

Series: Money Matters: Biblical Guidelines for Today's Reality

Title: *Money Challenges: Overcoming the Difficulties of Money*

Text: Matthew 6:24

Introduction:

Memory Verse

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. (Matthew 6:33)

Big Idea

Money makes a great servant but a terrible master.

Let's explore three actions that we can take to help keep money from mastering our lives.

I) I must learn the _____ of the two major philosophies of money.

A. Some believe that money is _____ and should be avoided as much as possible.

1. God encouraged Israel to take _____ of money's convenience.

And if the way be too long for thee... or if the place be too far from thee... Then shalt thou turn it into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose: And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after. (Deuteronomy 14:24-26)

2. Christ encourages believers to use wealth for _____ purposes.

And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations. (Luke 16:9)

3. We can celebrate when God _____ wealth.

Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the ...because the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands. (Deuteronomy 16:15)

B. Some believe that money is _____ and should be gained as much as possible.

1. Gaining wealth is dangerous to our _____ life.

But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare. (1 Timothy 6:9)

2. The _____ of money is the beginning of many problems.

For the love of money is the root of all evil. (1 Timothy 6:10)

II) I must _____ against my natural tendencies toward money.

A. My heart is naturally evil therefore I naturally treat money in a _____ way.

The heart is deceitful...and desperately wicked: who can know it? (Jeremiah 17:9)



B. I tend to let money be my _____.

Ye cannot serve God and mammon. (Luke 16:13)

III) I must learn the _____ about pursuing wealth.

A. Greed is an offense to God because it is _____.

...Covetousness...is idolatry. (Colossians 3:5)

B. Greed _____ the first Commandment.

...Thou shalt have no other gods before me. (Exodus 20:2-3)

C. Greed causes people to turn away from _____.

For the love of money...while some coveted after...have erred from the faith. (1 Timothy 6:10)

D. Greed brings unhappiness and _____.

Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on...(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek)...Take therefore no thought for the morrow. (Matthew 6:25-34)

E. Greed ignores _____.

All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower...The grass withereth, the flower fadeth...surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth. (Isaiah 40:6-8)

Surely every man walketh in a vain shew: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them. (Psalm 39:6)

F. The pursuit of things results in an _____ life.

...therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity...Then I looked on...the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun. (Ecclesiastes 2:1-11)

Conclusion:

When money masters my life, I either fail to enjoy the God given fruits of my labour or I create an unsatisfied sorrow and anxiety in my life.

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Money Priorities: Getting Money Right

Many think that saving money should be the priority of money management, but God has a different perspective. You are invited back next week as we continue our preaching series with the message *Money Priorities: Getting Money Right*

