

CHAPTER 2

The Psychology of Clergy Financial Manipulation

Are you tired of preachers harassing you about money? Are you tired of the trickery and manipulation they use to squeeze one more dollar out of your budget and into theirs? Are you tired of going to church to meet Jesus and instead being hijacked by a religious version of the IRS? We all are, including God.

In many churches and ministries it doesn't matter where the sermon starts, it ends with cash. Even the more responsible organizations appear obsessed with getting more of our money. Yet you may never hear them make an obviously threatening or presumptuous statement to get your money. The approach they take depends on the psychological category of the church.

Rich People and Giving

Churches that are primarily comprised of affluent people must be "handled" delicately. This category can rarely be talked into giving more money by promising them God's financial blessings. They're already well-off or even rich. What is a preacher's promise of prosperity worth to a cardiologist or businessperson who grosses hundreds of