

NOTES

1. **GOD LOVES YOU** and wants you to have **eternal life** with Him.

John 3:16 "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."

But most people aren't experiencing a meaningful life and aren't sure that they have eternal life because...

2. Man has a **SIN problem** which **SEPARATES** him from GOD. Everyone has sinned.

Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"

3. The **good news** is that **JESUS CHRIST** is God's **solution** to your sin problem. He is the **ONLY way** to heaven.

1 Peter 3:18 "For Christ also died for sins once and for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God..."

4. Therefore you must **REPENT** of your sins and place your **FAITH** in **JESUS alone** to **save** you.

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the GIFT OF GOD; not as a result of works, that no one should boast."

5. Upon believing and receiving Jesus, you have a **NEW LIFE** with complete assurance of **SALVATION**.

1 John 5:13 "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."



Pursue the Path to Far Greater Treasure (Part 1)

Last week's message
(1 Timothy 6:6-11)

We continue our series on Financial Stewardship. Our goal is not just to grow in biblical knowledge but more importantly to transform into Christlikeness — a life characterized by generosity, simplicity, contentment, freedom from the love of money, freedom from debt, and freedom from anxiety over surviving, regardless of how much we make and regardless of our net worth. This transformation will only happen if you and I put into practice what we learn from the Scriptures in our series.

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5, ESV). Love of money captivates both rich and poor. It can be subtle. We could be harboring the love of money in our hearts but not be aware of it. Do you have many clothes that are just collecting dust? Do you hoard shoes? At the other extreme, are you living such a thrifty life, motivated by hoarding cash? Listen, money will never satisfy. And love of money can cause us to cheat, to lie, to use and take advantage of people, and to resort to questionable transactions. Flee from the love of money! Take cover, run away!

Reasons to flee from the love of money

- For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils (1 Tim. 6:10a). If you have strong affections for money, you will do whatever it takes to gain it or keep it. Look back at those times when you were tempted to be dishonest, say, when you received more change than you were entitled to. Or take the case of paying your taxes. Behind the motivation to cheat is the desire to keep more money. Even in tithing, behind the motivation to give loose change to God who owns everything and blesses us with all that we need is the desire to keep more money.
- The love of money is idolatry. To love money means that you put money first place in your life because you look up to it as your security, your hope in which you trust, and an idol that you serve. In Matthew 6:24, our Lord Jesus Christ says, *"No one can serve two masters, for 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 God and money."* Remember that God takes idolatry seriously. *"You shall have no other gods before me"* (Exodus 20:3).
- The love of money blurs our spiritual eyesight to the transient nature of our life on earth and temporal nature of material things. Paul reminded Timothy about the spiritual reality that *we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world* (1 Tim. 6:7). The cares of this life and its riches are temporary. Nothing here lasts including our own earthly lives. If we are consumed by the love of money, we will not realize the transient nature of our time on earth and the temporal nature of material things. By the time we do, we might be close to the end of our lives and we will be filled with regret. Few things can blind our eyes to the path leading to the far greater treasure of godliness, which is eternal, more than the deceitfulness of riches. As Paul said, *we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal* (2 Corinthians 4:18).
- The love of money can lead one to drift away from the faith. According to Paul, *it is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs* (1



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