Save Through Savings
August 13, 2022

NARRATION

Do you know that following God’s instructions about economy and savings is also a way to provide us with means to worship Him?

In several instances, God has taught His children the practice of savings. He inspired Joseph, the son of Jacob, to advise Pharaoh not to eat everything during the seven years of abundance but to keep 20% for later. On the night the Israelites had to celebrate the first Passover, before leaving Egypt, God’s first instruction was for them to choose the right size of lamb according to the number of people in each family. At the end of the multiplication of bread and fish, the clear directions was for the disciples to “gather the pieces that” were left over. He insisted on telling them, “let nothing be wasted.”

This same message about being penny-wise is pertinent for today. We are preparing and eating more than what we need daily, buying more than what we need to wear, and building houses with far more space than we need to live. This consumption-oriented society influences us to adopt a lifestyle where we constantly get more than we need. In other words, the mindset is often like this: “If I can pay for it, with available or borrowed money, there is no problem with purchasing it.” This can be socially acceptable, but is this good stewardship?
Saving will help us prepare for life emergencies, realize major financial goals, prepare for retirement, leave a financial legacy, and enjoy other benefits. Furthermore, we will be better positioned to partner in God’s mission. Jesus and His missionary crew were supported by a group of women who used their own means (Luke 8:3). Ellen G. White challenges us to channel our resources properly: “Each should keep a missionary box at hand, and drop into it every penny he is tempted to waste in self-indulgence” (Counsels on Stewardship, p. 291).

Is this not time to identify and fix the leakages in our financial lives? Today we have another opportunity to use our savings to worship God through our tithe and Promise, regular and systematic offerings. May we put our desires last, and God first.