

# Handling Treasure, Part 1

*John MacArthur*

## 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?

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

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

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