

The Cost of Riches

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I. Introduction. I Timothy 6:6-10; 17-19.

II. What true wealth really is.

A. There is great gain with contentment--contentment is the true wealth.

B. Contentment comes from a balanced life and is the source of godliness.

C. One of the great problems of the age is that we are a restless people.

1. Some people think that contentment means to get whatever one wants.

2. Contentment is wanting only what one has--it is self-sufficiency.

3. True godliness is understanding that when one has God, food and clothing, that is all one needs to have an enriched life.

4. Fellowship and knowledge of God gives contentment.

D. It is difficult to live at this basic elemental lifestyle.

1. One resists by not loving money.

2. A person cannot let his possessions get a hold of him for relationships are strained and people fall into senseless desires.

3. When one wants to be rich, that root becomes a great evil in his life.

4. It causes some to wander from the faith.

5. It pierces the heart with many pains.

III. What a rich person should do.

A. Money should not let it swell his head. Riches deceive because they make one feel like he is more important than he really is.

B. Money should not be counted on because it can disappear overnight.

C. God is to be remembered as the one who gives.

1. It is not wrong to be wealthy.

2. God makes some wealthy that they might enjoy it.

IV. The rich person is to do good with his money.

- A. He is to use it to help people.
- B. He is to do it and not talk about it only.
- C. He is to be rich in good deeds being personally involved in good works.
- D. He is to give generously.
- E. When one helps people he is laying up treasures in heaven.
- F. Wealth is to be given to contribute to the life of the giver right now.

Application questions:

1. What is true contentment?

2. Is being rich wrong? Explain.

3. Which point of counsel for rich people stands out to you the most? Why does it strike you?
