

## Set Free Devotional #10

by

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Thursday, March 26 (Hebrews 13:5) “Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

Paul is inspired by the Holy Spirit to write to the Jewish believers in Rome. His purpose? To help them know how to live out their faith in a practical manner in a very hostile setting. Rome was reacting to Christians upsetting the peace by proclaiming that there was only one true God and His Son Jesus had died for their sins. Rome’s answer? Dead Christians cannot tell anyone anything! So Paul is addressing a security issue. Where does your security come from?

I was overseeing an elementary school assignment where the children had been instructed to state what they wanted most out of life when they grew up and why they wanted that. One boy had answered proudly; “I want money!” “Why do you want money?” I asked (following the lesson plan) and his reasoning was straightforward. “If I have enough money I will have no problems! With money I can fix anything!”. I somehow suspect that this student is not the first one to think like that.

Is our security based on our money? Our society teaches that security comes from having enough plus more. The rich are elevated in social standing and envied by others. There is the common misguided belief that money eliminates problems - all of them. Yet do the passing things of this world offer you real security?

Paul (guided by the Holy Spirit) wanted to be sure that these Roman Christians understood where real security was to be found, in God alone we trust. Money has failed. Love of money has led to profound disappointment and ruin. Money is a necessity in our world but it is not security. God has loved us at great expense to Himself. When we love Him back it will not lead to disappointment. Love for God will not lead to failure or ruin. God has promised that if we love Him and have answered the call for His purpose to be done in us then he will take even the bad and work it for the good of us! That’s not ruin!

“In God we trust” must be emblazoned on our hearts, souls, and wallets in letters that burn brighter than any slogan on any currency we may carry. Our actions must speak that truth; “In God we trust!” Our giving must declare to those who watch for some validity to our Christian message that “our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness” not our financial statements.

### **Suggested Prayer:**

“Our Father, thank you for all the blessings we receive from you. And thank you for the eternal security we have in the blood of Christ, your Son and our saviour. May all temporal things we have be seen for what they are and never come between our saviour and His love. Make us able to stand against the world’s ideas of security and offer by example a better way to those who are lost. In your name and for your sake we pray and live. Amen”