

The Love of Money

1. Introduction:

Our class today is about money, how we use it and our attitude towards it. The Bible has a lot of practical instruction for us about money. Did you know that Jesus spoke frequently about it, in fact some Christian writers have said that He spoke about money more times than about heaven and hell. He understood that it was often on our minds. In fact in eleven of the thirty-nine parables he talked about money.

Today we are going to take a look at some of these principles. The topic of our class is on the love of money, this was one of the topics that Paul warned Timothy, his young "son in the faith" about.

Let's take a look at what Paul has to say to us through the instructions to Timothy. Let's read 1 Timothy 6:1-21.

2. Characteristics of a "man/woman of God" with regards to the resources He has entrusted us with.

- a. Righteousness: Being just with our dealings and finances, and willing to work
- b. Godliness: Putting God first in our lives
- c. Faith: Depending on the Lord in our lives
- d. Love: Characteristics of love in I Cor. 13 relates to how we use our money
- e. Patience: Being willing to wait on the Lord, be willing to work towards things
- f. Meekness: Being humble with what we've been given and entrusted, recognizing that it comes from God
- g. Fight the good fight of faith: Be disciplined, have direction, faithfulness over time
- h. Lay hold on eternal life: Have an eternal perspective - our time here is short.

3. As a "man/woman of God", we are stewards of His resources.

- a. What is a steward? Matthew 25:14-30; I Corinthians 4:2; I Peter 4:10
- b. How should we be a good steward of what He has entrusted us with? Luke 12:30-42, 16:1-8
- c. How can we use the resources God has given us to invest in eternity? Matthew 6:18-20

4. As a "man/woman of God", we are stewards of His resources.

- a. Stewards of the earth: Genesis 1:27, 28 -2:15
- b. Diligence and hard work: Colossians 3:23-24; Proverbs 22:29
- c. Wages for labor: Proverbs 24:23; I Timothy 5:18; Romans 4:4
- d. Meeting the needs of our family and others I Timothy 5:8; Ephesians 4:28
- e. Joy in our labor Ecclesiastes 3:13
- f. Take time to rest Gen 2:1-3

5. With the resources He entrusts us with, we need to be responsible. To do this we need to have a plan: how will we manage them? We will consider four parts to such a plan, called a budget.

- a. Know how much money you have. (Hebrews 13:5).
 - i. Resources: This includes your earnings, savings, checking account balance, and cash
 - ii. Debt: Credit Card debt, other debt such as a car loan or student loan
 - iii. Taxes: Taxes you own on earned income
- b. Know how much you need. (I Timothy 6:6-8)
- c. Know how much you can give. (Proverbs 19:17; II Corinthians 9:7; I Corinthians 16:1-3)
- d. Know how much you can save. (Luke 14:28-30; Proverbs 13:4,11; Proverbs 16:8)

6. Bad attitudes towards money:

- a. The love of money is the root of all evil (I Timothy 6:10)
- b. Covetousness (Luke 12:15; Hebrews 13:5)
- c. Greed (Proverbs 15:27; I Timothy 3:3; I Peter 5:2)

7. Good attitudes towards money 1 Timothy 6:17-19:

- a. Do good
- b. Be rich in good works
- c. Ready to distribute
- d. Willing to communicate

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8. What does Jesus have to say to us about?
 - a. Hidden Treasure: Matthew 13:44
 - i. Lesson on Value
 - b. Pearl of Great Price: Matthew 13: 44-45
 - i. Lesson on Value
 - c. Unmerciful Servant: Matthew 18: 23-35
 - i. Lesson in Forgiving Debt
 - d. Workers in the Vineyard: Matthew 20: 1-16
 - i. Wages
 - e. The Two Debtors: Luke 7:41-43
 - i. Appreciation
 - f. The Good Samaritan: Luke 10: 25-37
 - i. Helping others
 - g. The Rich Fool: Luke 12: 16-21
 - i. Rich towards God
 - h. Lost Coin: Luke 15: 8-10
 - i. Loses one of two coins
 - i. Prodigal Son Luke 15: 11-32
 - j. Use of Inheritance
 - k. The Unjust Steward Luke 16: 1-9
 - i. Attitude towards forgiveness
 - l. The Rich Man and Lazarus Luke 16: 19-31
 - i. Eternal impact of life styles
 - m. The Unprofitable Servant Luke 17: 7-10
 - i. Going beyond expectations
 - n. The Talents: Matthew 25: 14-30
 - i. Faithfulness with what is entrusted
 - o. The Pounds Luke 19: 12-27
 - i. Faithfulness with what is entrusted
 - ii. What was one talent worth in Bible times: One talent weighed @ 33 kg; current price: \$1059/oz. or \$34,073/kilo which equals \$1,124,420

9. Notes: