

Living in Light of Eternity– Part 3

I Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19

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In order to lay up treasures for eternity and take hold of life that is truly life (I Timothy 6:19), we must:

1. Pursue godliness with contentment rather than pursue getting rich (verses 6-10).

“The Greek word translated “raiment” refers primarily to clothing but can also include the idea of shelter. Paul is saying that we ought to be content with having food, clothing, and shelter—the basic necessities of life. He doesn’t condemn our having more if God graciously chooses to give more. But he does condemn an attitude of discontent.”

The Danger of Loving Money: I Timothy 6:6-21, James 5:1-6 by John MacArthur
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“No one will ever be truly satisfied by the pursuit of money, because contentment and the love of money are mutually exclusive. It has been well said that money is like sea water—the more you drink, the thirstier you get.”

The Danger of Loving Money: I Timothy 6:6-21, James 5:1-6 by John MacArthur
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“Those who love money impale their own souls, bring upon themselves all-consuming grief. They eventually experience a condemning conscience, an unfulfilled heart, and disillusionment with life.”

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In order to lay up treasures for eternity and take hold of life that is truly life (I Timothy 6:19), we must:

2. Place our hope in God rather than our wealth (verse 17).

“When you have a lot, you tend to trust in your riches, but when you have little, you need to trust in God. One benefit of having just enough to live on is that you’re totally dependent on God. When He provides, you’re very grateful. I believe one reason many Christians in America are apathetic is that they don’t think they need God very much. They have replaced Him with their estate planners and retirement plans. I’m not saying we should ignore those things or be foolish in handling our money. But we must be sure not to ignore the leading of the Holy Spirit when we are deciding what to do with it.”

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3. Give generously (verse 18).

“Instead of being rich in dollars, we need to be rich in good works. Riches do not belong in the bank, endlessly compounding interest to provide for our security. We are not to assume that they guarantee our happiness in spite of misery around us. Nor are we to stockpile our riches until our children can fight each other for them. Riches are to be used to do good works.”

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“The Greek word translated ‘willing to share’ (*koinonikos*) speaks of participating in fellowship. That removes the remoteness sometimes associated with giving. Rather than merely writing a check, we’re to be involved in the common life of the church. Become part of an assembly of believers, and share with those who are there. Share with God’s people to build God’s house. Share with those in your fellowship who have needs. Share with all whose resources are limited. And especially share for the advance of the kingdom.”

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