

THE ROOT OF ALL KINDS OF EVIL

“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 6:10)

I hear people say, “Money is honey, no money no honey.” Many workers say, “We came here from our country to earn money. If they will not give us our money, we will not work!” A friend of mine says, “I lent him money, but he did not return it back.” One man approached every employee and asks, “What do you want to apply for?” “Bank Loan?” “Credit Cards?”

Money has become the god of this world. Many people of different color, race and language not only love money, but they even worship money. Money becomes the delight of their hearts. Money has already blinded their eyes and mind. When a bank Representative speaks everyone listens but when someone speaks about Jesus Christ, only one or two are willing to listen. **“The god of this age has blinded the mind of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”** (2 Corinthians 4:4)

Money has become the culture and the legacy of the people. It grows to be the way to their hearts and the methods that control their minds. All are occupied in small or big part to calculate money; the expenses, the income, the bills and invoices.

A reader may say, “You know all of us are working for money. Shall we give up earning money and just wait for God to sustain our lives? How we will live and what kind of life we expect? Birds are even tired flying because they don’t have permanent nests!”

My dear reader: I was the same like you worrying about everything before I came to know who Jesus Christ is. When I received Him as my Lord and my Savior I put my full trust and hope in Him. Before money was always my first priority. My delight was to count my money, to check my Bank Deposit, lend money to people and remind them about the interest. But after I knew Jesus Christ, the beauty of his miraculous acts and the meaning of his death on the cross attract me. I understand that His death and resurrection on the third day is for me to have peace, hope, and eternal life. Finally, the power of Jesus transforms me day after day and I realize the truth of His word: **“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”** (Matthew 6:19-21) While your focus is money there is no room and less space for Jesus to live in your heart. Truly, **“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)

Loving money and serving it, not only make us forget God who is our Father; our expression of love for Him becomes less or cold. We go for overtime not because we need to but because we want to collect money. We withdraw away from God and no time to serve Him. We forget that he is the giver and provider of everything including our strength and knowledge to earn money. Money can make our relationship with God

weak. Money even confuses us to go into certain ungodly sinful ways that displease God.

A true story: Mary is a married lady working as a beautician with a low income. She is a believer and keen to follow the Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ. One day a brother approached her for a big amount of money. He expressed to her not only his need but as well he mentioned that he will use the money to serve God and will be for benefit of many and other people. The man promised her that he will return the money in a short period of time. Mary endeavored not only to give him her money but she borrowed for him from her friends as well. She gave him the exact amount of money he asked. Few months later, Mary discovered that this man had left the country and that he not only cheated her but also had cheated other people taking from them large amount of money. That was a big emotional trouble to Mary. It caused her frustration, depression and anger towards that brother. She and the people started to pray to God for that man to return back the money but his heart was calloused not responding to God. Mary was always thinking about that big amount of money and she had un-forgiveness towards the man. She continued to pray but she was not keen to observe the hatred and un-forgiveness that already crept in her heart. And the love of the lost money was already occupying her mind more than her love to Jesus. This continued on, and her life became miserable, full of tears and discouragement because of that money. Until one day a Pastor visited Mary. She opened the matter to him and asked for a prayer for that man to bring back her money. The Pastor recognized that Mary’s suffering is not the lost money but the anger and un-forgiveness in her heart that the man had cheated her. The Pastor prayed for her and advised her to forget the money and to forgive the man who had cheated her. He reminded her about the power and love of Jesus Christ who knows all things, and can return her mourning into joy and her loss into a blessing. The Spirit of God convicted her to follow the suggested solution: to forgive the man and joyfully continue to serve and worship God. That same night Mary repented from her sin of un-forgiveness and the love of money. Mary understood what Jesus said when He said, **“If someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.”** (Matthew 5:40) Mary realized that as she continues to remember the money that was taken from her, her heart is at it and she is forgetting the Lord’s promise: **“But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”** (Philippians 4:19)

Money can be the cause of stealing, gambling, fraud, murder, prostitution and many other wrong doings. Money can be the cause of divorce, separation, and family breakdown. Money can be the cause of strife and war.

My dear and beloved: Money is interfering in many aspects of our lives; in our jobs and relationships. We have to be careful about it for many times as we focus on money, and it becomes like idol worship replacing our love and relationship with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The world is becoming more corrupt each day. The Lord’s promise to coming again is near. Let us examine ourselves and think of our lives not in this world but for the new world to come. Let us free ourselves from the love of money that spoils and corrupts our living.

“Father God in heaven, I come to You in the name of Jesus. I thank You for Your Word, O Lord. Cleanse me Father from the love of money. Cleanse my heart from any greed and keep me open and receptive to your instructions. Holy Spirit, come into my heart and take full control of my life. This is my prayer in Jesus’ name.” Amen.