

How To Prosper With Purpose Episode #241

Ray: Ray Edward show, episode 241 *How to prosper with purpose.*

[music]

Cliff: Hey, there. This is Cliff Ravenscraft from podcastanswerman.com and you are listening to the Ray Edwards show.

Narrator: The Ray Edwards show. Live your destiny by design, start, run, and grow your own Internet based business and create the life of your dreams. You can do it This is the Ray Edward show. Let's change the world and watch your business grow, welcome to the Ray Edward show.

Ray: Yes, welcome to the Ray Edward show. We got a good one for you today.

Sean: How to prosper with purpose.

Ray: With purpose.

Sean: Lots of people say that phrase.

Ray: Yes.

Sean: But I think lots of people don't know what it means.

Ray: Nope.

Sean: And that's okay. We're going to help clear that up. Last week we did have a hot episode, we covered how to promote and sell your products and services online. If you have not listened to episode 240 of the Ray Edwards show, we recommend that you do so by going to rayedwards.com/240. This week we're tackling what I believe is the issue that really holds people back, and it's not technical stuff.

Ray: No.

Sean: Most people think, "I got to get a website up, I got to record my product, I got to get the right graphics person,"--

Ray: Right.

Sean: Those are not the things that hold most people up. I think that what holds most people up are their conflicting beliefs about money and prosperity and possessions. I,m here to tell you that even if you think you don't have this problem, even if you were born after 1990, even if you were raised on Adams Smith, and your mam read you bedtime stories, **[unintelligible 00:01:47]**. You probably still have some of these inner conflicts you're going to have to deal with some day.

Ray: I love that. And even if your mama read you bedtime stories. **[unintelligible 00:01:57]**

Sean: And now, story time. From **[unintelligible 00:02:02]**

Ray: [laughs]

Sean: There once was a young capitalist.

Ray: [laughs] „Mummy, Mummy, read me the story about John Galt. Who is John Galt? Who is -- I want to hear John Galt speech. Goes on for, like, 20 pages.“ That would be awesome.**Sean:** Maybe we should do a podcast episode where we just read John Gal'st speech.

Ray: These are all possibilities, but first we're going to help you deal with the internal conflicts you have, and you've got to take care of these. They are not just small issues you can sweep under the rug. If you ever want to reach your full potential as an entrepreneur and show of hands, who wants to reach their full potential as an entrepreneur? All the hands go up.

Sean: Yes. All the hands in this room went up.

Ray: Yes. Put your hands in the air like you just don't care. Wave your roly in the air.

Sean: And we should really -- Sometimes I think we should have video that goes along with this, and then other times I'm really glad that we don't.[laughs]

Ray: Yes, I agree with you in both cases.

[music]

Narrator: Putting first things first and creating prosperity with purpose. This is spiritual foundations.

Ray: Let me aks you a question.

Sean: Aks me a question?

Ray: Do you sometimes feel like you need wise council at making decisions for your business?

Sean: No. I am arrogant and not humble.

Ray: Well then you may step out of the room for this next segment.

Sean: I was trying to think of a word for-- couldn't think of 'pride'. I couldn't think of hubris, so 'not humble'. [laughs]

Ray: It worked. I think we got it. Here's what you do: you don't need to go hire a consultant, there's some times that's a good think to do.

Sean: Yes, and you should consider hiring us.

Ray: We would be the best consultants probably for you to hire. The best consultants on this show.

Sean: Best consultants besides God.

Ray: And He would be the number one choice.

Sean: Yes.

Ray: There is a passage in *Genesis*, *Genesis*, chapter 41, this is verses 39-40 and just listen to this little bit of a story: "Then Pharaoh said to Joseph: 'In as much as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house and all my people shall be ruled according to your word, only in regard to the house. To the throne will I be greater than you.'"

Sean: I didn't know pharaoh had a British accent.

Ray: He did. I've seen the movies.

Sean: Okay.

Ray: No matter how bad things got, Joseph always trusted God as the source of his wisdom. Just think about this story, I won't go for the whole story, but point one: Joseph started up in the pit.

Sean: Right.

Ray: Literally.

Sean: Literally.

Ray: His brothers threw him in the pit. Yes, but let's be fair. He was kind of a jerk kid.

Sean: He was. It's true.

Ray: [laughs] It's true, he made his own bed, and-

Sean: That doesn't mean he deserved to be left in a pit. His property wasn't blameless.

Ray: It's probably why his path took longer-

Sean: Yes. [laughs]

Ray: -but he started out in the pit. Point two, he was sold into slavery.

Sean: Right.

Ray: Point three, then he was thrown into prison.

Sean: Right.

Ray: But no matter where he was thrown, or what was thrown at him, Joseph turned to God for wisdom to make decisions. After he had the humbling pit experience, he ended up running the household of his master, when he was made a slave.

Sean: Right.

Ray: He ended up running the prison when he was thrown into prison, and in the end he ended up running the foreign nation that had taken him captive. Egypt. The pharaoh, king of Egypt, said, "Only in matters of the throne will I be above you."

Sean: Right.

Ray: That's pretty amazing.

Sean: It is.

Ray: If you want the same consultant as Joseph, all you've got to do is ask. That's a pretty cool deal. It's the best consulting deal going. I highly recommend it.

Narrator: Now, simple hacks that make life cheaper, easier and faster. Ray's tip of the week.

Ray: Our tip of the week this week comes to us from our friend Cliff Ravenscraft. Cliff really loved our episode where we talked about the iPad pro and GoodNotes.

Sean: Oh, yes? I was going to say I thought we already did the tip of the week for GoodNotes.

Ray: Well, we did, and when he heard it, he went out and bought the 12.9 iPad Pro, and he bought GoodNotes.

Sean: He went big. He did not go home.

Ray: As I said to Cliff, the student has now become the master, because he informed me this week there is a GoodNotes app in the app store for your Mac-

Sean: Really?

Ray: -that synchronizes all your notes, so you now have them on all devices.

Sean: That's cool.

Ray: And then, this was the cool thing, he sent me a handwritten note via text message. He says you can copy handwritten notes as an image from GoodNotes, and paste them in the emails, webpages, or text messages.

Sean: Sure enough, lookie there.

Ray: If you go to rayedwards.com/241, you'll see the note that Cliff sent me.

Sean: That's cool.

Ray: He's kind of going crazy, he sent me a bunch of handwritten notes now.

Sean: Well I can see why that's really cool because it really allows you to write handwritten messages, but send them-- That's cool.

Ray: Yes.

Sean: I mean, I don't know how many more times I got to say it. That's cool.

Ray: Sorry for you, post office.

Sean: That's cool. That's cool.

Ray: Is it? What are you think of that?

Sean: I think it's cool.

Ray: Well it's definitely cool, and you should check it out. There's a link to GoodNotes the app, in the *Tip of the week* section at reyedwards.com/241.

Narrator: And now, our feature presentation.

Ray: Well, it's a turnabout this time.

Sean: Turnabout's fair play.

Ray: It is fair play. Except when it's not. Sean and I were in our weekly content meeting, I say that as if we've been having one all along-

Sean: You know, our extended weekly content meeting-

Ray: -which we started last week-

Sean: Right. [laughs]

Ray: But we felt like it was time, it deserves the importance of assigning it a meaning each week to talk about the content we're going to be generating, and we started talking about the subject of this week's podcast, which is *How to prosper with purpose*, and, Sean, you and I have had a long and vigorous exchange over these

ideas over time, and you started wrestling with this whole issue back when you were in school.

Sean: Yes.

Ray: And so I just felt like this was an episode that you should take the lead on.

Sean: I'm excited to do so.

Ray: With that, the floor is yours.

Sean: Yes, we were talking about -- I have permission to prosper because that's the name of it, but we're actually talking about prosperity with purpose, aren't we?

Ray: Yes.

Sean: Let me just think--

Ray: They're interchangeable, I think. I mean, you have to feel the permission before you can prosper and there's a purposeful nature behind prosperity, and I think it's important. One of the piece of groundwork I'd like to lay here before you get rolling.

Sean: Yes, go ahead.

Ray: This show is spiritually based, and many of you know most of -- If you listened to this show more than one episode, you know that our world view is Christian.

Sean: Right.

Ray: We've talked about that a lot, and we'll continue to do so, but I really felt like for this episode, I felt there was a need to ground the principles we're talking about in philosophy, in the philosophical basis.

Sean: Yes, now if we you want to hear the word philosophy, don't get scared. It's going to be fun.

Ray: Yes, this will be fun philosophy. P-H-U-N philosophy, but I want you to understand, I believe that the principles of philosophy, the universal principles of nature, and the nature of reality, I think it was set in motion by God but maybe you don't. I believe we can talk about this from a foundation that everybody can understand, discuss and we can speak a common language. That's the perspective from which we are coming this week.

Sean: Once you've really understand the philosophical framework for money and prosperity, I think going back into the spiritual it will erase a lot of conflict for people. Even if though we're going to step out of the scriptural base of it once you understand this side of it, stepping back in would be super easy.

Ray: Interestingly enough as we've been discussing this matters, I've been reading some ancient church literatures like from the first, second and third centuries and a lot of the philosophical spiritual issues that are being discussed now as if they are brand new.

Augustine wrote about and it's just amusing to me. The [unintelligible 00:11:003] church in particular is just like, "Hey, we've got a new idea."

Sean: "We've got a new idea." Little do they know that the church as a whole dealt with that idea-

Ray: A long time ago.

Sean: 1800 years ago. It's like Solomon, in this instance there is truly nothing new under the sun.

Ray: It's true but it could be new to you.

Sean: That's important.

Ray: It is extremely important and that's why we're devoting this whole episode to this topic.

Sean: Right. Let's talk about what is prosperity? Because a lot of people can talk about different things and even when we get into the Christian world, we talk about prosperity as where you're prospering spiritually, you're prospering all these places but what we're talking about, we're talking about wealth. We're talking about material prosperity and even scripturally to tie that down we go back to "I pray you brethren that you would prosper and at all things."

We're not going to the scripture side of that because we have covered that so many times. Go back listen to other episodes about passages, about Jesus and stuff talking about money. We're going to go through the philosophical thing. In the context that we're talking about, we talking about wealth and material prosperity. How do you prosper? How do you have a lot of wealth and material possessions with purpose? I think first we need to talk about why people need permission to prosper and as you said it's because people have internal conflict. They need permission. We live in a world where people do not have permission to prosper.

Ray: And this is -- Even if you're not Christian by birth or by choice, you probably must have heard this phrase *money is the root of all evil*.

Sean: Yes. I was talking with a friend last night actually on a Blab we were talking about some of these ideas actually.

Ray: It's so cool how you do these Blabs. How do people keep track of when you're doing those if you want to.

Sean: They can go to my Facebook page which is Shawn Edwards, seanmedwardsatfacebook/medwards and I post it there whenever we are doing it. We do this philosophical, Christians and things and someone will say this on interview with **[unintelligible 00:13:07]** before she died I can't remember what show but she said the United States is drowning in self-sacrifice. The audience went crazy but what I think she was pointing out there is you don't have to be Christian to know that our culture is indebted with this idea that prosperity is wrong, that selfish desires are wrong and that the highest moral standard that anyone can live by is if they don't do anything for themselves and it's always for the good of others and society and in that place people get stuck up with money, either Christians or non-Christian, either they were taught that money is evil or they were taught that some to be rich, others have to be poor. That doesn't make money necessarily evil but it makes you desire to prosper evil because what you're really seeing is I want to have a lot which means other people will have a little, so I'm okay with that.

Ray: So that's -- I think that's the roots of the whole 1%, the 99%

Sean: A lot of the democratic -- Look I have so many friends who are liberals and are Bernie sanders fans and they are going to vote in Hillary, and I really, really respect and admire their desire for social justice, I really do. They really do want to see the world become a better place.

Ray: We agree with that.

Sean: We agree we that. Most of the problems that they lay out, I want to see resolved. We just take issue with how they want to resolve them, but getting off that, the point of this segment is I want people to leave here knowing that money is neither evil and nor is it a zero-sum game. Meaning that for one to get rich, someone else has to be poor. The equation does not have to equal zero.

In fact, I'm going to argue that money is good and that money merely represents what you do. Your products and services and it's translated into something that we can all exchange. Those are big words. We're going to do a little bit of philosophy here and I'm not going to use super big words but it's going to be okay.

Ray: All right. I feel better now.

Sean: All right good. We really need to go back to what is money because I think that one of the causes to this problem is people are confused about what is money?

I mean, what is money? Its little grain pieces of paper, little coins, like what is it when you get down to it.

Ray: Well Sean, what is money?

Sean: I think to understand what money is we need to take a way step back and talk about some more basic principles and one example that has been around for centuries to talk about this is the idea of an apple tree in an orchard. If you're walking through the woods, I don't know how you would come across an apple tree in the woods but you're somewhere that is not owned by anyone and it's a wild apple tree, can you pick that apple without it being considered theft?

Ray: If nobody owns it-

Sean: Nobody owns it.

Ray: -and you run across it through the roots, sure.

Sean: I think we all agree anyone could take that apple. Now, if you hold on to that apple because you're not hungry yet and back out of the woods and you're walking down the street and you have that apple in your hand and someone walks up to you and grabs it out of your hand and runs away, is that okay?

Ray: I feel like that is not okay.

Sean: That is not okay, you're right. And why, what's the difference? If the apple was okay for me to take the apple, why is not okay for this okay for this guy to take the apple from me and I would say it's because your labor, your work that you walked into the woods, you reached out and you grabbed that apple and pulled it down. If it wasn't for you making that walk and picking that apple, that apple would still be on the tree.

Ray: That apple is literally the fruit of my labor.

Sean: Exactly and because your labor went into producing it, it is now yours. In the philosophical world, people understand that -- Back a few centuries ago, people understood that your labor was an extension of your life, meaning, when you worked, you had to spend minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years on a task and whatever you produced from that task would not have existed without your labor. That thing exists in a large part because of you and because of that, you have an investment in it. It's really yours and it wouldn't exist apart from you. When you labor to produce something, it is really seen as an extension of your person. Does that makes sense?

Ray: Yes, makes total sense. There is a saying *your money or your life* usually it was used in robberies, people point a gun at you and say, "Give me your money or give me your life." And then there is a book called *Your Money or Your Life* that puts forth the philosophy that says you need to choose either life or money.

Sean: Right.

Ray: But what you're saying is you money is your life.

Sean: That is what I am saying.

Ray: Dang.

Sean: Dang because let's go through this and figure out why. Let's take one step further, an orchard, if you plant an orchard, we talk about an apple tree, so if you plant an orchard, you till the ground, you clear the ground, you plant the trees, you watered them, they grow and then you pick the apples, who owns the apples? Definitely you own the apples. No one can make an argument there that someone else has acclaim to them.

Ray: Clear unless there is people that are hungry.

Sean: [laughs] But your labor went into producing those apples. So those apples are a representation of your life. They are part of your being in a sense. Obviously not your total wealth but they are to some certain extent. How does this relate to money, how are we getting the money here? The ancient world and some people today honestly think that we should go back to this worked on what we call the barter system which is if I grow all of these apples but I needed my sheep --

Ray: Shorn.

Sean: -shorn, then I would go to the sheep shearer --I don't know if that's the actual term for that [laughs]

Ray: I think that's correct.

Sean: And say, "Hey, would you like some apples for shearing my sheep?" As long as they said, "Yes, I need apples-

Ray: Because I am hungry.

Sean: -because I am hungry.” Then you could trade. The trading -- What you’re really trading there is you’re trading your labor. You see that because my labor went into producing those apples and the sheep shearer’s labor is shearing the sheep. So we’re trading pieces of our lives for each other.

Ray: I’m giving up a little piece of my life that I invested to get those apples.

Sean: Yes and I think it’s a fair trade because I actually have too many apples at this point but I need my sheep sheared. It’s of value to me to trade this portion of my labor for your labor. Now, that works good and dandy until things get bigger than two people. [laughs]

Ray: Little village. That little village it all works good, raising the children.

Sean: Yes, you might be able to get that to work but let’s say you need sheep sheared but the sheep shearer is like, “Actually you know what I need is shoes.” I was like, Okay, then now you have to go to the cobbler and say, “Hey, I need some shoes so that I can get some sheep sheared if you need some apple.” And if he says no, actually I need my roof fixed. Well then now I have to go to find a roof fixer -
-

Ray: It occurs to me that I’m giving up a lot more of my life now.

Sean: Yes, because you are walking around and talking to all these people.

Ray: Plus your apples are rotting.

Sean: Yes, fortunately humans are geniuses. We figured out that we could all trade our products and our services for one common commodity. That we all chose the value, so we could all exchange it. This became what is known as the trade media. In the ancient world it was many different things. It was – In some places it was salt; that was actually very common because in many places that wasn’t available at all.

People would be like, “Oh, we value salt” and they would trade their apples and their sheep shearing services and their shoes for cubes of salt. They then would trade those with each other. Some places used butter, which I think is really weird. I believe also other places used cocoa, a little chocolate beans to trade.

Ray: Really?

Sean: Yes. The main ones that it all settled down to were precious metals, gold and silver. Today we have what are called paper money. Which a lot of people don’t know this; paper money originates from what is called a bank note. Which means the banks said, “We have a hundred ounces of gold and here and this piece of paper represents a portion of that gold.”

Ray: Who started that? The Dutch. Leave it to a Dutch man

Sean: Leave it to a Dutch man. That is a family joke, we love the Dutch. I'm Dutch. There's nothing condescending about that --

Ray: Yes, we do. Some other time

[crosstalk]

Sean: Some other time. Now I lost my train of thought.

Ray: Bank notes.

Sean: Bank notes, they represented a piece of gold. Actually, originally the dollar bill represented one twentieth of an ounce of gold. When you think roughly today; that means today gold is going – let's just round it down to \$1000 an ounce.

One twentieth of that -- A one dollar bill today would be worth so much more if it was still tied to one twentieth of an ounce of gold. Most countries went off their precious metal standards in the last century. Now we just use fear, which is called fiat money, paper money. It has no backing. You got a lot of people who that are like, "This money has no backing, we need to back to the gold standard."

You will see a lot of conservative hawks doing that. If you start backing you realize that what money is, is just something that everyone trades their labor in for.

Ray: If we can just agree on that unit-

Sean: Right --

Ray: -then --

Sean: It doesn't matter.

Ray: It's all the same.

Sean: Yes, what is inherently valuable is about gold other than you can make jewelry out of it?

Ray: Nothing.

Sean: What is inherently valuable about silver other than you can make something out of it. That does not give it its extreme wealth. What gives it its extreme wealth is that we have all decided that it's wealthy. That is it's valuable.

Ray: Yes, I get it.

Sean: That leads us to this point that, when you are using money when you are using something like paper money or gold or whatever and you are trading your apples in for that. Let's think of this like a market, let's make it really simple like the

farmers market, you are the orchard, you come and you have your barrel of apples and you are selling them.

Another place that people get tripped up is they think – all right, your money just represent your labor but each unit of money does have a fixed value. If there are -- It's just having a value, it has a market value and it's stuck there. That leads people to the zero sum game. Which is since there are only so many dollars in the world, they all have some form of value. Only so many people can have some of those dollars.

Ray: Which is just print some more.

Sean: Print some more, yes. I guess I am turning into another discussion. [Laughs]

Ray: I keep stirring the pot.

Sean: It gets into another discussion. The problem with that argument is that a dollar does not have a set value. We may think that it kind of has a value, but when I am at the market with my barrel of apples and someone says, "I'll buy your barrel of apples for \$20," I have to make a decision internally. It is the time and energy that I put in making that barrel of apples worth \$20 or is it worth more or is it worth less?

If I think it's worth more, I may haggle. If the person doesn't want to trade with me, they may go somewhere else. I determine the value of those apples and those dollars. Which means that each dollar has no set value.

Ray: Yes.

Sean: It's only determined between people who are trading with each other.

Ray: It really comes down to the value of the fruit of my labor.

Sean: Exactly. That is the point where I want to get. If we decide how much our labor is worth, then money doesn't exist.

Ray: Well, that sounds very matrixy.

Sean: Think about it. If there is no value in -- If there is no actual value in little piece of green paper, the only value is that we as a society have decided that this can represent our labor and that can change from transaction to transaction? How can that actually be anything tangible on the world?

Ray: There is no money.

Sean: There is no money.

Ray: Only your mind.

Sean: If we go back to the zero sum game things, it's like for some to be rich others have to be poor, well that doesn't now exist because there is no limit to the value that can be ascribed to a dollar bill or to a \$20 dollar bill.

Ray: Let me make sure that I am tracking. I kind of know that I am, but I am sitting in for the audience.

Sean: I appreciate that.

Ray: One, we have defined what prosperity is. We have established that your money really is your life. It's a piece of your life.

Sean: It's a piece of your life, yes.

Ray: That, money came out of -- We can no longer distribute apples in sheep sheerings. We came up with a butter that was better. We came up with butter that's on steroids --

Sean: Yes the money system.

Ray: Which was the money system. Now we are just about to say that money doesn't exist. I'm totally confused now.

Sean: (laughs) What exists is our labor. What exists is the wealth that we create with our labor. It's the value that we create; it's what exists of apples that we grow. What exist are the clothes that we make form the sheep shearing. What exists are the iPhones that we think up and then we develop and then we build. What exists is what we create.

Ray: This is important because you may have heard us talk before just in passing reference, but before this concepts began to develop, you can only get money by taking it.

Sean: Yes.

Ray: Now we talk about making money. That is a huge shift in the way we think about value and wealth.

Sean: Yes, when we go back in the fetal systems of -- Even ancestral, you don't have to go to the fetal systems. Pretty much the entire ancient world operated of the -- The way a nation got wealthy was either they exploited their people or they conquered another territory and exploited those people. I can't remember who said this, William, something. It's great. It says, "In the past the way you got rich is by exploiting your fellow men, but because of capitalism, now you become wealthy by serving your fellow man."

Ray: I like that.

Sean: It's so powerful. What we are saying here is that true, in capitalism I am producing value. Then I am trading it on the market. One of the things that I want to say is, we trade value for value -- And I have a quote from *Star trek* that I want to read-

Ray: I love that you have worked in a quote from *Star trek* into the discussion about money?

Sean: Yes, we are talking about trading value for value. Under that system -- If we want to go all un-randy, I am Randy here, we just trade value for value. I have a surplus of apples but I need my sheep sheared. So we trade in a mutually beneficial fashion or value for the value we both created for our labor. In *Startrek deep space nine* -- If you know in *Star trek* there is the species called the *Ferengi*. Unfortunately the writers of Star Trek are very socialist. They made the capitalist species very greedy and ugly which is unfortunate. Then they realized you watch enough of the shows and you realized that the socialist system, they realized that it didn't work, because at one point they said they don't have enough money but another point they realize, then why are this people doing crap jobs, they need to be getting paid somehow so they begin to talk about -- whatever. Star trek is confused about the monetary system.

Ray: Yes.

Sean: But the Ferengi aren't -- One of them, Nog on the show he is talking with the star fleet officer about trading. Apparently when you're a socialist you don't understand about trading. They talk about -- They have the great material continuum. This is what he says, "The continuum is real, you see, there are millions upon millions of worlds in universe. Each one filled with too much of one thing and not enough of another. The great continuum flows through them all like a mighty river from have and want and back again. If we navigate the continuum with skill and grace, our ship will be filled with everything our hearts desire."

Ray: Yes.

Sean: Yes. [laughs] I don't want to go too far down this rabbit trail but this does bring up the other side of things, which **[unintelligible 00:29:39]**, put out so well that money or value -- What we're really saying is that value, labor -- Means labor can only exchange hands in one of two ways; by choice or by force.

Ray: Because if I don't voluntarily trade my value with you and you take it from me, you are taking my life.

Sean: You're violating my life so that should give you pass we'll just let you run with those conclusions. So the next thing that we've already talked about is that this means that wealth is unlimited if really what we're trading is value there's no limit to

it. For one to be rich you don't have to take money from someone else let's say if the pie isn't big for everyone we just need to make a bigger pie

Ray: Or bake more pies

Sean: Yes or bake more pies whatever because again the money only represents what our labor is producing. I just want to really hammer this in the only thing that is holding back global prosperity is mind set.

Ray: Now this is very true because the facts are there is enough medicine for the world, there is enough food for the world, there is enough clean water.

Sean: By far enough land.

Ray: Plenty of land. We have no shortage of resources and so you might say well then it's all the rich people that are keeping the resources from spreading. The rich people want to spread the resources.

Sean: Oh yes because the more the resources spread the more they can create and produce. Because I think that's one thing people don't understand is that yes there's some crony business people out there that they just want to do bad things but for the most part business people are creators and they like creating. The more creators that are that they can partner with fun they have.

Ray: Absolutely.

Sean: That's what they want, so this leads-- Going tipping back into the spiritual side of things. I believe that true entrepreneurship is very God-like. I would say very apostolic in our stream because in our stream of Christianity the apostolic is defined as seeing the blueprint of heaven and bringing it down to earth

Ray: Now for people who don't even know what you're talking about, they don't know what our stream is they don't what know apostolic is they don't know what the blue print of heaven kind of translate that.

Sean: In our stream there's this thing called the fivefold ministry that's supposed to help equip the church to transform the world. At the top of that fivefold ministry is the apostle, they're the one that goes out and they train up everyone else pretty much to do everything. What I mean by the blue print of heaven is they see the will of God they see it in their spirit in their mind and they then know how to translate that into a tangible reality in the world around them by developing people and structures to grow the church.

Ray: Now having grown up as a good Baptist I would just like to ask, where does this fivefold ministry thing come from? Not to go too deep into that rabbit hole?

Ray: Is it Ephesians? I can't even read the exact address.

Sean: Yes it is

Ray: It's in Ephesians but He says, "To some are apostles, to others are prophets, pastors, teachers, and evangelists to build up for edifying the body in building up the saints and the work of--

Sean: And just to further blow your mind and your fusses this is not news to the Catholic Church.

Ray: No they've known about this since the beginning.

Sean: But you go research that on your own.

Ray: Right so the idea of the apostle or the apostolic or to be God-like is to see something that does not exist and then to create it make it into a reality. That's what entrepreneurs do you have a business idea? "Hey, look at that spot of land it could be cool if there's a coffee shop there," so what am I going to do am going to extend my labor to put a coffee shop there.

Sean: Yes I have a friend who I spent a lot of years with and he was very entrepreneurial and very apostolic we used to -- We'd be driving by an empty abandoned building and he would say under his breath he looked at the building and say, "What are you for?"

Ray: Exactly and so in many ways it seems like business and entrepreneurship is one of the most God-like things to do because you're being creative. We have an idea that only exists in our minds and then we make it a reality and if we think of some of the great examples in the business world like Steve Jobs or Henry Ford, the list could go on. They were the same way they had these ideas they turned into realities and they changed the world because of it. How God-like is that

Sean: It's very -- You realize that we're going to get a bunch of emails about this [laughs] just saying am going to make you answer them.

Ray: Okay. We're going to come back around here and we're going to hit these problems on the head because in the beginning if you remember the reason people need permission to prosper is because they're usually caught in one or two traps or both. Money is evil and there isn't enough for everyone to be rich so let's just hit those things on the head after everything we've learned. Money cannot be evil it can't be evil

Sean: What?

Ray: To say that money is evil is to call people's labor evil. That means that any creativity that people find valuable is evil

Sean: That's messed up

Ray: That's messed up, you can't do that, that's wrong,

Sean: That leads to bad things.

Ray: That leads to really depressed people and oppressed people and oppressed people.

Sean: To continue in on that, desiring a lot of money is not evil as long as you don't steal to be rich means that you have produced a lot of value for a lot of people.

Ray: Rabbi Daniel Lapin puts it this way as one of my favorite ways of expressing it he says that 'Money is merely a certificate of appreciation for the value you've given me.'

Sean: Exactly and I think that's really powerful helps people understand it, so why does Paul say this? Well first of all Paul -- We get this from the Bible if you don't know it comes from P-- One of the no not Peters what is it Thessalonians I can't remember where it comes from.

Ray: I don't know where you're quoting.

Sean: Money is the root of all evil that people that people misquote.

Ray: Oh it's Timothy.

Sean: Timothy right. And so people get this from the passage in Timothy when they think that it says that money is the root of all evil but what Paul actually says is "The love of money leads to all sorts of evils."

Ray: Yes, which is a very different statement

Sean: Its very different statements. Let me break out why that's different it's really simple it says if you don't understand where money comes from you don't understand it represents value and people's labor and you love material possessions more than you love people you can and most likely will do evil things to get it. Let me say that again, if you understand where money and love material possessions more than you love people you will commit all kinds of evils to get it.

Ray: Absolutely, that makes total sense and the address by the way is 1st Timothy 6:10 actual verses says, "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil—"

Sean: Is a root not thee root but a root.

Ray: "-for which some have strayed from the faith in the greediness and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." It's a whole different discussion.

Sean: It's a whole different discussion. Now there is a caveat to this -- Not the spiritual side of things what we're saying because what people can hear us say is that, "Oh so your bank account represents your value."

Ray: That's exactly what I was thinking next is like -- So that means if you're a good person regardless of your spiritual beliefs if you're a good person then how much money you have shows how good you are.

Sean: Right and that's not what am saying. I'm saying not all of your value can be represented by money because what we're saying here is the value that you can trade with other people. There are just a lot of things that doesn't come necessarily easy

Ray: So all the value in your life -- It seems obvious but I want to make it clear to everybody whose listening all the value in your life cannot be transmuted or calculative n material value. Like the value of your friendship of the love that you show other people, the compassion of you teaching you're -- The art that you make of the -- So many things consist of our life and our value cannot be "monetized."

Sean: Right, there might be some cool ways to try to monetize that's where entrepreneurs come in and that's pretty fun but-- So don't hear us say that bank account equals your wealth. Money is -- What we want to say is that money represents the value that other people have traded for which is different it's just a piece, an overall piece of your eternal value as a human being.

Ray: Because I know people who have very little money and who I consider to be very wealthy and I know people who have astounding amounts of money whom I consider to be very poor.

Sean: Another example of this is like ministries in charity work. Sometimes those people we're helping don't have the resources or the wealth at all to return value for value. So you're doing a service which is fine because you love people. Now I would say if we value money, those who have the money and we value that work that produced the money and we know what that money is and we understand the value of this charitable works then we will be trading value for value even though technically we won't be getting anything tangible back. If we donate we know the value am getting in return is knowing that broken people are being taken care of.

Ray: Right, absolutely

Sean: So if we really understand what's going on we would be naturally generous because people love. It's in the nature to love and so by giving money you might not be getting something in return tangibly but you are getting something you're like, "I'm helping people by doing this and that make me feel good."

Ray: Yes agreed

Sean: Basically all I want to say is that there are many factors that lead to your wealth your market you calling your stewardship and sometimes the great continuum takes the a turn you don't expect. [laughs] so to put a conclusion on this, money is good it's not neutral it's good.

Ray: Some people do believe they teach and believe it's immoral.

Sean: Right but it's neutral, now you could use money do evil but that's using other people's creativity and labor or your own to do evil and that's just evil that doesn't make money evil that just is evil.

Ray: Right.

Sean: Money is good, wealth is unlimited because we create it there's no limit to the wealth.

Ray: Okay, agreed.

Sean: Next third point the power to change the world rests in the hands of traders not traitors but people who trade. T-R-A-D-E-R-S. Business men and women, entrepreneurs, tycoons those people. Those people that are creating massive wealth they are the ones that are changing the world.

Ray: By tycoons do you mean in big harkens?

Sean: I mean in big harkens they're changing the world man, they're changing it.

Ray: rearranging the topography?

Sean: That's right and they're moving water around.

Ray: I don't know where this is going.

Ray: I don't know either.

Sean: Let's keep back on topic.

Ray: Okay all right.

Sean: I mean that's really the point I want to land here not only do you have permission to prosper, not only can you prosper with purpose but if you want to change the world -- And now you're specific calling maybe to go serve the poor in Mozambique but what if you could go serve the poor in Mozambique as a wealthy entrepreneur?

Ray: Somebody has to go do that somebody has to fulfill that role.

Sean: Yes and so one of the main keys to changing the world it's not just having permission to prosper but in some cases a mandate to prosper.

Ray: Okay so let me just -- Let me do what you normally do and am just going to recount what we've covered

Sean: So this is a reversal. Well I kind of wrapped it up for you good night, I'm sorry.

Ray: All right money is good wealth is unlimited the power to change the world rests in the hands of entrepreneurs and just in case anybody missed it your concluding thought?

Sean: My concluding thought is not only do you have permission to prosper but if you want to change the world you have a mandate to prosper.

Ray: Yes, all right so if you have received value from this show and you want to exchange some value back one way you could do it is you could just send us some money or another way you could do it is subscribe to the show through iTunes and give us a rating and a review and if you do that, if you give us a review especially put your real name and website and a text in the review and will mention you on the show. You can also find us on stitcher.com and you can get the transcript of this show and all the links we've mentioned by going to rayedwards.com/241. Well great episode.

Sean: It was and I hope it didn't get too heady for people I didn't want to get too into the wits.

Ray: I thought you did a fantastic job

Sean: I hope so; I hope people enjoyed it and I hope people find it liberating.

Ray: I hope so too and we would love to hear your comments. You can join the discussion by going to rayedwards.com/241 and just one a little bit item of clean up I talked about the Protestants and the Catholics and the whole apostolic thing. I did not mean to leave the Orthodox Church. They also knew this a long time ago. Just to make sure that nobody feels left out.

Sean: We make sure our Orthodox friends are included

Ray: So until next time I pray that God will continue to bless you and that you will see more and more than He's doing exceedingly abundantly above all that you can ask or think according to the power that works within us. Peace to your house and peace to your business.

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Each week we bring you a message of prosperity with purpose and freedom and remembering that true freedom is available to all through Jesus Christ.

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