

The Desire For Wealth Can Destroy Us. Why?

1 Timothy 6:9-10 [Message Bible] *“If it is only money these leaders are after, they will self-destruct in no time. Lust for money brings trouble and nothing but trouble. Going down that path, some lose their footing in the faith completely and live to regret it bitterly ever after.”*

Why does this lust for riches cause in the end so much trouble and pain?

Matthew 6:24 [Message Bible] *“You cannot worship two gods at once. Loving one god, you will end up hating the other. Adoration of one feeds contempt for the other. You cannot worship both money and God.”*

If we adore the getting and using the power of money we will end up showing contempt for our Creator God.

Why?

Because in the back of our mind we know that He only has control of what happens to us at the end of our life, and we don't like that fact.

Proverbs 11:4 [Amplified Bible] *“Riches provide no security in any day of wrath and judgement, but righteousness, uprightness and right standing with God, delivers us from [eternal] death.”*

What are we to do then?

What should be our attitude towards wealth, and the motive for obtaining wealth?

1 Timothy 6:17-18 [Message Bible] *“Tell those rich in this world's wealth to quit being so full of themselves and so obsessed with money, which is here today and gone tomorrow. Tell them to go after God, who piles on all the riches we could ever manage, to do good, to be rich in helping others, to be extravagantly generous. If they do that, they'll build a treasury that will last, gaining life that is truly life.”*

Remember we cannot take any physical wealth we gather in this life with us when we die. There are no pockets in a shroud!

Matthew 6:19 [Message Bible] *“Don't hoard treasure down here where it gets eaten by moths and a corroded by rust or, worse!, stolen by burglars. Stockpile treasure in heaven, where it's safe from moth and rust and burglars. It's obvious, isn't it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being.”*

The only treasures that can be stockpiled in heaven are spiritual treasures.

The “fruits” of a life lived in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23 [Amplified Bible] *“... the fruit of the Holy Spirit, the work which His presence within us accomplishes, is love, joy, gladness, peace, patience, an even temper, forbearance, kindness, goodness, benevolence, faithfulness, meekness, humility, gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law that can bring a charge against us.”*

All of the above are attitudes of mind that are lodged in the spirit that each of us have within us. It is this spirit that will pass through death when our physical bodies decay.

Ecclesiastes 12:6-7 [Amplified Bible] *“Remember your Creator earnestly now, before the silver cord of life is snapped apart ... and the whole circulatory system of the blood ceases to function then shall the dust, of which God made our body will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return to God Who gave it.”*