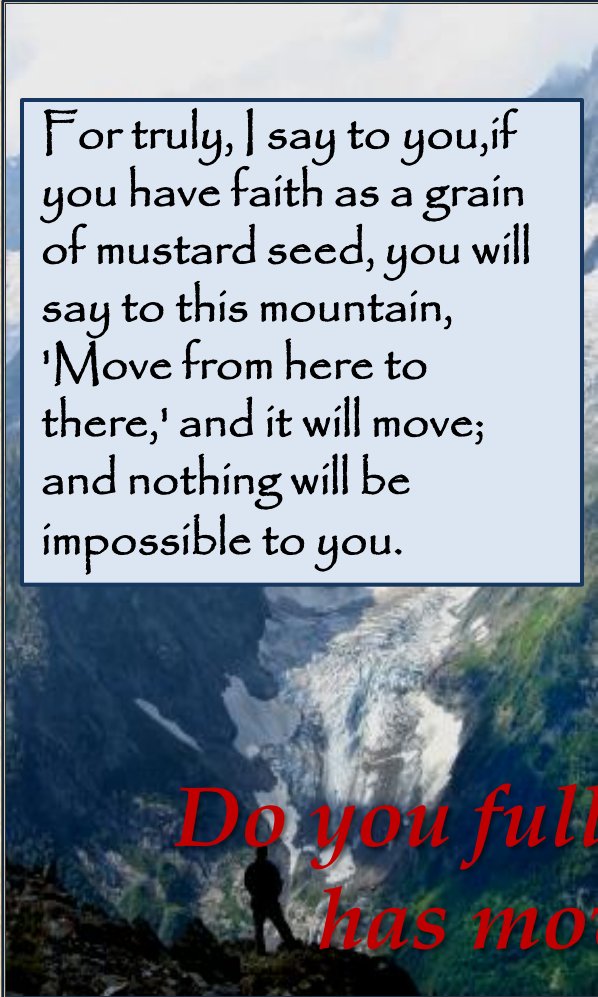
Blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not reckon his sin.

# How do you view your spiritual balance sheet?

For truly, I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you.

- Do you ever think about it?
- If so, do you spend your time trying to calculate your net worth—subtracting liabilities from assets?
- Do you see YOUR mountain of debt?

*Do you fully comprehend that your Lord has moved away that mountain?*



# You can respond in one of three ways.

1. Despair. ***DON'T be a Judas.***
2. Greed. ***DON'T be the ungrateful servant.***
3. Thanks. ***DO be a Paul.***

***Our Father doesn't need our perfection ...  
He wants our BEST thanks for His grace.***



# How we manage our wealth depends entirely on how we understand this.

1. If we despair, we will waste it.
2. If we are greedy, we will never acquire *any* spiritual wealth.
3. If we are thankful, we will become wealthy beyond measure.

*Our Father doesn't want our perfection ...  
He wants our best thanks for His grace.*



Remember, in the spiritual economy one commodity is more abundant than all others.

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to **the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us.**

*Eph 1:7-8 RSV*



# Why is grace *the* most abundant commodity?

And the grace of our Lord  
was **exceedingly abundant**,  
with faith and love which are  
in Christ Jesus.

*1 Tim 1:14 NKJV*

For the earth will be filled with  
the knowledge of the glory of  
the Lord, as the waters cover  
the sea.

*Hab. 2:14 RSV*





Through our faith,  
we stand in His grace.



Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

*Rom. 5:1-2 ESV*

# *What thanks will you give for His grace?*

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. **7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.**

*2 Cor. 9:6-7 NIV*



# His Grace - Our Thanks



God is able to make all grace abound to you, *so that* in all things at all times, having all that you need, *you will abound in every good work.*

9 As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." 10 Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

*2 Cor. 9:8-10 NIV*

# His Grace - Our Thanks



You will be made **rich** in every way *so that* you can be **generous** on every occasion, and through us **your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.**

2 Cor. 9:11 NIV

# What will you give back for His grace?

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but **is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.** 13 Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. 14 **And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you.** 15 Thanks be to God for his **incredible gift!**

2 Cor. 9:12-15 NIV



*His indescribable gift...  
The reason we give back!*



## HIS GRACE ... OUR GIFTS.

But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."

*Eph 4:7-8 RSV*



## HIS GRACE ... OUR GIFTS.

And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the **fulness** of Christ.

*Eph 4:11-13 RSV*

In the end, the spiritual economy  
is all about abundance.



And they did all eat, and were  
filled. And they took up twelve  
baskets **full** of the fragments,  
and of the fishes.

*Mark 6:42-43 KJV*

*pleeroma* (4138)  
fullness or **abundance** (Thayer's).



# The question is: *Do we see and live this?*

Jesus said to them, "Why do you discuss the fact that you have no bread? **Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened?** 18 Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember? 19 When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets **full** of broken pieces did you take up?" They said to him, "Twelve." 20 "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets **full** of broken pieces did you take up?" And they said to him, "Seven." 21 And he said to them, "**Do you not yet understand?**"

*Mark 8:17-21 RSV*





# The Lord lived in the spiritual economy.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, **full** of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father ... 16 And from his **fulness** have we all received, grace upon grace.

*John 1:14,16 RSV*

How you invest ...  
and how you use your wealth  
determines whether *you* do.



**Do you know the Lord?**

Do you know he wants you to  
“trade” with your talent —  
whether money, skill, or time?



How you invest ...  
and how you use your wealth  
determines whether *you* do.

**Or are you scared of him?**

Do you bury your talent in the  
ground — never finding the miracle  
of compounding or the peace from  
taking risk in the Lord?

How you invest ...  
and how you use your wealth  
determines whether *you* do.



**Are you spiritually bankrupt?**

Are you blind to your mountain of debt? Are you supremely confident your assets outweigh your debt?

How you invest ...  
and how you use your wealth  
determines whether *you* do.



**Or do you stand beneath the  
cascade of His grace?**

Do you understand that you can  
never repay your debt? Do you love  
Him more because He has forgiven  
much?

How you invest ...  
and how you use your wealth  
determines whether *you* do.



**What will you give back for  
this indescribable gift?**

Will it be your silver & gold? Your  
time? Your talent?

*Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee.*



# Paul is our model for “giving back.”

I thank him who has given me strength for this, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful by appointing me to his service, 13 though I formerly blasphemed and persecuted and insulted him; but I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15 The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; 16 but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. 17 To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

*1 Tim 1:12-17 RSV*



# GET RICH!

## Paul's Exhortation to Timothy

**F**or the love of money is the root of all evils; it is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced their hearts with many pangs.

11 But as for you, man of God, shun all this; aim at righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. 12 **Fight the good fight of {the} faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called** when you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

*1 Tim. 6:10-13 RSV*



1. The fight is over the spiritual economy!!!
2. Did Timothy win his fight?

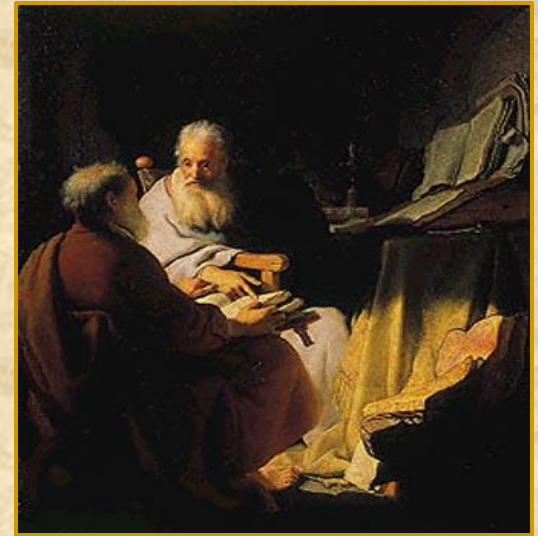
# GET RICH!

## Paul's Exhortation to Timothy

As for the rich in this world, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on uncertain riches but on God who richly furnishes us with everything to enjoy. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good deeds, liberal and generous, 19 thus laying up for themselves a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life which is life indeed.

O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you.

*1 Tim. 6:17-20 RSV*



*apotheesaurizoo (597)*

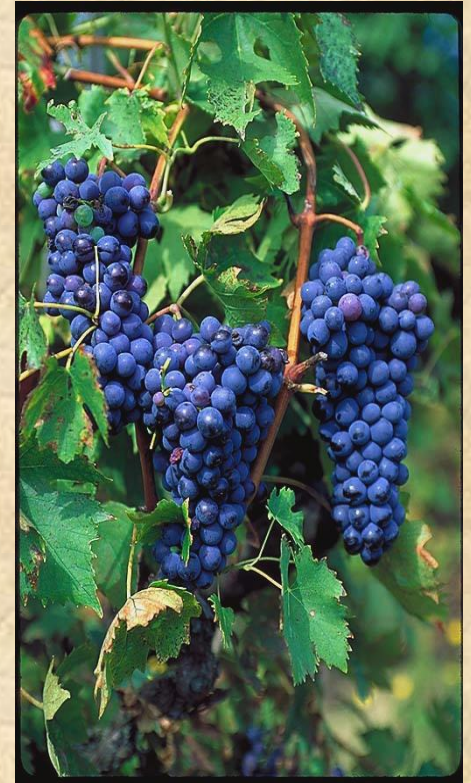
To store up abundance  
for future use.

To treasure away; amass  
treasure.

# GET RICH!

## *Lessons for Living in the Spiritual Economy*

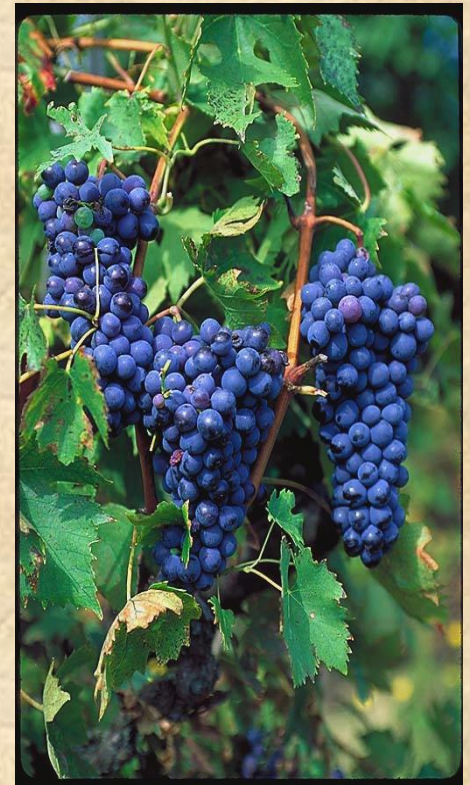
**1. God wants you to be rich —  
toward Him!**



# GET RICH!

## *Lessons for Living in the Spiritual Economy*

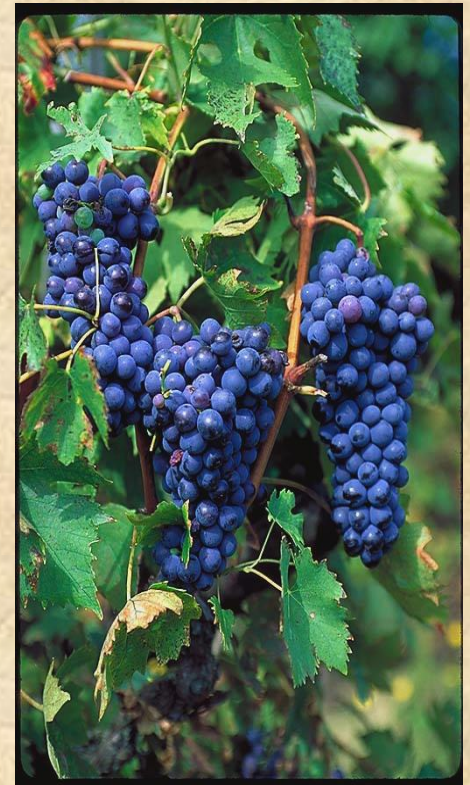
**2. We are citizens of a spiritual economy, one full of abundance. We must discern the difference with the economy of scarcity that surrounds us every day.**



# GET RICH!

## *Lessons for Living in the Spiritual Economy*

**3. We must be spiritual traders—  
being patient, counting on  
compounding, and eagerly taking  
risks *because we know the Master.***



# GET RICH!

## *Lessons for Living in the Spiritual Economy*

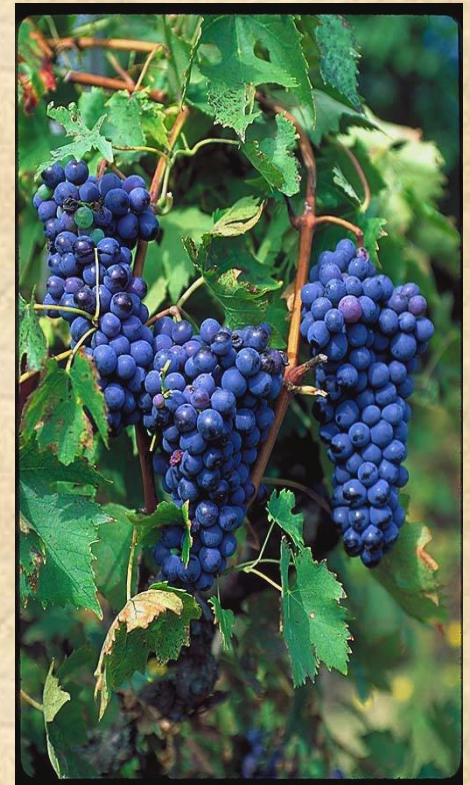
4. At all cost, we must avoid spiritual bankruptcy and understand that we have but one thing on our balance sheet **only** because His grace wiped away our mountain of debt.



# GET RICH!

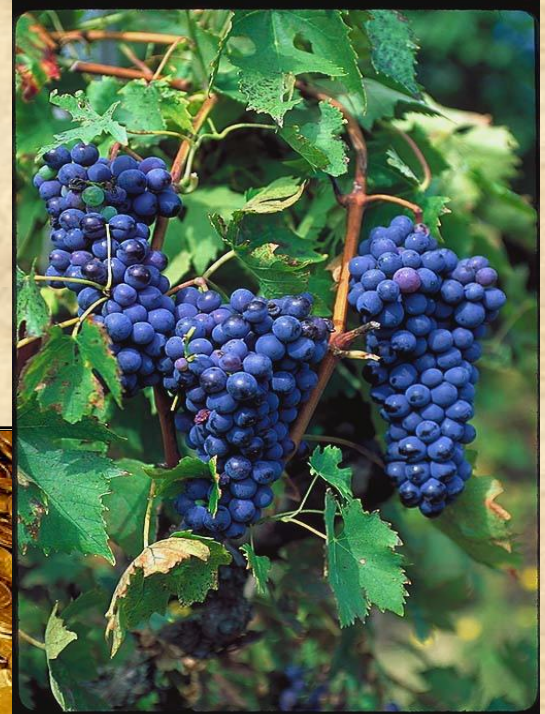
## *Lessons for Living in the Spiritual Economy*

5. If we stand in His grace, we will naturally give thanks and **want** to give back—our treasure, our talent, & our time.



# GET RICH!

## *Lessons for Living in the Spiritual Economy*



**Mark Drabenstott**  
**Menucha 2009**