

Counterfeit Gods—Defeating the Idols that Battle for Our Hearts

“The god of Money”

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1 Timothy 6:8-10; 17-19

12.2.18

- A. The god of money wants us to think that _____ is getting lots of _____.
- B. The person who has _____ and _____, has no more than the person who has _____ and _____.
- C. Jesus made it clear that we cannot serve both _____ and _____.
- D. Jesus warns people far more about _____ than about _____, and yet almost no one thinks they are guilty of _____.
- E. The first biblical person that I want us to learn from is a man whom the Bible does not name, but we often refer to him as the “_____.” (Luke 12)
- F. The primary key to keeping money in its rightful place is to remember that it all _____ to _____. (Psalm 24:1)
- G. The rich man in the story was looking to money to do for him the very things God should be doing for him. He looked to money as his source of:
 - 1. _____.
 - 2. _____.
 - 3. _____.
- H. The second biblical person I want us to learn from is a man named _____.
 - 1. He had more money than he could spend, but he knew that something _____ was _____.
 - 2. He wanted to follow Jesus, but he realized that his relationship with _____ was an issue.
- I. God will help us to stop serving the god of money, but we must _____ that _____.
- J. Questions for Introspection:
 - 1. How often do you compare what you _____ and what you _____ to others?
 - 2. How much _____ do finances add to your life?
 - 3. To what extent are your _____ and _____ driven by money?
 - 4. What is your attitude toward _____?

The god of money was almost irresistible. He spun tales of sports cars, luxury homes, and all the good things he was going to buy for us. Yes, we had heard the old refrain that money can't buy happiness. We knew that. We had seen what it had done to people over and over.

But we were going to be different. We would know how to use money without letting it use us. We didn't want to buy happiness; we just wanted to rent a little pleasure. But somewhere it all went wrong. Somehow the god of money became a slave driver.

He kept us running, following him, trying to keep him from getting away. We followed the green brick road until we longed for rest. We put our hope in what we might find at the end of the rainbow. We thought money would provide us with security, significance, and some measure of satisfaction. But strangely even when we had money we still felt broke.

Then we chose Jesus and discovered that he is our provider. He provides everything we need. He provides us with security because he never leaves us or forsakes us. He provides us with significance because our identity and value are found in his love. He provides us with satisfaction because our souls were made for him. We discovered that God would meet all our needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. (Kyle Idleman, “Jesus My Provider”)

K. Closing Illustration: Charles Dickens' “_____.”

Answer Key: A. Winning, money. B. God, everything, God, nothing. C. God, money. D. greed, sex, greed. E. rich, fool. F. belongs, God. G.1. security. G.2. satisfaction. G.3. significance. H. Zacchaeus. H.1. important, missing. H.2. money. I. initiate, change. J.1. have, make. J.2. anxiety. J.3. dreams, goals. J.4. giving. K. A, Christmas, Carol.