

Money Business

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people 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 6:6-10)

Money is in the mind of every people everywhere and every time. It occupies much of the people's thoughts and speech. Money grabs much of people's attention and it is the main thing that brings people away from God. Money is the number one idol the people love and worship after the true and living God. Anything that is in the heart of a person other than God becomes the idol that he loves and worships or serves. The Lord Jesus knows what is in the heart of every people. And He clearly said that, ***“No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” (Matthew 6:24)***

The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. But godliness with contentment is a great gain. Here are two ways in order to achieve great gain:

1. **Godliness:** ***“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind.” (Luke 10:27)*** This is the first and greatest commandment of the Lord and what God deserves. God had sent His Son Jesus Christ for us. ***“For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)*** Jesus came down from heaven and live with men, leaving us an example how to live a Godly life. He died on the cross for our sins to be forgiven, he was buried and rose again on the third day to give us eternal life.
2. **Contentment:** The Lord Jesus said, ***“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist on the abundance of his possessions.” (Luke 12:15)*** Contentment is the state of the heart and mind that money cannot buy. We need to be contented even with the little that we have, ***“For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.”*** What for we want to collect if we cannot take it with us to heaven! ***“But if we have food and clothing we will be content with that.”*** This is part of our integrity, to be contented with what we have and in every circumstances. The Apostle Paul said, ***“I know what it is to be in need and I know what it is to have plenty I have learned the***

secret of being content in any and every situation. Whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.” (Philippians 4:12)

In many situation we speak about money in this way: ***“If I have money I will finish my study. If I have money, I can marry. If I have money, I can go abroad. If I have money, I can have a car and a big house. If I have much money, I will become famous.”*** Money becomes our little god that we think can make something for us. We become money dependent, and no longer live in God's grace! But let us remember one thing; money is not the way for great gain. Jesus is the only way for a life eternal and abundant. He said, ***“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)*** The Lord God created everything and upholds all things. Without God we have nothing and we are nothing.

So we understand that money is not a great gain and even not the way to achieve great gain. To have great gain is not necessarily to become rich and famous. We have great gain even when we are poor or have little amount of money if we live in godliness and contentment. The Bible is not against money matters or riches but against loving money more that God and life. ***“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.”*** When we start to love money, our love to God will become cold. We are easily pulled away from our faith in God and we are drawn toward money and all money business.

The danger is, people who want to get rich fall into temptation and are trapped into foolish and harmful desires that lead to ruin and destruction. Satan tempts them to invest more time and effort, entice them to do sin, and promising them more gains and treasure. But their toil ends to the grave, gaining nothing.

My Dear and Beloved: Are we yet to live to collect money? Or we want to live for God and for the abundant and eternal life that He promised? The Bible says, ***“Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.” (Titus 3:14)*** Another verse says, ***“You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion.” (2 Corinthians 9:11a)*** Therefore let us aim to work not to collect or save much money but in order to live and to serve God.

My Prayer: ***“Heavenly Father, I come before You in the name of Jesus who died for me on the cross to give me life eternal and abundant. Lord, cleanse my heart from greed and lust for money. Teach me to live a Godly life and make my heart be contented with what I have. Lord, I thank you for every blessing that I receive from You today. This is my prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.”***