

Danger Signs of Loving Money

FIGURING OUT WHAT TRUE RICHES ARE ALL ABOUT

● THE BIG IDEA

If anyone teaches false doctrines and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, ⁴he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions ⁵and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain. ⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain.

1 Timothy 6:3-6 (New International Version)

- The gospel is not a product that leads to wealth and happiness.
- Godliness and contentment are the two basic ingredients of true riches.

Contentment = autarkeia = self-sufficiency = satisfied with what God has provided, no matter what it is.

● CONTENTMENT PRINCIPLES

- My attitude about what I have is far more important than what I have!

People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. 1 Timothy 6:9-10 (NIV)

. . . though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them. Psalm 62:10c (NIV)

. . . the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

Mark 4:19 (English Standard Version)

Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:11-13 (ESV)

- You're more concerned about making it than how you make it.
- There's never enough. □ You tend to flaunt it. □ You resent giving it.
- You are often disappointed with God's supply.

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." ⁶So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" Hebrews 13:5-6 (NIV)

- Our eternal destinies have nothing to do with wealth.

For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 1 Timothy 6:7

" . . . a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." Luke 12:15b (NIV) (See also Job 1:21)

- Contentment must be learned.

But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 1 Timothy 6:8 (NIV)

Key to contentedness is to distinguish between what we want and what we need.

- Actively pursuing God is the cure for the disease called "Love of Money."

But you, man of God, flee from all this, [talking about the love of money] and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³. . . I charge you ¹⁴to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ . . .

1 Timothy 6:11-16 (NIV)