

Godly Living: This Thing Called Money

1. Everything we have is a gift from God

Ecclesiastes 5:10 (NIV) Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.

1 Timothy 6:10 (NIV) For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil

2. Be aware of the corruption of money reaching to our very soul

James 5:4-5 (NIV) Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. **(5)** You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter.

Mark 10:17-23 (NIV) As Jesus started on his way; a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" **(18)** "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good--except God alone. **(19)** You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.' "**(20)** "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy." **(21)** Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." **(22)** At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. **(23)** Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!"

Luke 16:13 (NIV) "No servant 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."

3. Money is just another tool in my saddle bag for God's use

Ecclesiastes 5:19 (NIV) when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work--this is a gift of God.

1 Timothy 6:17 (NIV) Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. **(18)** Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. **(19)** In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV) 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."