The first question of Fatwa no. 11447

Q 1: I am a secondary school teacher and my salary does not cover the costs of marriage in my country. I need some money to get married. My brother was working abroad as a teacher; he made a good fortune and deposited it in a bank,

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which deals in usury. Within a specific period, my brother received a lot of interest from the bank. He has doubts that this interest is unlawful and wants to give it to me to cover the costs of marriage. My question now is: Is this money lawful for me? Would I be punished for it on the Day of Judgment? Is it permissible for me to spend it on the costs of my marriage then pay it back in charity in small amounts, on the basis that every month I should pay a small portion of my salary to the poor? For example, if my brother gives me 2,000 pounds, and I spend this sum on my marriage then every month I pay 10 pounds of my salary in charity till I pay back all the 2000 pounds. I do not want to commit a sin and be punished for it on the Day of Judgment. Allah (may He be Exalted) is Good and accepts only that which is good. I appreciate your guidance. May Allah guide you!

A: It is not permissible for you to take this money unless you are poor. If you take it while you are rich, then you will have to pay it in charity.

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

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