

RICH

Part One: *great wealth*

September 4, 2022

Our world is full of people trying to get rich. Some people are trying to get rich by working themselves to death. Others are trying to get rich doing illegal stuff like selling drugs, stealing, and extorting. Over the next two weeks, I'm going to teach you how to get rich the right way instead of the wrong way. I am going to teach you how to live a rich life!

- **In 1 Timothy 6:3-5, Paul warns Timothy about false teachers.**

Paul begins this letter warning Timothy about false teachers (1:3-7), and Paul ends this letter warning Timothy about false teachers.

What does Paul say about false teachers?

1st - False teachers contradict Jesus' teachings. Vs. 3

Jesus taught wholesome (healthy) doctrines that promoted godly living. False teachers teach stuff that hurts people and causes them to sin.

2nd - False teachers are arrogant. Vs. 4a

False teachers believe they are very wise, and everyone should listen to them. They even claim their thoughts are superior to what is written in the Bible – God's Word!

3rd - False teachers have rejected the truth. Vs. 4-5a

False teachers teach foolish, harmful, ungodly ideas because they have allowed someone, or something to pull them away from the truth.

4th - False teachers pretend to be godly to get rich. Vs. 5b

False teachers dress nice, carry big Bibles, and sound super spiritual, but they are not godly people. Their godliness is just a show to con gullible people out of their money!

- **In Vs. 6-10, Paul tells Timothy to teach people to love God - not money.**

Paul says people who act like God (godliness) and depend on Him to meet their needs (contentment), live rich lives, but people who live for money live poor lives because they spend their lives on the unimportant.

- **In Luke 12:13-21, Jesus gives us an example of a person who longed to be rich.**

Jesus makes two points in His Parable of the Rich Fool. First, it is foolish to devote your life to getting lots of money (Ecclesiastes 2:18). Second, it is foolish to have riches on earth but not have a rich relationship with God.

Five questions to determine if you long to be rich?

1. *Do you envy people who have lots of money?*
2. *Are you constantly thinking about ways to get rich?*
3. *Are you doing things you should not do to get money?*
4. *Do you have a difficult time giving some of your money away?*
5. *Are you giving more of your time, energy, and money into storing up riches on earth than you are at developing a rich relationship with God?*