

## Money Matters Part 2: 1 Timothy 6:6-19 December 4, 2011 “God or Greed: We Become What We Worship”

Clay Jones, “Idolatry ends up mugging people with a delusion, even in the face of available evidence to the contrary.”<sup>1</sup>

“You are fundamentally selfish. The only question is, ‘to what degree?’ ...I want to compel you to move from selfish to servant.” – Mark Driscoll<sup>2</sup>

- 1) Security comes not from \_\_\_\_\_ what you don’t have but in Who has you – 6:6 *but godliness with contentment is great gain*,
  - Godliness – “awesome respect accorded to God”<sup>3</sup>
  - Contentment – 2 Corinthians 9:8-9
  - Great gain – “*the possession of a godly piety makes a person independent of outward circumstances, and self-sufficient, enabling him to maintain a spiritual equilibrium in the midst of both favorable circumstances and those which are adverse.*”<sup>4</sup> Kenneth Wuest
- 2) Security comes from \_\_\_\_\_ what you can’t take with you – 6:7-8 *for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.*
  - Contentment criteria: *But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.*
- 3) Security is \_\_\_\_\_ through making enough money – 6:9-10
  - Desire for riches is smoke & mirrors – *But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation* Clay Jones writes, “Concerning idolatry, Joseph Gorra made this comment to me: “Yet how tragically ironic, but not accidental, that in the very way of ascribing worth to worthless things, the worthless confers worthlessness to the very ones ascribing due worth. What cyclical emptiness!”<sup>5</sup>
  - Desire for riches is a deceptive trap – *into a snare*,
  - Desire for riches brings personal & relational catastrophe – *into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.*
  - Desire for riches is the breeding ground for any sin – *For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils.*

“Grammatically the most probably option is to see *pizza*, as qualitative. The idea would be either that all evils *can be* motivated or initiated by the love for money. The qualitative idea makes no comment about anything else that might motivate or produce evil. It simply states that loving money does motivate/produce all (kinds of) evils.”<sup>6</sup>

  - Desire for riches will pierce you with sorrows and pull you from the Savior – *It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.*

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<sup>1</sup> “Philosophia Cristi” Volume 11, Number 1, 2009. Clay Jones, “We Don’t Hate Sin So We Don’t Understand What Happened to the Canaanites,” 57.

<sup>2</sup> “5 Points of Selfishness” <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xhNXLU4HXIs&feature=related>

<sup>3</sup> W. Arndt, F.W. Danker, & W. Bauer, W. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*, 3rd ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 152.

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4) Security is found only in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God: 6:11-19

How to Gain Security:

- Flee when you so much as smell greed – 6:11
- Pursue the character & attributes of God – 6:11
- Declare total war against greed by giving – 6:12
- Live out your confession of faith – 6:12-16
- Set your hope on the Giver, not the gift – 6:17
- Be rich in good works for the glory of God – 6:18
- Build a lasting IRA via good works to the glory of God – 6:19

Richard Baxter...speaking to pastors:

“If you had yet but a bleeding heart for sin, and could come to Christ believingly for recovery, and resign yourself to him as your Savior and Lord, and would be a new man for the time to come, the Lord would have mercy on you in the pardon of your sins, and the everlasting salvation of your soul. And I must tell you that, as it must be the great work of God’s grace to give you such a heart, so if ever he mean to pardon and save you, he will make this change upon you; he will make you feel your sin as the heaviest burden in the world, as that which is most odious in itself, and hath rendered you liable to his wrath and curse; he will make you see that you are a lost man, and that there is nothing for you but everlasting damnation, unless you are pardoned by the blood of Christ, and sanctified by his Spirit; he will make you see the need you have of Christ, and how all your hope and life is in him; he will make you see the vanity of this world and all that it can afford you, and that all your happiness is with God, in that everlasting life in heaven, where you may, with the saints and angels, behold his glory, and live in his love, and be employed in his praises. Let me tell you that, till this work be done upon you, you are a miserable man; and if you die before it is done, you are lost for ever. Now you have hope and help before you, but then there will be none.”<sup>7</sup>

Key: Gaining/trusting/understanding/impossible/pursuit

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<sup>7</sup> Richard Baxter, *The Reformed Pastor* (Grand Rapids: Christian Ethreal Library, n.d.), 153-154.

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