

The Seduction of Greed

(which is... This Life is the One that Matters)

We live in a world that has turned industry into a means to an end. Instead of wanting to be productive, we want things. Instead of real security and satisfaction, we settle for stuff. God's people must be careful of such seduction because it declares that God and His promises are not relevant.

Scripture(s): 1 Timothy 6:3-19; Luke 2:40-47; Ecclesiastes 5:10; Revelation 18:2-3; Proverbs 13:11; Proverbs 28:20, 22

Today's truth - Real and eternal happiness only happens when our heart focuses on the _____ of knowing and lifting up God.

I. The first characteristic of the seductive heresy of greed is seeking _____ rather than godliness. If wealth is what we want, then we will _____ godliness to get it.

Luke 20: 45 And while all the people were listening, He said to the disciples, 46 "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love respectful greetings in the market places, and chief seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets, 47 who devour widows' houses, and for appearance's sake offer long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation."

II. The second characteristic of the seductive heresy of greed is desiring _____ rather than contentment. Comfort will not lead us to happiness because Biblical blessedness is about the _____ not the _____ .

Ecclesiastes 5:10 He that loves silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loves abundance with increase: this is also vanity.

Revelation 18:2 And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, " Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird. 3 For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality."

III. The third characteristic of the seductive heresy of greed is valuing _____ rather than diligent patience. Wealth achieved without real effort is a _____ seductress.

Proverbs 13:11 Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathers by labor shall increase.

Proverbs 28:20 A faithful man will abound with blessings, but whoever hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 28:22 He that hastens to be rich has an evil eye, and considers not that poverty shall come on him.

Jeremiah 17:11 Like the partridge that gathers a brood that she did not hatch, so is he who gets riches but not by justice; in the midst of his days they will leave him, and at his end he will be a fool.

What now? Consider carefully what wanting stuff declares about the life of the _____ .

1. Decide how much is enough and then live by that _____ .
2. Think about what your current _____ says about what the Kingdom of God means to you.
3. Think about how you currently spend your _____ says about what the Kingdom of God means to you.

April 10, 2022

"Heart of Worship"

"How Deep the Father's
Love for Us"

"Knowing You"

* Pastoral Prayer & Time in
the Word *

"Jesus, Draw Me Close"