

Money?!

Written by Ben Winslett

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A good friend, Elder Eddy Flick, shared this quote today on a Primitive Baptist discussion forum.

“Money often comes between men and God. Someone has said that you can take two small ten-cent pieces, just two dimes, and shut out the view of a panoramic landscape. Go to the mountains and just hold two coins closely in front of your eyes-the mountains are still there, but you cannot see them at all because there is a dime shutting off the vision in each eye.” - AW Tozer

How very true! I have been considering this topic frequently in recent months from a more personal perspective...self examining, if you will.

Scripture testifies that *"the love of money is the root of all evil"* (1 Tim 6:10). Money itself is not evil, but the love of it most certainly is. Scripture also testifies (Mth 6:24) that we *"cannot serve God and Mammon."*

Mammon means "treasure, riches." This certainly deals a fatal blow to the concept of "sowing a financial seed" in order to "reap a financial blessing," as we hear so often from televangelists who beg for money while ignorantly promising God's blessing. Such appeals to lust and greed in the hearer.

Money is a very uncertain thing. Paul refers to wealth as *"uncertain riches"* in 1 Timothy 6:17. In that verse, he actually instructs Timothy to command God's people not to trust in riches, because of their uncertainty. We have someone far more dependable and certain upon which to depend! Solomon wrote in Proverbs 23:5, that *"riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven."*

Anyone who is current with economic news has witnessed this over the past 2 years.

This concept does not imply that money or wealth itself is sinful or to be avoided. God blessed many men in the Bible to accumulate great wealth (Abraham, Jacob, Solomon, Job, etc). Rather, sin comes in to the equation when one's focus in life is the accumulation of wealth itself, rather than the worship of Christ. Scripture (Ecc. 9:10) exhorts us to do any work *"with all thy*

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might."

However, rather than for selfish gain, the Christian should work hard

"as unto Christ,"

as we read in Ephesians 6:5. Without doubt, one finds much more fulfillment and lasting satisfaction following this life principle than the former.