

NEITHER POVERTY NOR RICHES

Redefining Wealth and Prosperity

WHY LISTEN TO ME?

- Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC)
- Business major, math teacher.
- Master's degree from SAU, debt-free.
- Paid off house in 2 years.
- Became parents in 2015, again in 2021.
- In 2016: Spent 25%, Gave 26%, Saved 49%
- In 2020: Spent 16%, Gave 27%, Saved 57%
- 1 Ministry Salary, 1 Stay-at-Home-Mom
- No secret windfall!



Saving the
CRUMBS.



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QUIZ

I. WE SHOULDN'T TALK
ABOUT MONEY BECAUSE IT IS
THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL.

For **the love of money is the root of all evil**: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

—1 Timothy 6:10





2000+

Texts on Money

2. TO SAVE MONEY IS TO BE FAITHLESS
IN GOD'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE FOR
US. (JESUS IS COMING SOON!)

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow:** for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

—Matthew 6:31-34

Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways,
and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or
ruler, **Provideth her meat in the summer,
and gathereth her food in the harvest.**

—Proverbs 6:6-8

The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down.

—Proverbs 21:20 NIV

There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but **a foolish man spendeth it up.**

—Proverbs 21:20 KJV

63% OF AMERICANS DON'T
HAVE ENOUGH SAVINGS TO
COVER A \$500 EMERGENCY

Forbes:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/maggiemcgrath/2016/01/06/63-of-americans-dont-have-enough-savings-to-cover-a-500-emergency/#3649458e4e0d>

But if any **provide not for his own**,
and specially for those of his own house,
he hath denied the faith, and is **worse**
than an infidel.

—1 Timothy 5:8

3. GOD WANTS US TO LIVE A
COMFORTABLE LIFE.

Had you and your wife understood it to be **a duty** that God enjoined upon you, to deny your taste and your desires, and **make provision for the future**, instead of living merely for the present, you could now have had a competency, and your family have had **the comforts of life.**

–Counsels on Stewardship, 250.2

God does not require that His people should
deprive themselves of that which is really
necessary for their **health and comfort**,
but He does not approve of **wantonness**
and extravagance and display.

–Adventist Home, 379.3

“Money can't buy happiness, but neither can poverty.”

–Leo Rosten, American humorist

4. BEING IN DEBT IS A SIN.

I now write to ask you if you will **let me have the use of two thousand dollars** to help me in bringing out books that the people need....If I should fall in the conflict before the Lord's appearing, my sons would carry forward the work of circulating my books according to my plans. When the expense of issuing my books is lessened, **the sales will soon pay up all my debts....**

–Publishing Ministry, 209.4-5

The borrower is **servant** to the lender.

–Proverbs 22:7

Be determined never to incur another debt. Deny yourself a thousand things rather than run in debt.

This has been the curse of your life, getting into debt. **Avoid it as you would the smallpox.**

–Adventist Home 393.4

5. A BUDGET IS A
CORNERSTONE OF SOUND
PERSONAL FINANCE.

In the study of figures the work should be made practical. Let every youth and every child be taught, not merely to solve imaginary problems, but to **keep an accurate account of his own income and outgoes**. Let him learn the right use of money by using it.

–Counsels on Stewardship, 294.1

All should learn how to keep accounts. Some neglect this work as nonessential, but this is wrong. All expenses should be accurately stated.

–Adventist Home, 374.4

6. GIVING A 10% TITHE IS THE
EXTENT OF MY FINANCIAL
OBLIGATION TO GOD.

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? **In tithes and offerings.**

–Malachi 3:8

Some think that only a portion of their means is the Lord's. When they have set apart a portion for religious and charitable purposes, they regard the remainder as their own, to be used as they see fit. But in this they mistake. **All we possess is the Lord's**, and we are accountable to Him for the use we make of it.

– Christ's Object Lessons, 351.2

7. INVESTING IS GAMBLING, IS
NOT BIBLICAL, AND IS ONLY
FOR THE RICH.

You ought to have **invested my money** with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own **with interest.**

–Matthew 25:27 ESV

You might have had, **even from your limited wages**, means in reserve for any demand. It might have been **invested in a lot of land which would be increasing in value**. But for a young man to live up to the last dollar he earns shows a great lack of calculation and discernment.

–Selected Messages, Vol. 2, 330.3

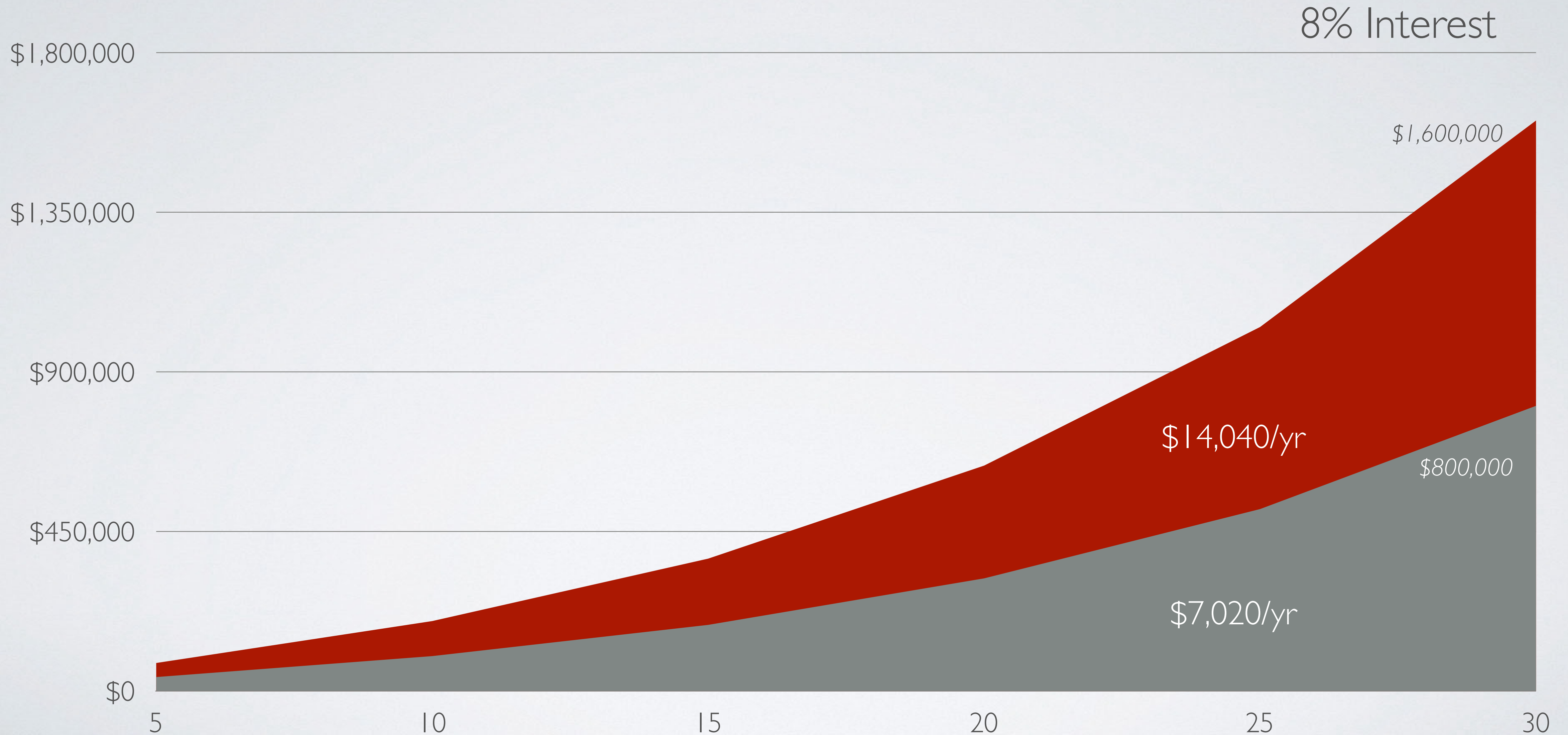
Every week you should lay by in some secure place **five or ten dollars** not to be used up unless in case of sickness. **With economy you may place something at interest.** With wise management you can save something after paying your debts. (1884)

–Adventist Home, 396.2

Year	Per Week	Per Month	Per Year
1884	\$5	\$20	\$260
	\$10	\$40	\$520

Year	Per Week	Per Month	Per Year
1884	\$5	\$20	\$260
	\$10	\$40	\$520
2021	\$135	\$540	\$7,020
	\$270	\$1080	\$14,040

PLACE SOMETHING AT INTEREST



8. IT'S BETTER TO SAVE SMALL AMOUNTS REGULARLY WHILE YOUNG, THAN TO SAVE A LOT LATER WHEN WE EARN MORE.

THRIFTY TIFFANY & SPENDY SALLY



- Saves \$2000/year from age 20-30.
- Invests at 8% rate of return.
- **Invested \$20,000 over 10 years.**

- Saves \$2000/year from age 30-65.
- Invests at 8% rate of return.
- **Invested \$70,000 over 35 years.**

WHO HAS MORE AT 65?



Invested \$20,000 over 10 years.

Final: \$500,000



Invested \$70,000 over 35 years.

Final: \$380,000

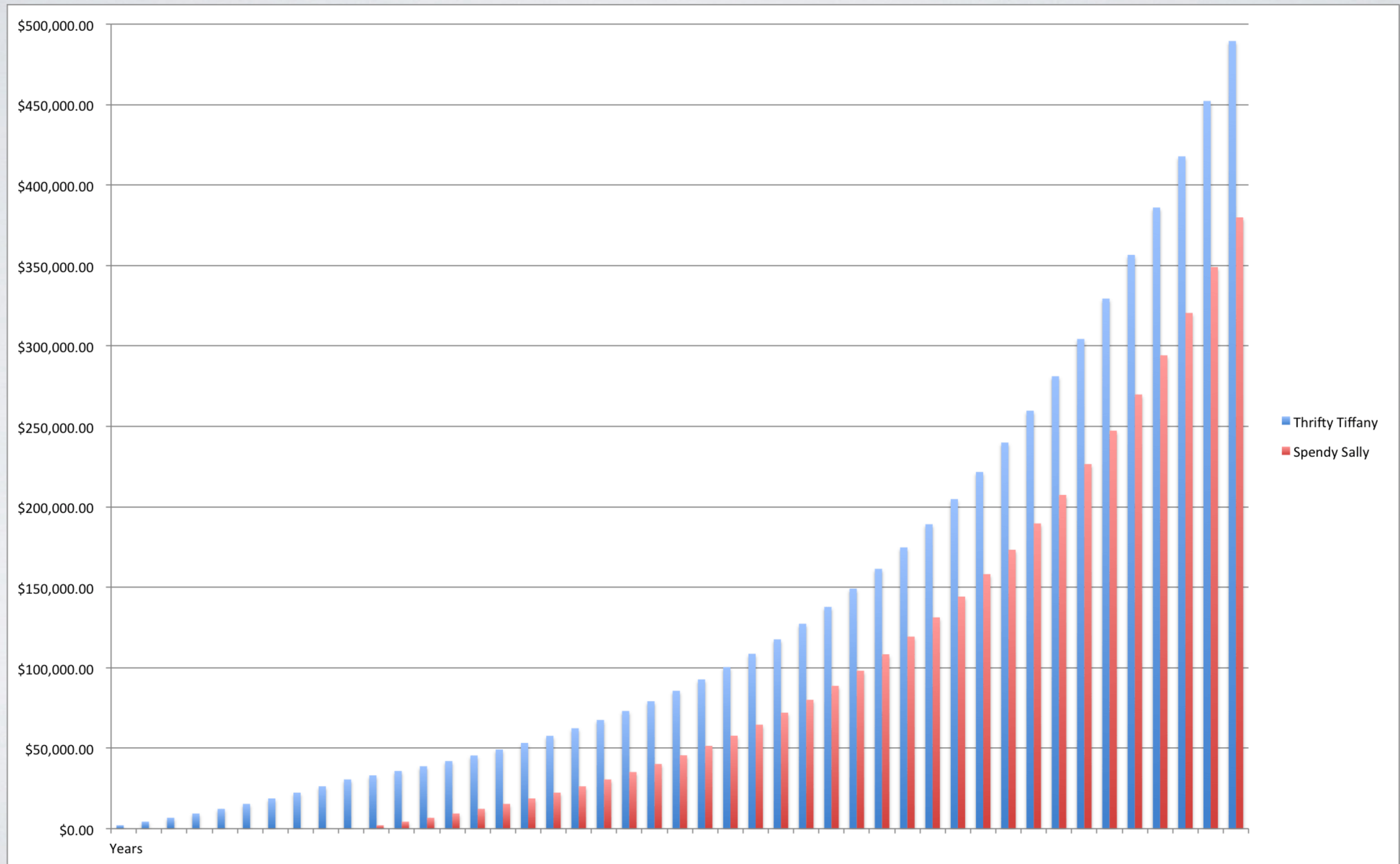
HOW CAN THIS BE?

COMPOUND INTEREST

+

TIME

HOW CAN THIS BE?



“The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.”

–Chinese Proverb

9. THE BETTER WAY TO REACH
FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE IS
TO EARN MORE RATHER THAN
TO SAVE MORE.

	Saver Sam	Consumer Carl
Earns	\$50,000	\$150,000
Spends	\$20,000	\$120,000
Saves	\$30,000 (60%)	\$30,000 (20%)

For each year Sam works, he can take 1.5 years off.
Carl has to work four years before he can take 1 year off.

DOUBLE BENEFIT OF LIVING ON LESS

- We are able to save a greater percentage of income immediately.
- Our total amount of savings required is permanently decreased in the future.

10. GOD WANTS US TO PROSPER
AND TO BUILD WEALTH.

And again I say unto you, It is **easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle**, than for a **rich man** to enter into the kingdom of God.

–Matthew 19:24

Go to now, **ye rich men**, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days

—James 5:1-3

WEALTH IS BAD!
RIGHT?

Beloved, I wish above all things that **thou mayest prosper** and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

–3 John 2

But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is **he that giveth thee power to get wealth.**

–Deuteronomy 8:18

The desire to accumulate wealth is an **original affection** of our nature, **implanted there by our Heavenly Father for noble ends.**

–RH March 1, 1887, par. 9

The followers of Christ are not to despise wealth; they are to look upon wealth as the Lord's entrusted talent.

By a wise use of His gifts, they may be eternally benefited, but we are to bear the fact in mind that God has not given us riches to use just as we shall fancy, to indulge impulse, to bestow or withhold as we shall please.

–Counsels on Stewardship, 113.1

THE PARADOX OF WEALTH

- The Bible condemns greed and excessive riches.
- The Bible encourages prosperity.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE
PROSPEROUS?

Remove far from me falsehood and lying;
give me neither poverty nor riches;
feed me with the food that is
needful for me, lest I be full and deny you
and say, “Who is the LORD?” or lest I be poor
and steal and profane the name of my God.

– Proverbs 30:8-9

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE PROSPEROUS?

- To have our needs met.
- To have enough.

IF THAT'S TRUE...

The LESS I need, the easier it is for
me to PROSPER.

“Wealth consists not in having great possessions, but in having few wants.”

– Epictetus

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

– I Timothy 6:6

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