

The Love of Money
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Good morning, Lighthouse, are you ready for the Word of God this morning?

Turn with me this morning to: **I Timothy 6:1-11.**

1 Timothy 6:1-11

1 Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and *his* doctrine be not blasphemed.

2 And they that have believing masters, let them not despise *them*, because they are brethren; but rather do *them* service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort.

3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

Wow, what a statement we read in verse 10.

I'm pretty sure you've heard someone who doesn't quite know their Bible say that "money is the root of all evil".

That's not what it says, is it? It is not money, but rather the LOVE of money that God says is the root of all evil

Getting it right however, doesn't improve the statement. I'm afraid that the number of those who love money far outnumber those who actually have much of it.

There is a lot of evil in this world. Is God telling us that somewhere down in the soil from which evil grows there is at the root of it a love of money that motivates and causes that evil to rise up?

The Word of God demands that we study to show ourselves approved unto God.

There is by definition a little more to this word “all” than what you read on the surface.

That word “all” is the Greek word, *πᾶς pas*
pas

Including all the forms of declension;
apparently a primary word; *all, any, every, the whole:*

This word is also used several times in Scripture collectively; such as in

Mark 1:5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

We know that not every single individual in Judea and Jerusalem were baptized, but there were so many as could be said to represent the whole of Judea.

It seems the same type of usage may apply here.

There do exist other sources of evil, demonic and otherwise, beside that of loving money; however, this particular motivation is so pervasive that in most every evil that one human or group of humans inflict on another,

somewhere down in the root cause you will find the love of money.

The murdering of babies, for example, is a worldwide billion-dollar industry.

No reasonable person can deny that there is a living human being inside the womb of every pregnant woman; and abortion kills that baby.

Why is it done? Just follow the money. From the mom that doesn't want her career interrupted to the multi-million-dollar business of clinics and doctors designed to "safely" kill your baby.

I was born and raised in Missouri. I used to say that Missouri is a good place to be from and I got to Texas as soon as I could.

But today let me publicly repent and say that if I wasn't before, that I am now proud to be from Missouri.

This past week Missouri Governor Mike Parsons signed into legislation a new Missouri law banning abortions after 8 weeks with a nice 15-year prison term for violators.

More and more states are moving to do something about the wholesale slaughter of our unborn children; how about let's make Texas next!

You have the problem; so how do you cure it?

You must replace your love for money with love for something (actually someone) else.

Replace it with a love for Jesus.

I recommend:

You start by asking the Lord to give you a genuine and intense love for Him.

Do what lots of preachers tell you to do to get saved that you actually cannot do until after you are saved...

GIVE YOUR LIFE TO JESUS!

Starting with your heart.

2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of *them* whose heart *is* perfect toward him...

We all want plenty of money and to spare; this is a good and proper desire.

For a Christian, having plenty of money comes one way:

Luke 16:12 And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

1. *You might be a lover of money if:* You are judgmental about how others spend what God has given to them.

a. Remember the man who hired the workers who complained about what he paid them?

b. **Matthew 20:15** *Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?*

2. *You might be a lover of money if:* You envy others because of what they can buy.

3. *You might be a lover of money if:* You would take a job that would move you away from your Church.

4. *You might be a lover of money if:* Your year-end giving report is not well above 10% of your total taxable income.

5. *You might be a lover of money if:* God never speaks to your heart about helping someone in need. (Think about that one).

6. *You might be a lover of money if:* You do not truly enjoy tithing and giving to the Lord.

7. There are many other symptoms, but I think you get the point.

Conclusion:

It might be claimed that not every evil in the world today is caused by the love of money; but the far greatest majority of it either directly or indirectly IS!

One of the best examples of the love of money and the evil that comes from it is found right in the center of the Gospel.

We all know that Jesus was crucified because he voluntarily laid down His life for our sins. We know that His death, burial and resurrection was fore-ordained before the foundation of the world.

From a spiritual perspective this is true and nothing could have prevented it.

Yet, from a human perspective, what was done to Jesus was the greatest of all evils perpetrated upon any person in the history of the world.

How exactly did that go down?

Yes, Judas betrayed Him; that is true. But why?

Judas was one of the chosen; he was an apostle, one of the twelve. As great a position of honor as any man could possibly obtain in this life.

What turned him into such a monster that would occasion the torture and death of the

only one there ever was that did not deserve to die?

It happened one night at supper when a saved sinner with a sordid past chose to spend 300 pieces of silver, (probably her life's savings) to honor Jesus.

Let's read about it in:

John 12:1-8

1 Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.

2 There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him.

3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, which should betray him,

5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?

6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.

7 Then said Jesus, **Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this.**

8 **For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.**

II. The symptoms of the love of money.

A. *Do you love money?*

1. I expect that few of us think ourselves to be a lover of money.

2. But what does the reality of how we live say?

3. How many of you know who Jeff Foxworthy is?

4. He is the guy that coined the famous line; "You might be a Redneck."

5. Like, you might be a redneck if you have ever stared at a can of orange juice because it said "concentrate"?

6. ...Or if you have a complete set of salad bowls that all say "Cool Whip" on the side?

7. ...Or if your wife has ever made you move your truck's transmission so she could take a bath?

8. ...Or, (I like this one, ladies) if you have ever worn a strapless dress with a bra that isn't?

In that same but serious line of thought:

B. *You might be a lover of money if:*

imagination is literally thrown in the garbage by the love of money.

B. You will err from the faith.

1. The love of money will always place your own lusts and desires before the Lord.
2. Thus cutting yourself off from the only true source of wealth and blessing.
3. Putting Jesus first is not just some catch phrase; it is real action and a life of doing.
4. Do you love money more than God?
5. You will find the answer to that in your check book.

C. Loving money can kill.

1. Look what Judas' love of money did to Jesus.
2. It's not just what it does to others; the stress of it will take years off your life, too.

D. Loving money:

1. Will affect every decision you make in life.
2. Will lead to evils you cannot even imagine.
3. Will cause incredible regret.

Mary broke the container and poured out the entire value on Jesus.

When Judas saw that small fortune “wasted” on Jesus; for him, that was the last straw.

In Mark's account of this same event, we find that immediately in response to Jesus' rebuke, Judas went out and sought the Chief Priests to betray the Lord.

Mark 14:10-11

10 And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them.
11 And when they heard *it*, they were glad, and promised to give him money. And he sought how he might conveniently betray him.

It was the Jews' love of money that fueled their extreme hatred for Jesus.

Not only did they collect the Temple tax, the temple tax was accepted in shekels of Tyre only. The money changers were set up in the court, making a fortune charging high exchange rates; we know what Jesus did with them.

The Pharisees and scribes who Jesus exposed to be hypocrites hated Jesus because He put their cushy positions at risk.

It was Judas' love of money that set in motion the very crucifixion itself. Judas can't get his

hands on the spikenard money, so he sells Jesus instead...for 10 cents on the dollar!

Most people relate the love of money to the rich and stingy. I wonder if that is a fair judgment.

How many of us have occasion in life get to know very many truly wealthy people?

For whatever reason, I have been privileged to get to know a good many very-well-to-do people.

A few of them are definitely cursed with a love of money: however, the majority by far are some of the most fair and generous people you will ever find.

Observation over many years as a believer and a Pastor tells me that God is far more willing to bless those who do not love money with more of it.

Knowing what God says about the issue, what I have observed makes perfect sense.

The more love a person has for money, the more willing they are to do most anything to gain or keep more of it.

Jesus said the golden rule is to love thy neighbor as thyself...not that the one with the gold rules.

If you will remember our text said “**But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare**”. It is not they who are rich but they who want to be rich that bear the curse of the love of money.

Common sense tells us there are far more people under this curse who do not have money than there are those who do.

Being poor doesn't exempt you from the love of money; it may, in fact, make you all the more susceptible to it.

I. The love of money has grave consequences.

A. The Scriptures clearly warn us of this.

1. Verses 9 & 10 of our text:

9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

2. It brings destruction; not just to yourself but also to the ones you should be caring about instead of the money.

3. Perdition speaks of “waste”; the life that was made to serve the Lord with reward beyond