



WORD OF THE DAY (1 Timothy 6:10)

"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

- KJV

## A Transfer of Faith



**Do you have any money - do you put your trust in your money**? The Bible often speaks negatively about money. It was the love of money which caused Judas to betray Jesus (<u>Matthew 27:4</u>), Ananias and Sapphira to lie the church (<u>Acts 5:1</u>), and the rich young man to reject Jesus (<u>Mark 10:21</u>). And in our verse of the day, we are told that the love of money is the source of all kinds of evil. Yet money is woven into every society, and it is necessary for meeting many of our wants and needs. We need money to buy food, we need money to pay off our debts, and we need money to pay for entertainment. In light of the necessity for money, contrasted with the warnings given by the Bible, what should be the Christian's attitude and relationship to money?

A quick Bible review shows that money was not initially present at the beginning of creation. When God created Adam and Eve, all that they needed to live (food, shelter, safety) was in the Garden of Eden. There was no charge(\$\$) for eating any of the fruits in the Garden of Eden, and the tending of the Garden was not hard work. It wasn't until after the curse, due to their sins, that humanity was kicked out of the Eden. As a result, everyone would be forced to work for their food. Humanity would now live in a world where they would exchange their labor for money in order to purchase items needed for living.

With humanity now trusting in themselves instead of God to meet their needs, fear and anxieties would be natural consequences. Initially, living in the Garden of Eden was a low-stress and free(\$\$) experience. However, after Adam and Eve were expelled from Eden, humanity became the only creature whom in paying for their sins would have to pay (\$\$) to live. Humanity would now doubt whether they would have enough money to buy food for the next day and fear not having enough money to purchase adequate clothing and shelter. For many of us, the fear of not having enough leads to hoarding or storing up as much money as possible, to gain a sense of security and safety. As a result for many, a transfer of faith has occurred from God to money.

Although on our money it states, "In God we trust", these are empty words for many. The majority of believers, unfortunately, put their faith and trust in money and not in God. Having money is not a bad, sinful, or evil thing because we must work to live. However, it is one's relationship with money that matters. Money should be managed and not pursued. Money should be budgeted and not coveted. Money should be our servant, not our master. The challenge for the believer living in a self-dependent world, is to transfer dependency from self back to God - trusting God once more to be the sole provider for all of our needs while managing God's money for God's purpose. When our focus transfers from our independent self back to God, our faith will transfer from our money back to our master(Christ).

Your brother in Christ, WNL

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

If you want to know what is important to someone, look at where they spend their money.

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, please help me to put my faith fully in you and not in the money that I have. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

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