

The Love of Money

1 Timothy 6:10





“So, Mr. Beast put out a poll recently asking, ‘If someone offered you \$10,000 but if you take it a random person on earth dies, would you take the \$10,000?’ Now, unbelievably, 44% said, ‘Yes.’ That’s over 800,000 people! Presumably, these are regular people with regular jobs and regular families, yet for 10 grand, they would end a random stranger’s life. Let that soak in.”

Were some of those 800,000+ people joking? Maybe, but is the hypothetical death of a random person funny? And sadly, at least some of them may have been serious. Why would anyone take a life for money? If he or she has little or no regard for human life and a lot of love of money, he or she is capable of horrific acts of violence and greed.

The Dangers of Materialism

- What is “materialism”? Materialism is “the tendency to be more concerned with material than with spiritual or intellectual values” (*Webster’s New World Dictionary*). It is “the love of money”!
- The desire to be rich brings spiritual ruin. It *trips* us, *traps* us, *drowns* us, and *destroys* us (1 Tim 6:9–10).
- The love of money is a danger to the poor and the rich alike. On a global scale, nearly all Americans are “rich,” so we ought to listen to biblical instruction to “the rich” (6:17).
- Satan tells lies about money to lure us into danger.



Satanic Myths about Money

- Myth #1: Money equals happiness. While we can enjoy physical blessings from God, true (divine) joy does not depend on the stuff that we possess (1 Tim 6:9–10; cf. Eccl 5:10–12, 18–20).
- Myth #2: Money equals importance (1 Tim 6:17).
- Myth #3: Money equals security. But wealth is uncertain and fleeting (1 Tim 6:7, 17; cf. Luke 12:16–21; Rev 3:15–19).
- Satan is a liar. He uses these myths about money to trick us into loving wealth instead of God. We should not give way to his deception (Eph 6:11; cf. John 8:44).



Overcoming Greed

- How can we conquer the love of money?
- We must (1) prioritize godliness and (2) learn contentment (i.e., enjoy what we have—food and clothing) and steer clear of materialism and its lies (1 Tim 6:6–8, 11–12; cf. Heb 13:5).
- We must (3) trust God—not money!—and (4) do good works with our wealth (1 Tim 6:17–18; cf. Matt 6:24; 2 Cor 9:8).
- When we do these things, we show that we love God more than money and we store up eternal treasure that will never pass away (1 Tim 6:19; cf. Matt 6:19–21).



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