

10 **FINANCIAL & WEALTH** ATTITUDES TO AVOID



CHARLES MWEWA

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WEALTH
ATTITUDES TO
AVOID

CHARLES MWEWA



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DEDICATION

For Destiny

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AUTHOR'S WORD

The wealthy and the poor live very different lives. But they also have very different perspectives on money and wealth. In this small book, I have written, in terse and brevity format, important information on some attitudes to avoid when handling money or wealth.

The book is purely motivational and I hope that it can inspire readers towards the appreciation of money or wealth. Because being wealth or prosperous is relative to different people, the goal is to get the reader to move from a base level of prosperity (or from poverty) to where they can become very prosperous.

CHAPTER 1

MONEY IS IN CIRCULATION

Money is always on the move. It is always in circulation. Therefore, it is one of the easiest things to come by. It is found in almost every adult's pocket, purse and wallet. It is being traded for in financial institutions and banks. Your neighbor may have a good chunk of it. Businesses are transacting in it.

If you don't have it, someone else has it. And the fact that you don't have it, doesn't mean that it is not there. Your attitude should be: "I don't have money right now, but I will have it

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soon.” This attitude forces you to find creative ideas of making and keeping money.

CHAPTER 2

POOR ECONOMY

DON'T SAY, "I LIVE IN ONE OF THE POOREST ECONOMIES": Even in the poorest economy, there are people making it good and big there.

The fact that you are struggling doesn't mean that everyone is struggling financially. Your attitude should be to count yourself among those who are making it big, financially.

If you are poor-minded, it will bury you permanently into poverty mode. You can't have money-making ideas if you can't think possible.

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Money does not care where one was born or where they live. Money and wealth know no borders or boundaries. You have to know that wherever you may be, you can prosper. You have to change your attitude in this respect, otherwise, wealth will be passing you by while others are prospering in the same country in which you live.

CHAPTER 3

GRASS GREENER ON THE OTHER SIDE

WHEN IT COMES TO MONEY, THE GRASS IS NEVER GREENER ON THE OTHER SIDE: A misconception people have is that there is more money elsewhere than where they were born or they live.

Those who think like this will never be rich. They plan for a future they will never meet. If you can't develop a rich-minded attitude where you are (your familiar environment), you have no chance in a foreign land. Financial freedom is always cultivated locally – where you know people and

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systems and where you are also known.

Nations are notorious for showcasing wealth and affluence in international media. In other words, what you read and know about, say, in the USA, is what the USA wants you to know. It is called diplomacy. What you may know about the “other side” is their ideal (what the relatively wealthy people experience in that place).

So, if you go there, you are not expected to become rich or live like their upper-makers. You will more likely be swallowed up into their lowest bottom, basically, working in menial jobs and enslaving yourself to their grinders. You will see wealth passing you by while you work for them like a slave. If you can't

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formulate an industrious attitude at home, you will wallow in destitution abroad.

Think global, live local. What does that mean? It means that you can be limitless in thinking of various business or wealth ideas which you can cultivate and apply right where you live.

Most wealth disparities occur because a big chunk of society believes, erroneously, that wealth is not in their family or blood. They think that only a few people in their country can be rich and enjoy prosperity. So, when these people try to make money and they fail, they give up easily and cite their own self-fulfilled prophesy: “We knew, we couldn’t make it. No-one in

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our clan has ever made it.” It is not true. Anyone can prosper. All it takes is a good attitude and an enterprising vision.

Many people abroad hid their real economic conditions because of the obvious; they want others to think that they have made it big abroad. As they say, “The truth is in the pudding.” Become enterprising whenever you are. Rich-minded people are always rich wherever they are or they go.

CHAPTER 4

MONEY'S SHORT LIFE- SPAN

MONEY HAS A VERY SHORT LIFE-SPAN: By its nature, money begins to die the moment you acquire it. So, how do you keep a sickly person longer? Wisdom demands that you give them plenty of exercises to keep them fit.

Yes, it is the same with money. If you don't use it or spend it or invest it, it is already on its deathbed. The majority of people think that the more secure they keep their money the richer they will get. Indeed, no. Most of the people who are rich,

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don't even keep cash in their wallets. They exercise their money by diversifying it into many portfolios. They engage their money into activities.

When money is being exercised, it begins to get fit and to grow. Banks do the same. The money you bank is being exercised by the bank management. It is being put to good use so that each penny or *ngwee* you deposit brings forth another penny or *ngwee* in terms of profit. Cash is usually affected adversely by inflation, interest rates, Covid-19, and etc. The best money attitude is to learn to invest in more reliable assets like real property or spend it wisely on things that appreciate easily.

CHAPTER 5

WEALTH NOT IN CASH

DON'T THINK OF WEALTH IN CASH MONEY TERMS: This, probably, is the worst wealth habit or mentality most people have. They look at the “outward appearance” as a standard for wealth.

So, they compare the value and brand of clothes, apparel, shoes and cars, and etc. To them, a person who wears “expensive” clothes or shoes is rich. Any person can have “expensive” things. They can buy them at thrift stores, someone can donate them to them, or someone can give them as

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gifts. Or even worse, they could have bought them, yes, expensively.

And in doing that, such people think that they are showcasing their wealthiness. The truly rich people are normal people; they make intelligent choices on what they spend their money on. If an old shirt does, they will rather buy more stocks with their money than spending it on a shirt.

Poor people are poor not because of the absence of money, but, sometimes, in spite of it. Their money is stagnate; it doesn't move. And they rarely spend it or use it. If they spend it, they buy things which will not keep the present value relevant tomorrow. Buy things which appreciate in value like real property or spend money on family vacations.

CHAPTER 6

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

DON'T CONFUSE ASSETS WITH LIABILITIES: A person who is driving a very luxurious car but doesn't own a house is poorer than a person driving common car but owns their own house.

Think about value and not price, all the time. And compare one value to another. Some properties have more value than others. Cash money has very limited value but real estate does have real value, unless cash is translated into real property.

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A job is a liability (because it merely exchanges one's efforts and abilities for another's money), but a business is an asset. Begin thinking of being your own boss and think less of spending your entire life working for another, unless your job gives you extra resources to invest in other assets. If your job merely makes ends meet, no matter what country you live in, change your thinking.

CHAPTER 7

BEGGING FOR MONEY

DON'T BEG FOR MONEY AS AN END IN ITSELF: It may sound harsh, but ask yourself a question, “How many times have I begged for money?” If you did it even twice in a year, you are still very much poor, unless you begged for capital to invest.

Here is a simple rationale. Beggars are the most selfish people on earth – because God gave them the same amount of air, sun, environment and sometimes even physical and mental abilities. But these people choose to “sleep” on theirs and they want others to work for them.

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If you have an attitude of begging for money, it should be the first attitude you stop, because it will keep you poor. Rich-minded people “borrow” money or capital, because when you borrow, you increase value both ways. The one who borrows will invest and increase/make profit, and the one who lends will gain interest (thereby making more money or growing their wealth).

But begging decreases both ways – because the beggar doesn’t increase wealth, they “eat” their capital or the grain they were supposed to plant. Begging leads to three things: Beggars are lazy people – instead of working, they spend time begging; beggars rarely breed ideas – because they depend on others to think of making

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money for them; and last, beggars are indigent – because they don't sustain anything. The more you beg, the less property you can own. Beggars will always be needy people – because they have no money to grow, only to use.

Begging goes through three phases: It begins as a feeling; it becomes an attitude; and, finally, it transforms into a culture. When you first beg and receive, you feel a sense of nostalgia. Something in you tells you, “You don't have to do this.” But then you beg again, and again and again. Then suddenly, you begin to feel comfortable and it becomes a habit. The habit grows wings and flies, and that is when it becomes an attitude. It inflames your mind and become an

easy thing to do. You start to perfect it and create a mechanism for begging. You become so good in begging that it becomes second-nature. When this attitude matures, it becomes a culture, a way of life. And, dangerously, this cult may morph into a national disease – where the entire national government begin to rely on begging as a method of national governance. This is unacceptable.

Begging is the launchpad for poverty. It underpins poor behaviors and choices. It curtails creativity. It ends in disillusionment and confusion. Those who become professional beggars may even get angry or enraged when their wishes are not fulfilled. Make sure that you are not a victim of begging; be a champion of enterprise.

CHAPTER 8

DESERVING THE GOOD THINGS

DON'T THINK YOU DON'T DESERVE TO HAVE GOOD THINGS:

And this, probably, is the second poorest mentality people who are financially struggling have. No-one who thinks they deserve will remain poor.

Those who enslaved other people learned about this earlier. They knew that if they constantly told someone that he or she didn't deserve, in the end, that other person would recapitulate. Poverty begins as a mentality and then it morphs into a

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culture. The reason is because people begin to believe that they don't deserve good things.

They say, "Those are the people who deserve, not us." Some continents are still poor today because there were other people who told them that they didn't deserve good things. If you believe that you don't deserve, you are on an impossible mission. If that forms part of your intellectual or cultural trait, begin to vanquish it by reading more books on money or spending time with wealth-minded people or doing a financial course.

You must do something because you may be a hopeless individual right now. Someone can even give you US\$1 million today, and you will still be poor next year. It is in your mind,

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not in your bank account. Train yourself to think you deserve all the good things of life – because you do. And good things only come to those who deserve.

You deserve to live in clean environs, to own a house, to have a good car, to travel out for vacations, to eat sumptuous meals, to earn the highest salary, to manage hundreds of people, to feed on wealth, to maintain a healthy lifestyle, to live better and die with dignity. You deserve the finest, the best, the most ideal and the superlative. Yes, you do.

If you own derelict property, or you live in unhygienic environments and you still feel comfortable or unashamed, you may be in dire need

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of a new mindset. If you don't mind the quality of the things you own, you may be having a problematical mentality.

The first thing that defeats poverty is to begin to refuse things that are less than ideal. You must begin to refuse to live in certain poor localities. You must refuse to sleep in dilapidated housing. You should refuse to accept mediocrity as your standard. God and government want you to enjoy the good things of life. Once you begin to believe that you deserve good and excellence, you will begin to make rich choices and to live a wealthy lifestyle. In the least, up your living and thinking standards.

CHAPTER 9

SOCIAL WELFARE INFRASTRUCTURE

DON'T USE THE SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEM OR INFRASTRUCTURE AS A PERMANENT PLATFORM: You should understand that the social welfare infrastructure is there to assist you in times of financial or business loss. Use it well. In fact, it is a smart move to always fall on social assistance wherever you need it. It is better to do so than to borrow or beg or steal.

The social welfare system is based on an insurance scheme. It serves to compensate those who, in good

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times, have contributed to it. But the social welfare system should not be for those who have not worked if they can work. That becomes robbery and cheating. Only those who are clinically disabled should have access to the system without feeling guilt or ashamed. For those who are able-bodied and can work, their first priority is to find employment and work. Or if they can, they should create and manage a business.

Depending on social assistance when you are fit and able, will make you poor. You stifle your creative potential because you become used to receiving “free” money. This attitude is worse than day-time bank robbery. You are gaining where you did not sow and you have no regard for workers and laborers. In very dire

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economic situations (like it was during the Covid-19 pandemic), it is justifiable for those who need it to have access to the social safety nets like social assistance. However, this should not be unnecessarily prolonged – because it has the potential to numb the economy.

Pure Socialism and Communism fail for the same reason. These ideologies tended to provide benefits to people who did not work hard or you did not deserve them. When people become used to receiving free things, it stifles their creative abilities. They may become wasteful and irresponsible.

Capitalism has been a success in one very notable respect; it empowers people to individually utilize their

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creative potentials to innovate, originate and manage personal empires. Capitalism gives people the power to create wealth and own wealth. That should be the necessary foundation for economic freedom, financial sustainability, personal or individual ownership of the means of production.

Capitalism should, however, be mildly tempered with some welfare assistance in order to assist those who are left behind and to help those who are in between jobs. This must be done intelligently without offending people's economic potential.

CHAPTER 10

EXPECTATIONS FOR PROSPERITY

DON'T EVER LOWER YOUR EXPECTATIONS WHEN IT COMES TO PROSPERITY: This might sound opposite or even redundant, but although everyone seems to be concerned or to be aware of money and prosperity, very few people believe they can make or have a great deal of it.

When people don't believe, they can rarely have the energy, interest and forte to make money. Such people rarely save or invest their money. When people have tried to be

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prosperous and they have failed once or more than one time, they may give up and relegate themselves to oblivion. Such people may start thinking that money or prosperity is not for them but for others.

People can't be wealthy or make more money if their attitudes towards prosperity is warped. They can't change their economic conditions if they have resigned themselves to poverty.

To move up, they should look wider and think broader. Most rich businesses or people have failed before. Some have gone bankrupt before. Others have been bailed out before. The commonest denominator of people who enjoy good life and are prosperous, is that they refuse to be

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second-handed; they refuse to fail. They have healthy attitudes towards wealth. They have faith or high expectations that they will be rich, and they become.

If you don't expect to prosper, you may never prosper. If you don't expect to make profit, you may make only losses. And if you don't expect to win, you may lose. Belief leads to changed mindset, which leads to progressive ideas and actions. Expect to prosper.

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Charles Mwewa (LLM – cand.) is a prolific author, poet, political thinker, and Christian and community leader. Mwewa has written no less than 30 books and counting. Mwewa and his wife, Clarice, and their three daughters, Emmerance, Tashany-Idyllia, and Cuteravive, reside in the Canadian Capital City of Ottawa.

10 FINANCIAL & WEALTH ATTITUDES TO AVOID

1. Don't say money is hard to come by.
2. Don't say, "I live in a poor economy."
3. When it comes to money, the grass is never greener on the other side.
4. Money has a very short life-span.
5. Don't think of wealth in cash terms.
6. Don't confuse assets with liabilities.
7. Don't beg for money.
8. Don't think you don't deserve to have good things.
9. Don't use social welfare infrastructure as permanent platform.
10. Don't lower your expectations when it comes to prosperity.

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