

# “STOP LOVING MONEY!”

I Timothy 6:6-10

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## INTRODUCTION

Remember the context of vv. 3-5, the false teachers and their followers who followed the “health, wealth, and prosperity” philosophy and who believed that “**godliness is a means of gain**”—v. 5.

## YOU MUST STOP PURSUING AND LOVING MONEY AND MUST PURSUE GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT.

- I. THE GAIN OF GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT (6-8)
  - A. Genuine Godliness is Great Gain (See **4:8**)
    - For the present Life
    - For the Life to Come
  - B. Contentment
    - Inner self-sufficiency in Christ
    - Not needing affirmation through external means of success and wealth
    - One is truly content with his lot in life and what God gives him.
    - See Paul’s experience in **Phil. 3:7-11 with 4:11-13**.
    - **True contentment comes from godliness in the heart, not wealth in the hand.**
  - C. The Purposelessness of Pursuing material gain (7)
    - We brought nothing into this world.
    - We will carry nothing out of this world.
    - See **Job 1:21; Eccl. 5:15; Ps. 49:17**
    - Since the personhood and value of an individual is in no way based on material possessions, he can truly be content with or without them; he was without them when born and will be without them when he dies. As Guthrie notes, “Material possessions are equally irrelevant at our entrance into and our exit from the world
  - D. The Adequacy of the Most Basic Needs (v. 8)
    1. Food
    2. Covering—clothes [and possibly shelter]
    3. See **Matthew 6:25, 31-33**; II Cor. 12:9—“My grace is sufficient”—same verb as here
    4. We must remember that “**a man is wealthy in proportion to the number of things he can afford to do without.**” Moreover, “Too many of us know the price of everything and the value of nothing.” [Wiersbe]
- II. THE LOSS OF GREED WITH CONTINUED DESIRE (9-10)
  - A. The Nature of the Motivation
    1. Determined wish after giving the matter mature consideration [“They that will be rich”].
    2. “Love of Money” [literally “love of silver”; v. 10]
    3. “Stretching out, reaching out, aspiring to, longing for” (v. 10)
      - Note that Paul does not condemn *money* itself.

- Note that Paul does not condemn *desire* itself—desire for success and to do one’s best and to bring glory to God by the most effective use of our gifts.
- God never encourages laziness and apathy.
- But, dissatisfaction with what He gives us, misplaced priorities in our value system, wanting money and material possessions for their own sake and our own comfort and well-being, and losing sight of the will of God is always a problem for the believer.

## B. The Natural Results

### 1. The Lure

- a. Temptation—falling into them unexpectedly, being hurt as the result [here not “test”]
- b. Snare—animals don’t plan on getting caught in a snare or trap; they are shocked & surprised. “Snare” in 3:7 & II Tim. 2:26 is “**the devil’s**” snare and trap!

### 2. The Lusts

- a. Many: honor, popularity, power, ease, sensual satisfactions etc.
- b. Foolish: the word means “not with the mind”!
- c. Harmful: Satan always promises it to be great, fun, fulfilling—**he is a Liar!**

### 3. The Moral and Spiritual and Eternal Ruin—“Drown men”: sinking or a being drug to the bottom; drowned as though by a personal monster.

- a. Ruin: the two words are synonyms and occur together only here.
- b. Perdition: irretrievable loss; loss for time and eternity

### 4. The Root of all Evil [explain]

- a. All that a root is and does—that is what the love of money does in relation to evil.
- b. Every sort and imaginable kind of evil
- c. Some examples: rich young ruler, Ananias & Sapphira, Judas

### 5. The Wandering away, being misled, from the Faith: such persons permit themselves “to be the passive subject of temptation; word from which “planet” comes—a “wandering star.”

### 6. The Piercing of the Soul by means of many pangs and sorrows

These pangs or sorrows include such things as:

*Unrest, boredom, dissatisfaction, gloom, envy, conscience, the shafts of remorse.*

## CONCLUSION

The Love of money is a **dead end street**.

- It leads to the Lure, the Lusts, to Moral, Spiritual, and Eternal Ruin.
- It is a root that leads to and feeds all sorts of evils—a deadly concoction!
- It has caused and still causes many to wander away from the Faith.
- It pierced the soul with many pangs—excruciating pains of guilt, shame, regret, unrest, dissatisfaction, etc.

Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness—Mt. 6:33. Let God control your destiny!

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