

RICH

Part Two: *good works*

September 11, 2022

Last Sunday, we examined 1 Timothy 6:3-10 where Paul says people who live like God and depend on Him to meet their needs are rich, but people who live for money fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires. Today, I'm going to teach you how God wants you to view and use your money during your time on earth so you can live a rich life.

- **In 1 Timothy 6:17-19, Paul gives instruction to wealthy Christians.**

1st - Paul tells wealthy Christians to trust God – not their money. Vs. 17

Paul does not condemn wealthy Christians, but he gives them two basic commands. Do not be proud, and do not depend on your money to meet your needs. Rather than trusting in riches, believers are to depend on God to supply their needs.

2nd - Paul tells wealthy Christians to use their money to do good. Vs. 18-19

Paul uses three phrases to describe how wealthy Christians are to use their resources. Wealthy Christians are to *be rich in good works, generous to those in need, and always be ready to share with others*. Wealthy Christians that use their money to help others amass a fortune of rewards in Heaven!

- **In Matthew 6:19-24, Jesus says you need to do three things to live a rich life.**

1st – You need to store up treasures in Heaven - not on earth. Vs. 19-21

How can you know where you are storing up your treasure? If you are spending your time, energy, and money on accumulating things on earth, you are storing up treasure on earth. If you are spending your time, energy, and money on helping people, you are storing up treasure in Heaven.

2nd - You must choose who you are going to serve. Vs. 24

The Greek word translated *master* in verse 24 is also translated lord. It refers to someone who is in complete control of your life. Jesus says you cannot give complete control of your life to both God and money.

3rd - You need to trust God with all your needs. Vs. 26-33

Jesus says you there is no need to worry about your needs because you have a loving Heavenly Father that greatly values you. You should seek to build the Kingdom of God and trust your great and good Heavenly Father to supply everything you need!

Why should you trust God for your needs?

- God owns everything. Psalm 24:1
- God controls everything. 1 Chronicles 29:12; Daniel 2:20-21
- God provides everything. Philippians 4:19

So, Jesus tells you to store up treasure in Heaven – not on earth. *How do you do that?* You focus on helping people instead of getting lots of temporary money and possessions. *What do you have to do before you will store up treasure in Heaven?* You must choose to serve God instead of money, and you must trust God with your needs. That is how you live a rich life!