

# Life

## *In the Upside-Down World*

### EPISODE #5

By Warren Litzman

Aside from politics, the biggest headlines today have to do with money. There never seems to be enough money to go around, especially when some who have a lot of money keep wanting more and more. These are those to whom money itself is not the issue. They have more than they can ever spend. Their issue is the amount they have. They want to constantly raise that number, not because they have a need, but because their egos demand it. This attitude keeps the upside-down world in turmoil.

Then there are the crooked money-getters. They sit in high places controlling the getting and giving out of other people's money. For example, a school superintendent misplaced several million dollars and can't figure out where it all went. He gave unlimited credit cards to all his cronies. Looking at this epic theft of money that belonged to the education of the children, it is little wonder the world continues to be upside-down.

We can't have this discussion unless we include the politicians, both local and national. They handle vast amounts of other people's money. For them to steal some of it for their own needs seems to be the normal way to do their business. Even when the money is missing, the politician has a number of excuses he hopes will get him by. From the beginning of time, politicians have made sure the world remains upside-down to keep the average constituent off balance.

Finally, this business of the way people handle their money would be incomplete without mentioning preachers and pastors. Some religious groups come right out and say, "Unless God is prospering you, you cannot be a good Christian"—at least the kind of Christian the pastor thinks you ought to be. I remember a preacher who was investigated for how he handled the money God put into his hands for the Lord's work. He already had a jet plane, but he wanted the believers to buy him another. This kind of selfishness in operation keeps the world upside-down. When preachers use money belonging to God's work for their own personal use, they are no different from the capitalist or the politician who misuses other people's money.

Usually the crooks are caught, but the money is gone. In an upside-down world, a true heart learns the one to trust first in all matters, financial and otherwise, is the heavenly Father.