

Jesus & Money – part 2

Pastor Rich Miller

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"People who want to be rich fall into all sorts of temptations and traps. They are caught by foolish and harmful desires that drag them down and destroy them." (1 Tim. 6:9 CEV)

"If I put my confidence in gold or said to fine gold, 'I trust you'... If I enjoyed being very rich because my hand had found great wealth... then that, too, would be a criminal offense, and I would have denied God above."

(Job 31:24-25, 28 GW)

"Take care lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."
(Deut. 8:11-14 ESV)

JESUS DEFINES



UCCESS

LUKE 12:22-34

"It's not what you'd do with a million, if a million were your lot. It's what you are doing at present with the dollar and a quarter you've got."

"Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine." (Pro. 3:9-10)

CHRIST'S "RIGHTEOUS" MEASURE OF SUCCESS

❖ What does God expect of us? | GOD FIRST!

*"Remove far from me falsehood and lying;
give me neither poverty nor riches;
feed me with the food that is needful for me,
lest I be full and deny you
and say, "Who is the Lord?"
or lest I be poor and steal
and profane the name of my God."*

(Pro. 30:8-9 ESV)

CHRIST'S "RIGHTEOUS" MEASURE OF SUCCESS (cont'd)

- ❖ What does God expect of us? | NO FEAR
(DO NOT WORRY...)
- ✓ We ought not spend undue time thinking of how to earn money.
- ✓ We ought not engage in any activity without thinking of how it will advance the Kingdom.
- ✓ We ought to watch our speech.
- ✓ We ought to be known for our compassion toward those in need.
- ✓ We ought to be fully devoted to the Living God.

THE 6-WEEK CHALLENGE

- ❖ What would happen if each of us were to commit ourselves to seek His Kingdom fully and completely? (see Matt. 6:19-21)
 - ✓ We deliberately endeavor to reflect the compassion and gentleness of Christ toward the needy.
 - ✓ We weigh our words and our actions to ensure that they advance the cause of His eternal Kingdom.
 - ✓ We surrender anxiety as we ensure that He assumes first place in every facet of life.
 - ✓ We intentionally renounce dependence upon the perishing trinkets of this dying world.

THE OUTCOME

- ❖ Christ will be more real to each of us.
- ❖ We who seek His Kingdom will begin to live without anxiety, enjoying the peace of God.
- ❖ We will find that our needs are met and that our wants will diminish.