

Handling Treasure, Part 1

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: 1 Timothy 6:17-21.
- B. We have all had the opportunity to handle something that is valuable.
- C. It is basic to the Christian life that Christians live out their Christianity on the basis of how they handle their stewardship.
- D. The highest form of worship is duty. (Romans 12, Matthew 4:12)
- E. Handling treasure is a duty.
- F. False teachers are motivated by the desire for money.

II. The church has people who are wealthy by the design of God. (Deuteronomy 18, 1 Chronicles 29, 1 Samuel 2:7)

III. To be rich is to have more than one needs.

- A. We are the rich. (Acts 16)
- B. The issue is not whether one is rich—the issue is how one deals with it.

IV. Dangers to avoid in having riches.

- A. Be not high minded.
 - 1. People tend to look down on people who are lower on the economic ladder.
 - 2. Riches and pride are twins. (Psalm 73:12)
 - 3. We are to be lowly minded. (Philippians 2:3)
 - 4. When one has a lot, he tends to trust in his riches instead of God. (Luke 12)
 - 5. We are to put our trust in God instead of money. (James 1:17, Psalm 50:10-12)
 - 6. God gives us things for enjoyment. (Ecclesiastes 5:18, Matthew 6:19-21)
- B. Do not refuse good with it.
 - 1. Use your wealth to do noble things. (1 Timothy 5:8, 17; Acts 4; Titus 3:8)
 - 2. Give because Christ gave. (2 Corinthians 8:5)
 - 3. We use our money to share with God's people and advance of the kingdom.
 - 4. Consider the end result—lay hold of real life, which is eternal life. (1 Timothy 5, Luke 16:9)

Application Questions:

1. Why do people tend to give so little?

2. Is it wrong to spend money on things we enjoy? Explain.

3. What are some needs in your circles that you could do a better job of fulfilling with your resources? Explain.
